



February 4th, 2024
The Fifth Sunday
In Ordinary Time

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

631-584-5454



Walking with Jesus

*“Let us go on to the near by villages
that I may preach there.
For this purpose have I come”
Mark 1:38*

*“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, January 28th, 2024:

Collections from Weekend masses: \$10,056.

Mail Collections: \$1,559.50

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

Total Collection: \$14,989.54

**CHURCH IN NEED COLLECTION SENT TO DIOCESE
OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE**

**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 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

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.

While Father Tom is away....A Reflection from Sister Theresita

Dear Friends,

It seems that the older I get the faster time goes by. Have we not just finished the Christmas season had a taste of the ordinary season and behold Lent is upon us. On February 14th we will begin the season with Ash Wednesday. An interesting way to spend time with your loved one on Valentine's Day! Ah, but there could be a treasure in this timing. What if we are called to be in Love with the Lord this Lent. Coming to love Him with our whole heart, mind, and soul.

That's it. How can I do it? How can you do it? "Lent is a time of prayer and reflection. It is a time to examine our lives and see what changes we can make to truly become the best-version-of-ourselves - the best spouse, the best parent, the best friend, the best co-worker, the best follower, and lover of Jesus." (Matthew Kelly)

Well, the three pillars of Lent are Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. How will I/you spend our time these 40 days? What ways can I participate in activities that involve prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, sponsored by my faith community.

In an attempt to offer you a prayer experiences during Lent I will share with you Pope Francis' "BE" Attitudes. They are:

BE JOYFUL

BE MISSIONARY

BE MERCIFUL

BE BRIDGE BUILDERS

BE BOLD AND CREATIVE

BE MY WITNESSES

BE PATIENT AND PERSEVERE

Each week during Lent I will help to unpackage one of these "BE" Attitudes. Take this time before Lent to make a plan including the three Pillars of Lent, so that when Holy Week and Easter come around, you will be able to experience the Joy and Transformation that fills this glorious season. Make this your best Lent ever.

*Till next week,
Sister Theresita*

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

Mass Intentions, For the week of February 4th, 2024

Eucharistic Adoration Monday In the Church 1:30-7:00pm



We Pray for those who are ill...

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 Addonizio
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
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
Karl Walz
Kitty Cronin
Kristin Galetta
Laura Kennedy
Lauretta Prague
Laura Bode
Leon Donach
Lola Santangelo
Lori Cearney
Marjorie Fox
Mary Monte
Margaret Remhild
Mark Hildreth
Mark Wagner
Mary Ryan
Marie Feicco
Maria Clark
Maria Collaro
Marie del Ciello
Maureen Litten
Mary Pinnatta
Mary Ann Cesarski
Mary Beth McGovern
Matthew Parrella
Michael Fisher
Mike Lofaro
Michael
Nick Lella
Patricia Acker
Patricia Tripptree
Pasquale Savarese
Pat McCumber
Peter Donach
Peter Portanova
P.I.
Ricardo Buffit
Rob Remhild
Riordan Cavooris
Rogelio Martinez
Rose
Ryan Duffy
Sara Jean Andersen
Stanley Stura
Stephen Dolce
Susanne Smith
Tonina Perdue
Tara Cesarski
Teresa Mattera
Tina Cafaro
Tiffany Lochan
Thomas Lifrieri
Tom Ryan
Tom Focone
Vivien & John
Cordes
Wayne Smith Sr.

Saturday February 3rd Cantor: Murtha	Presider: Father Tom Lector: Healy/Student EM: Mantia/Duffy/Taurassi/ Toto/Urce	9:15am 5:00pm	C. Robert Ingram Marilyn Thode
Sunday February 4th Cantor: . Stefanowski	Presider: Father Tom Lector: Cavooris/Dervan EM: Koke/Kennedy/Dunn/ Portanova/Ramos	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
Cantor: Lohmann	Presider: Father Joe Lector: Dobres/Franco EM: Parish/Amen/Luna/ McKie/Mulhall/Orlando	10:00am	Lorraine Vaccari
Cantor: Hill	Collective Mass Presider: Father Joe Lector: Rubano/Piliero EM: Bleggi/Kaleita/ Rubano/Margaret	12:00pm	Anthony Nicholas Diomedea II Gudys Vinces Christopher Bataglia Martin Caltabiano
Monday February 5th	St. Agatha	7:30am 9:15am	Living~Virginia & Peter Portanova
Tuesday February 6th		7:30am 9:15am	Living~Lt. Col. Paul Jackson Ralph Marciante
Wednesday February 7th	St. Paul Miki	7:30am 9:15am	Living~Sgt. Cory O'Hara USMC Matthew Ryan Martin
Thursday February 8th	St. Jerome	7:30am 9:15am	Madeline Haggerty Collective Mass: Baby Joseph Living~Mary Jane Munch
Friday February 9th		7:30am 9:15am	Living~Richard Sotomayer Connie & Ignatius Gibaldi
Saturday February 10th Cantor: LoCastro	Presider: Father Joe Lector: Tomasino/Student EM: Licari/Sisti/Anderson/ Damato/Drechsler St. Scholastica	9:15am 5:00pm	George Dunn Philip Giarraputo, Sr.
Sunday February 11th Cantor: Lupinacci	Presider: Father Joe Lector: White/Czujko EM: Calderone/Rapp/Czujko/ Sehne/M. Tully	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
Cantor: Hill	Presider: Father Tom Lector: Lombardi/Regan EM: Conti/Suski/Parish/ Orlando/Sotomayer/ Mulhall	10:00am	Living~Deacon Michael Hoonhout
Cantor: Stefanowski	Collective Mass Presider: Father Tom Lector: Latino/Geier EM: Consenz/Samson/ Stack/Settinieri	12:00pm	Kathleen Stanton



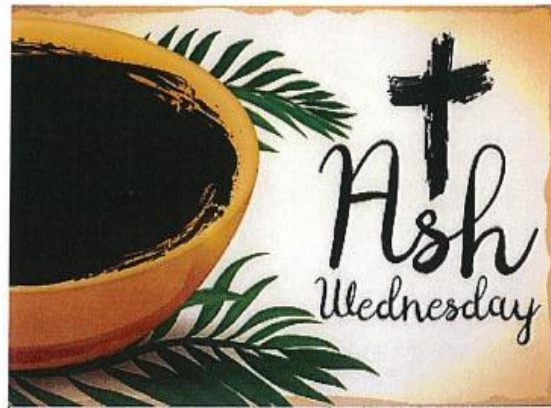
MUSIC MINISTRY

*5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Give rest, O Lord to our restless hearts. Free us from anxiety and worry so we may know the joy and peace that you want for us. Open Our Eyes, the Presentation hymn, asks us to see, hear and love so we can rest in God. We Remember, the Communion hymn, tells us to remember, celebrate and believe. God is with us to ease our worry and anxiety.*

There is still time to join the Music Ministry. The choirs are starting to prepare music for Lent and Easter. Come join us.

We have fun as well as learning new music. There are many ways to join, singing in a choir or helping with Baptism music. Prayerfully consider what might be right for you then come to a rehearsal.

*Looking forward to seeing you.
Sing a hymn to him.*



CAN YOU BE AN APOSTLE OF HOPE ON ASH WEDNESDAY?

February 14, 2024

We are in need of parishioners to assist with the distribution of ashes at the following Masses and services on February 14th.

7:30 am Mass

9:15am Mass

12:00 Noon Word Service

3:00 pm Word Service

5:00 pm Word Service

7:00 pm Mass

We also are in need of parishioners to help with the distribution of our Lenten Bracelets at each of the above Masses and Services.

If you can help with the distribution of ashes, or our Lenten bracelets, we ask you to attend one of the very brief training and sign-up sessions which will be given after each of the weekend Masses on February 10th and 11th

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30th, 2024

"Today, facing the devil who challenges him by shouting, "What have you to do with us? Have you come to destroy us?" (v. 24), Jesus answers, "Quiet! Come out of him!" (v. 25). Jesus has the power to drive out the devil. Jesus frees us from the power of evil but – let us be careful – he drives out the devil but he never negotiates with him! Jesus never negotiated with the devil and when he was tempted in the desert, Jesus' responses were always words from the Bible, never a dialogue. Brothers and sisters: with the devil there must be no dialogue! Be careful: with the devil there can be no dialogue, because if you start speaking to him, he will always win. Be careful."

Pope Francis



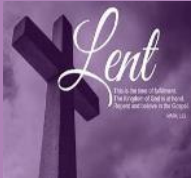
HIS WORDS.
YOUR JOURNEY.
TOGETHER.

PREPARING FOR LENT...

“Heavenly Father, grant me the strength and discipline to make this Lent a time of spiritual growth. May my fasting, prayer, and almsgiving draw me closer to you.”

ASH WEDNESDAY: FEBRUARY 14TH, 2024

**ASHES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED
AT THE FOLLOWING TIMES:**



**7:30AM MASS
9:15AM MASS
12:00 WORD SERVICE
3:00PM WORD SERVICE
5:00PM WORD SERVICE
7:00PM MASS**



PARISH LENTEN RETREAT

MARCH 4TH-MARCH 6TH, 2024

**OFFERED IN TWO SESSIONS
AM AND PM**

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Fast and Abstinence from meat are to be observed Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat.

ASH WEDNESDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY:

There is a limit of one full meal on these days for all between the ages of 18-59. Those exempt are the vulnerable, the sick, or mentally challenged.

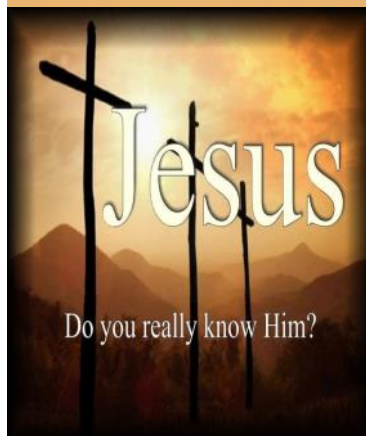
DAYS OF ABSTINANCE:

All Fridays in Lent.

All who are 14 years of age or older are to abstain totally from meat.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**Every Friday in the
Church at 7pm
Beginning
February 16th,
2024**



A PRAYER FOR WELCOMING GOD

Welcome, welcome, welcome.
I welcome everything that comes to me today because I know it's for my healing.
I welcome all thoughts, feelings, emotions, persons, situations, and conditions.
I let go of my desire for power and control.
I let go of my desire for affection, esteem, approval, and pleasure.
I let go of my desire for survival and security.
I let go of my desire to change any situation, condition, person, or myself.
I open to the love and presence of God and God's action within.

Amen.

—Father Thomas Keating

Getting Ready for Lent

Lent begins Wednesday, February 14, 2024. So...

It's Mardi Gras!



*ALL are invited to gather for a celebration ~
as we pray, burning last year's palm into ashes ~
which will be used on Ash Wednesday.
Then we party with entertainment, games,
and of course food! —*

Tuesday, February 13
6 – 8 pm.



SSPJ TOWN SQUARE (Auditorium)

Adults: \$15. Children: \$10 (under 12)



(Children under 5 are free.)

PLEASE RSVP to the Rectory 584-5454 by Wednesday, Feb 7

So we may plan accordingly - Payment may be dropped off at the office

Can YOU HELP – come and join us as we gather as a Parish Community to celebrate.

For additional information or to reserve you may vportanova@sspj.org



**"LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME, AND DO NOT HINDER THEM
BECAUSE THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN BELONGS TO SUCH AS THESE."
Matthew 19:14**

**FAMILY MASS FOR
GRADES 5 AND 6:**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH, 2024 AT THE 10AM MASS



*Confirmation II Students~ 8th grade
Prayer Recitation Night
February 12th, 2024*

*Families have received an email identifying the specific
appointment time for the student.*



**YOUTH GROUP GET TOGETHER ON
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH**

SEE FLYER ON NEXT PAGE!

SSPJ SECOND ANNUAL LENTEN RETREAT FOR FAMILIES



**SATURDAY, MARCH 2ND, 2024
10AM -12NOON**

"I am HIS Presence"

**Please join us as we share LENT TOGETHER WITH PRAYER
FAITH SHARING, TEAMWORK, AND ACTS OF LOVE**

REGISTRATION INFORMATION WILL FOLLOW IN NEXT WEEKS BULLETIN



**CHILDRENS LITURGY OF THE
WORD GATHERS
TOGETHER AT THE 5PM MASS ON
SATURDAY EVENING AND AT THE
10 AM MASS ON SUNDAY**

SSPJ YOUTH GROUP MEETING

Calling all Seventh and Eighth Graders at SSPJ Parish!

Come to our first Youth Group Meeting on Saturday, February 10th! We'll learn about our faith, play some games, attend Mass, and help out at Family BINGO Night.

Details: When: Saturday, February 10th

Where: SSPJ Cafeteria

Time: Youth Group Meeting (3:30-4:45pm), Mass (5:00pm-6:00pm),
Family BINGO (6:30pm-7:45pm)

Please contact Sandy Rago with any questions at srago5633@sspjschool.net.

----- CUT ALONG THIS LINE -----

Please detach this page and return to SSPJ Parish or School by Monday, February 5th.

My child _____
will be attending Youth Group on Saturday,
February 10th.

My child is in:

7th Grade

8th Grade

Please check all that apply. My child will be
staying for:

Youth Group Meeting (3:30-4:45pm)

Mass (5:00pm-6:00pm)

Volunteer at Family BINGO (6:30-7:45pm)

Primary Contact

Name: _____

Mobile: _____

Home number: _____

Relation to child: _____

My child will be picked up by:

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Allergies or medical concerns: _____



June 2023— July 2024

Our Year of the Eucharistic Revival

Solidarity must be our key word. Though the world thinks badly of it, this ability to make our humble capacities available to God is what will make our lives fruitful.

It's easy to feel inadequate in our ordinary daily tasks—how much more so, when at the thought of *living* the Eucharist in all we do! Pope Francis tells us that the disciples felt the same way, but they were able both to get the crowd to sit down and also feed them from their meager store of five loaves and two fish. When we all work together, we become stronger and all our individual gifts become a powerful force for good. Jesus will give us what we need, just as he does every time he feeds us.

Ponder:

When I feel inadequate, do I still believe that God loves me?

Pray:

God of mystery and wonder help me remember that you are always with me.

(Pope Francis on the Eucharist)

(Window from St.
John the Evangelist
Church, Center
Moriches)



SSPJ School and Parish - Come Join Us For



Saturday, February 10, 2024

SSPJ Auditorium

Doors Open at 6:00 PM

Games start at 6:30 PM

Join us for 10 games full of fun and great prizes

Snacks & Water ~ available for purchase

50/50 Raffle!

RSVP by February 8th to hold your spot!

Questions?? Contact - danderson@sspjschool.net

SSPJ Family Bingo February 10, 2024

Family Name : _____

Number of books (ten games in one book) _____ \$10 per book - Total _____

Slices of Pizza _____ \$3.00 per slice - Total _____

Pizza Pie _____ \$20 - Total _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Cash/Checks payable to SSPJ School

SSPJ Guild Presents 2nd Annual Family Night Out
at Rinx Harborfront Port Jefferson



Please join us for a fun evening of Ice Skating and Hot Chocolate
with SSPJ !!!

Friday, February 9th, 2024 6:00pm-7:45pm

Where- The Rinx Harborfront

101 E Broadway, Port Jefferson, NY 11777

\$20 Per Person Includes Admission, Skate Rental and Hot
Chocolate

Any questions, please contact Andrea Bodon 631-739-3224 or
Meghan Matera 631-291-3044

Please RSVP no later than Monday 2/5/2024

Family Name _____

Number of People Attending _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Please make Checks Payable to SSPJ School.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO SSPJ SCHOOL WHERE EVERYONE
IS A CHAMPION!!!**

***Congratulations to all the Academy students who participated in the
CSW 2024 Spelling Bee!***



***Congratulations to the top 5 spellers who will advance to the
Zone 5 Spelling Bee in March!***



***Congratulations to Jack Kollmer
SSPJ's 2024 top speller!***



Parish Social Ministry

Our Food Pantry Needs:

Chicken Soups
Whole Wheat Pasta
Brown rice cups
Canned beef chili
Grape jelly
Canned fruit

Thank you for your generosity



We remember the family and friends of,

*Martin S. Rizzo
Richard P. Cooper*

*Safely Home in the arms of
our Lord*



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY~ BLESSING OF PRAYER SHAWLS
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH, 2024

The gift of Prayer Shawls will be blessed at the 10 AM Mass on Sunday, February 4.

These shawls are crafted with love and prayer by SSPJ parishioners. If you know someone who needs to be wrapped in healing love, please feel free to take one at the end of Mass

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

THE RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

Invites you to remember in your prayers all who worked so diligently to promote the message of the true value of every human being.

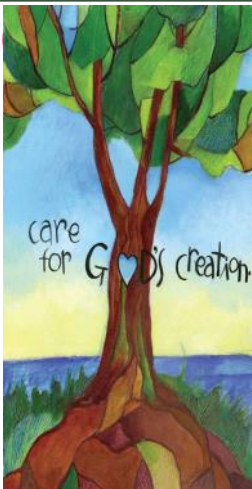
Many have passed to their eternal reward. Know that their efforts brought about the reversal of the Roe V. Wade decision. Our work is not done. As Jesus reminds us, we need more workers in the vineyard. Please consider joining our ministry.

NEXT MEETING FEB 13TH at 7 PM in the STS. PHILIP
AND JAMES ROOM

Any questions call 631-862-9370

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



Faith, by revealing the love of God the Creator, enables us to respect nature all the more, and to discern in it, a grammar written by the hand of God and a dwelling place entrusted to our protection and care.

My Weekly Sunday Gospel Reflection For Grades 1-3

For the: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Sunday, February 4th, 2024

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, February 10th or Sunday, February 11th, 2023



The Gospel Message: Mark 1:29-39

In today's Gospel reading we learn how dedicated Jesus is to prayer and listening for the voice of his Father God, guiding him on a journey, along with his Apostles, to teach the gospel, to help the people who were struggling and to HEAL those who were ill.

Jesus walked from town to town doing this great work!

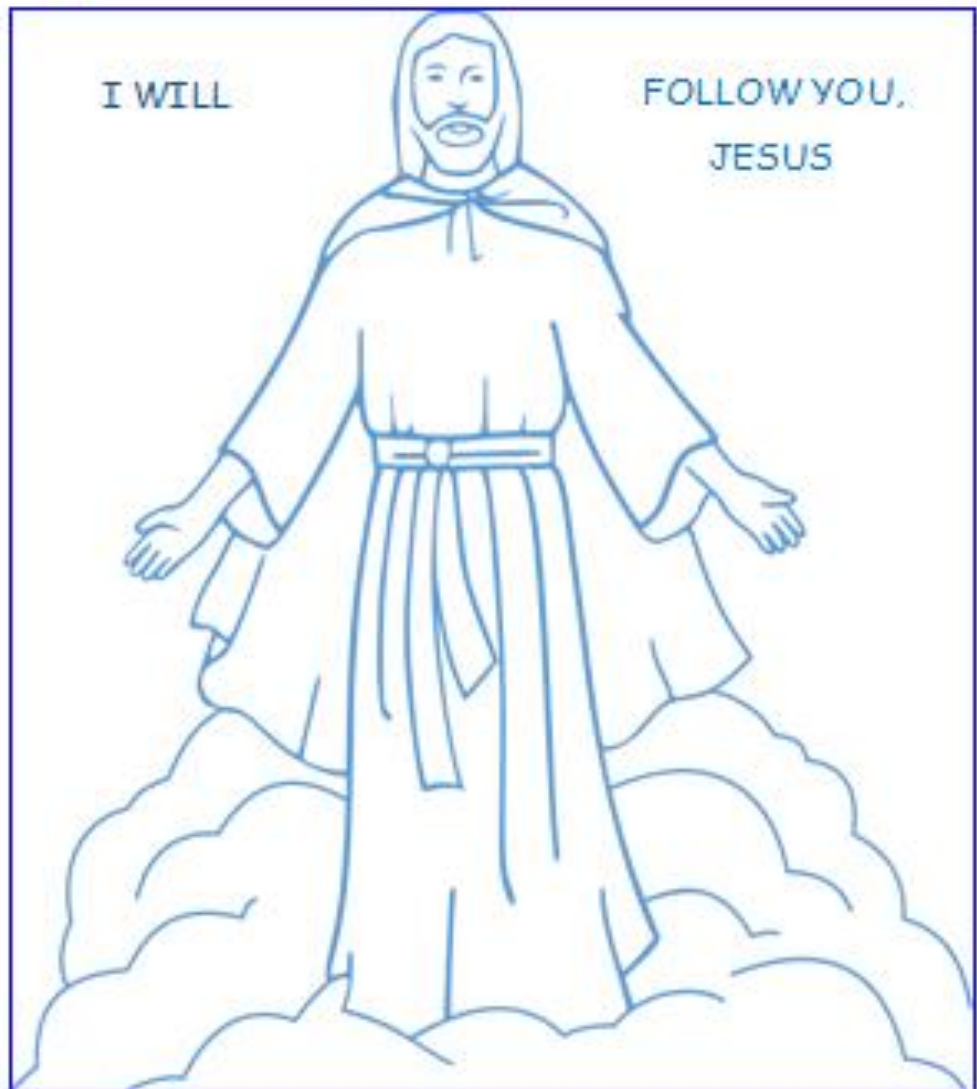
Being a good disciple means trying very hard to
follow Jesus

Dear Jesus,
I know that when
I follow you and
Walk in your shadow
I become more
Like you.
I learn what it
Means to care
For others and
To share love with
A stranger.
Please help me to
continue to walk
with you, even if I
am in a rush!
Amen



I WILL

FOLLOW YOU,
JESUS



My Weekly Sunday Gospel Reflection For Grades 4-6

For the: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Sunday, February 4th, 2024

My Name Is: _____ My Grade IS: _____ SSPT SCHOOL _____

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

Saturday, February 10th or Sunday, February 11th, 2023



The Gospel Message: Mark 1:29-39

In today's Gospel reading we learn how dedicated Jesus is to prayer and listening for the voice of his Father God, guiding him on a journey, along with his Apostles, to teach the gospel, to help the people who were struggling and to HEAL those who were ill.

Jesus walked from town to town doing this great work!

Being a good disciple means trying very hard to follow Jesus

Dear Jesus,
I know that when
I follow you and
Walk in your shadow
I become more
Like you.
I learn what it
Means to care
For others and
To share love with
A stranger.
Please help me to
continue to walk
with you, even if I
am in a rush!
Amen



When you are sick, what is something that helps you feel better?

When someone we love is ill, we are taught to pray to Jesus for his help in healing our loved one. What qualities does Jesus have that enable him to comfort others when they are ill?

What super power do you have that can make someone feel better when they are down?

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

6th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday, February 11

Lv 13:1-2,44-46
Ps 32:1-2,5,7,11
1 Cor 10:31 – 11:1
Mk 1:40-45

Monday, February 12

Jas 1:1-11
Ps 119:67-68,71-72,75-76
Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday, February 13

Jas 1:12-18
Ps 94:12-13a,14-15,18-19
Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday, February 14

Ash Wednesday
Jl 2:12-18
Ps 51:3-6b,12-14,17
2 Cor 5:20 – 6:2
Mt 6:1-6,16-18

Thursday, February 15

Dt 30:15-20
Ps 1:1-4,6
Lk 9:22-25

Friday, February 16

Is 58:1-9a
Ps 51:3-6b,18-19
Mt 9:14-15

Saturday, February 17

Is 58:9b-14
Ps 86:1-6
Lk 5:27-32

This Sunday's second reading gives us a great motto that we should post on our bedroom mirrors so that it's the first thing we see as our sleepy eyes awaken each morning: "Whatever you do, do it for the glory of God."

Everything! Brush your teeth for the glory of God. Kiss your family "Good morning!" for the glory of God. Go to Mass for the glory of God (in other words, we don't go to church just for what we can get out of it). Do your work for the glory of God. Drive politely for the glory of God. Shop and eat and greet others for the glory of God. Say yes to the needs of the Church for the glory of God.

And receive all that he wants to give you (the compliments, the money you earn, the unanswered prayers, the good times and rewards) all for the glory of God.

This should be part of our daily prayers every morning: "Holy Spirit, help me to do everything today for the glory of God. Amen!"

By making it a daily habit to start the day this way, the glory of God

becomes integrated into our character. When we remember to see our activities through the lens of "whatever you do, do it for the glory of God", we become stronger in avoiding all kinds of sins. It sanctifies each moment of every day.

Often, we see religious activities as separate from our normal activities. We take "time out" from our schedules to go to church. We stop what we're doing when we want to pray. We



think that only Clergy and Religious can be religious all of the time and that a layperson who is like that is a "fanatic". But why?

Why should we limit "for the glory of God" to only what is "holy" – Mass attendance, religious rituals, prayers, the works of ministry, etc.? We can sanctify every moment by remembering that whatever we do, we want to please God with it.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † What have you done already today that glorifies God? What is planned for later today and how can that be offered to God?
- † What will you do to remind yourself daily to do everything for the glory of God?
- † Describe ways that we can glorify God in normal, everyday activities. How do you turn mundane tasks into a gift for God?
- † When is it most difficult to glorify him? How can even our lapses into sin become blessings that glorify God?

BREAKING FAITH WITH EACH OTHER

Is this new or are we just more aware of it? Hatred and contempt are everywhere. They are in our government houses, in our communities, in our churches, and in our families. We are struggling, mostly without success, to be civil with each other, let alone to respect each other. Why? Why is this happening and intensifying?

Moreover, on both sides, we are often justifying this hatred on moral grounds, even biblical grounds, claiming that the Gospel itself gives us grounds for our disrespect – *My truth is so right and you are so wrong that I can disrespect you and I have biblical grounds to hate you!*

Well, even a cursory look at scripture should be enough to enable us to see this for what it is; rationalization, self-interest, and the farthest thing from Jesus.

Let's begin with something already taught long before Jesus. In the Jewish scriptures, we already find this text: "I have made you contemptible and base before all the people, since you do not keep my ways, *but show partiality in your decisions*. Have we not all the one Father? Has not the one God created us? Why do we break faith with one another?" (Malachi 2,8-10) Long before Jesus, Jewish spirituality already demanded that we be fair and never show partiality. However, it still gave us permission to hate our enemies and to take revenge when we have been wronged – "an eye for an eye".

Jesus turns this on its head. Everywhere in his person and in his teaching, most explicitly in the Sermon on the Mount, he challenges us in a radically new way, telling us that, if we want to go to heaven, our virtue needs to go deeper than that of the Scribes and the Pharisees. What was their virtue?

The Scribes and Pharisees of his time were very much like the church-going Christians of our time. They were sincere, essentially honest, basically good people, who kept the commandments and practiced strict justice. But, according to Jesus, that isn't enough. Why? If you are a sincere person who is honest, keeps the commandments, and is fair to everyone, what's still missing? What's still missing lies at the very heart of Jesus' moral teaching, namely, *the practice of a love and forgiveness that goes beyond hatred and grievance*. What exactly is this?

In justice and fairness, you are still entitled to hate someone who hates you and to extract an appropriate vengeance on someone who has wronged you. However, Jesus asks something else of us: "*You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. ... If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.*" (Matthew 5, 43-48)

This is the very essence of Christian morality. Can you love someone who hates you? Can you do good to someone who wishes you evil? Can you forgive someone who has wronged you? Can you forgive a murderer? It's this, and not some particular issue in moral theology, which is the litmus test for who is a Christian and who isn't. Can you love someone who hates you? Can you forgive someone who has hurt you? Can you move beyond your natural proclivity for vengeance?

Sadly, today we are failing that test on both sides of the ideological and religious spectrum. We see this everywhere – from the highest levels of government, from high levels in our churches, and in public and private discourse everywhere, that is, people openly espousing disrespect, division, hatred, and vengeance – and trying to claim the moral high ground in doing this. Major politicians speak openly and explicitly about hating others and about exacting revenge on those who oppose them. Worse still, churches and church leaders of every kind are lining up behind them and giving them "Gospel" support for their espousal of hatred and vengeance.

This needs to be named and challenged: *anyone who is advocating division, disrespect, hatred, or revenge is antithetical to Jesus and the Gospels*. As well, *anyone supporting such a person by an appeal to Jesus, the Gospels, or authentic morality, is also antithetical to Jesus and the Gospels*.

God is love. Jesus is love enfleshed. Disrespect, hatred, division, and revenge may never be preached in God's or Jesus' name, no matter the cause, no matter the anger, no matter the wrong. This doesn't mean that we cannot have disagreements, spirited discussions, and bitter debates. But disrespect, hatred, division, and revenge (no matter how deeply they may in fact be felt inside us) may not be advocated in the name of goodness and Jesus. Division, disrespect, hatred, and vengeance are the Anti-Christ.