

# The Parish of Saints Philip and James

1 Carow Place, St. James, NY 11780

631-584-5454

May 23rd, 2021  
Pentecost Sunday



*"Peace be with you As the Father has sent me, so I send you."*

*And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them,*

*"Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."*

*John 20:21*

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

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

## STS. PHILIP & JAMES PASTORAL STAFF

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

Website—www.sspj.org

### PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

Open Monday, Tuesday Wednesday 9am-6pm

Open Thursday 9am-6pm

Closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday

### CLERGY

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

### PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Sister Theresita Donach, CSFN

### BUSINESS MANAGER

Virginia Portanova

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 1-3

Charlotte Czujko

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 4-6

Barbara Luna

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 7-8

Dominick Avento

### MUSIC DIRECTOR

Margaret Adams

### COORDINATOR OF PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

Lynn Sisti

### DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

Dominick Avento

### DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES

John Cordes

### SSPJ SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Diane M. Anderson

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

### TRUSTEES

Brendan McGovern ~ Tina Cafaro

### PASTORAL COUNCIL

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

### Sacraments

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



LCDR. MEGAN M. SHUTKA-VIK, USN

CAPT. WILSON MARKS- USN

CAPTAIN MICHAEL DOLAN- JR.

LT. COL. JOHN 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

STAFF SGT. ANTHONY SCIAMETTA— US ARMY

MARIO CATANIA-USMC

RYAN ANTHONY NASCIMENTO-USMC

KYLE ANTHONY NASCIMENTO-US ARMY

ENS. RYAN M. SHOWS -USN

STAFF SGT. RYAN REXRODE-USMC

DR. KARA VANDEKIEFT, COL.-USAF

SGT. STEPHEN D. OUTCAULT-USMC

PAUL MUMOLO-USN

VICTORIA ZEMAN, USCG

KYLE J. GRUNER -US ARMY

MARK GIORDANO—US COASTGUARD

KELLI MCLAUGHLIN— LT. US ARMY NATL.GUARD

STAFF SGT MICHAEL J BANG SPECIAL FORCES US ARMY

MATTHEW PATRICK GALLAGHER US ARMY

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

Weekly Collection: Sunday May 16th, 2021 : \$12,206.

Faith Direct : (126Participants) 3,253.

**Total Collections: \$ 15,459.**

Communications Collection: \$ 627.

**FAITH DIRECT: VISIT SSPJ.ORG CLICK ON FAITH DIRECT ICON:**

**USING SSPJ PARISH CODE: NY232**

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

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

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

# Father Tom's Letter

Dear Friends,

*“Suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were.”*

We celebrate this weekend the feast of Pentecost, the pouring out of the Spirit on the early apostles. This line from today's first reading is part of the description given of what they experienced. Fr. John Foley, SJ, poses the question: *Wouldn't you have loved to be there?*

He goes on to say, *“Imagine it this way: “There was this sound that came from the sky, something that sounded like, uh, oh, let's see, uh, wind! That's it. It wasn't wind but that is the closest I can get. And then stuff that looked sort of like chunks of fire, or maybe like tongues made out of fire. Only it wasn't really fire. Or tongues either. Oh, I can't describe it.”*

***It was a presence that cannot truly be described, something very real but too deep for words.***

Have you ever experienced something very real, yet too deep for words? Have you ever experienced the Spirit of God within you? I think all of us have - though perhaps not always in such a dramatic way. ***The Spirit of God IS within us***, and we do move with the Spirit. As Fr. Foley says, ***“Like anything planted so deep, the Spirit's presence must have time to make its way into our actions, our words, our deeds. Whenever we find patches of charity or joy in ourselves, or patience and kindness, or the ability to endure hardship and injuries; when we are tempted toward mildness and modesty, then we can be sure that the Holy Spirit is at work within us.”***

May the Holy Spirit continue to empower and enflame us to be Apostles of Hope! May we accept the invitation to give birth to a new Pentecost. What gifts might the Spirit be asking you to share as we return to full capacity? As we all know church is far more than a building. It's a people who have hearts God desires to fill to capacity. Perhaps the Spirit of God might be inviting you to new possibilities, new experiences, new ministries, new life. ***Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew each of us!***

May I ask that those who wish Holy Communion to be brought to them during Mass that you please sit in the two side sections marked with the handicapped signs so that the Eucharistic Minister is able to easily find you. Thank you.

This week I will be on retreat at the Jesuit Retreat House in Gloucester, MA. I'll be praying for all of you and ask for your prayers. While I'm away, you again be blessed with the company of our favorite friar, Father Kevin Cronin.

And,

*A baseball scout found a remarkable prospect: a horse who was a pretty good fielder and who hit the ball every time he was up at bat. The scout got him a try-out with a big league team. Up at bat, the horse slammed the ball into far left field and stood at the plate, watching it go. “Run!” the manager screamed, “Run!” “Are you kidding?” answered the horse. “If I could run, I'd be in the Kentucky Derby.”*

Peace,

*Father Tom*

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

# Mass Intentions, For the week of May 23rd, 2021

EUCCHARISTIC  
ADORATION



**Eucharistic Adoration**  
**Monday's from 1:30pm-7pm**  
**In the Church**

## Banns of Marriage

### Third

**Sean Patrick Kelly  
(Infant Jesus) to  
Emily Mae Guerra(SSPJ)**

**Kevin Theofield (St.  
Anthony of Padua) to  
Victoria Lettieri (SSPJ)**

Remembering in Our Prayers~

Angie Mingione Angela Amoroso Anna Ormsby Avery Akhogba Arthur Gureck Baby Ben Barbara Bombace Barbara Ruland Mattia Rose Lubrano Belinda Groneman Belinda Vega Brianna Florio Bob Keenan Carol Carolyn Nehl Charles Figliosi Claudia Chandler Daniel Radice Deirdre W. Dolores North Donna Anne Donna Patrissi Dorothy Mitchell Dylan Beach Ed Hildebrandt Ella Ellie Walsh Ginny & John Rief Gladys Blake Gregory Parker Helen Heidi Ray Ida Wehman Joanna Jack Donohue John Cronin John DeStefano J.C.	Joseph S. Luis Anthony Antonette Sabatino James Macchiano John Harney Jim Hanrahan Judy Rampola Joseph Costa Kathleen N. Kitty Cronin Leon Donach Lynn McDonnell Mark Geld Mark Hildreth Mary Fresi Maryann Kevlin Maria Clark Marie del Ciello Marilyn Suli Matthew Parrella Marie & Frank Fiecco Michael Fisher Mike Lofaro Monsignor Iocavacci Pasquale Savarese Paul Bertrand Peter Donach P.I. Ricardo Buffit Riordan Cavooris Sara Jean Andersen Stephen Dolce Tara CesarSKI Tom Kiernan Vivien Cordes Vicki Archdeacon Veronica Broderick
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<b>Saturday</b>	<b>May 22nd, 2021</b> <i>Presider: Father Tom Lector: B. Thompson EM: A. Mantia</i>	9:15am  5:00pm	<b>John "Jack" Powers</b>  <b>John Barra</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>May 23rd, 2021</b> <i>Presider: Father Tom Lector: A. Willman EM: M. Koke</i>	8am	<b>For the People of SSPJ</b>
	<i>Presider: Father Joe Lector: E. Burke EM: H. Orlando</i>	10:00am	<b>Steve Rannazzisi</b>
	<b>Collective Mass</b> <i>Presider: Father Joe Lector: E. Nicastro EM: P. Parish</i>	12:00pm	<b>Thomas A. Hamilton, Jr. Cecile Masi-Hayes Rev. Clarence Murphy Laura Hawryluk Michael Joseph Arcurio Living-Pasquale Savarese</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>May 24th 2021</b> <i>Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of the Church</i>	7:30am  9:15am	<b>Living-Donna Regina</b>  <b>Terence Hobbes</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>May 25th, 2021</b> <i>St. Bede</i>	7:30am  9:15am	<b>Josephine Avento</b>  <b>Terey D'Angelo</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>May 26th, 2021</b> <i>St. Philip Neri</i>	7:30am  9:15am	<b>Eva &amp; Philip Alaimo</b>  <b>Thierry deMontmarin</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>May 27th, 2021</b> <i>St. Augustine of Canterbury</i>	7:30am  9:15am	<b>Living-Chris Regina</b> <b>Collective Mass:</b> <b>Harrison Thrasher, Jr.</b> <b>John Long</b> <b>Steven Rannazzisi</b> <b>Living-Elena &amp; Anthony Settineri</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>May 28th, 2021</b> <i>St. Christopher Magallanes</i>	7:30am  9:15am	<b>Nicholas Gargiulo</b>  <b>Maria Calzetta</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>May 29th, 2021</b> <i>St. Paul VI, Pope Presider: Father Kevin Lector: E Schor EM: D. Anderson</i>	9:15am  5:00pm	<b>Jack Kelly</b>  <b>Marie Pacinello</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>May 30th, 2021</b> <i>Presider: Father Kevin Lector: M. Sehne EM: V. Portanova</i>	8:00am	<b>For the People of SSPJ</b>
	<i>Presider: Father Joe Lector: T. Cafaro EM: M. Latino</i>	10:00am	<b>John Pavelka</b>
	<b>Collective Mass</b> <i>Presider: Father Joe Lector: V. Rubano EM: B. Luna</i>	12:00pm	<b>Donalea Donach Vanos Robert M. Gambardella Hernando Parra Geneive Zito Joseph Napolitano Living-Pasquale Savarese</b>

*The totals are rising....*  
**2021 ~Catholic Ministries Appeal**  
**The 2021 Goal for SSPJ is: \$105,300.**  
**Status as of May 19th, 2021**  
**Pledges: \$70,691. Payments Received: \$50,420.**  
**We are at 67% of GOAL!! Thank you!**

**2021 CMA GOAL**  
**\$105,300**  
*Thermometer represents Payments received at 05/19/21*



This May is the 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Pope Francis encyclical, *Laudato Si'*.

Pope Francis' message reiterates the Church's call for responsible stewardship of creation and calling all to ensure that our methods of production and consumption honor our Creator, respect the Lord's command to care for creation and serve the needs of the human family (especially the poorest and most vulnerable).

Your support of the Catholic Ministries Appeal supports programs dedicated to protecting the sanctity of life at all stages.



*"Understanding the dignity of every human life and how it has been created by God – giving glory to Him in all our work – sharing the faith in our words and actions. Giving witness every day – so we can inspire others to do the same." - Dr. Lisa Honkanen, Director of our Office of Human Life, Family and Bioethics.*

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

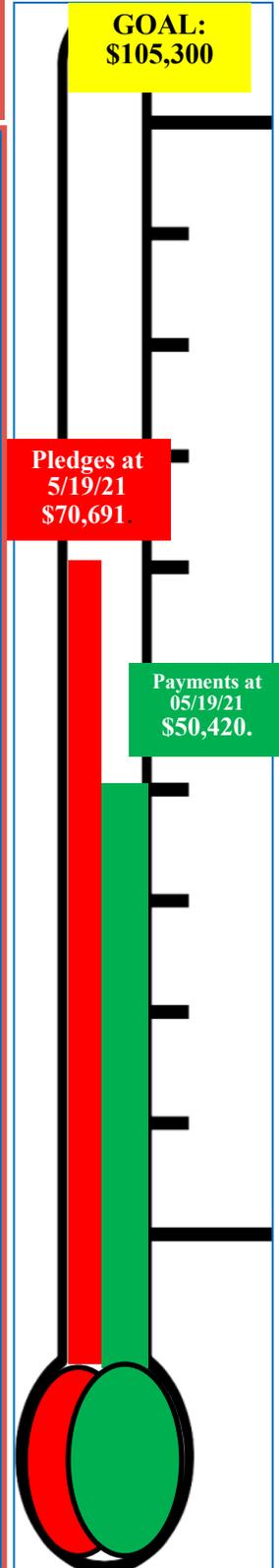
City, State and Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

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!



FAITH BEGINS WITH THE TINIEST OF SEEDS....  
WELCOME TO SSPJ SCHOOL...

## NURSERY SCHOOL PROGRAM!

### SSPJ Nursery School Program 2021 -2022



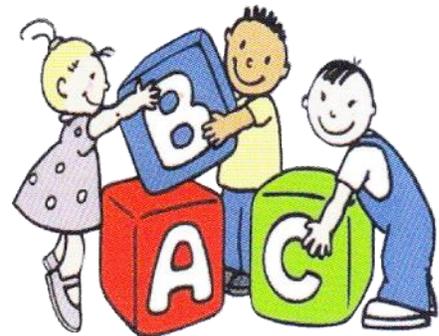
A safe, fun loving program, *(taught by certified teachers)* where children will engage in age-appropriate activities designed to help them learn and grow socially, academically and spiritually.

#### Half Day Program 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

- 2 Days - Tuesday/Thursday
- 3 Days - Monday/Wednesday/Friday
- 5 Days - Monday - Friday

#### Full Day Program 8:30 am - 2:50 pm

- 2 Days - Tuesday/Thursday
- 3 Days - Monday/Wednesday/Friday
- 5 Days - Monday - Friday



Before Care available Monday - Friday from 7:30 am - 8:30 am

After Care available Monday - Friday from 2:50 pm - 5:45 pm

Children must turn 3 on or before Dec. 1st 2021 and be totally potty trained to participate in the Nursery Program

For more information or to schedule a tour Email Ms. Anderson

[danderson@sspjschool.net](mailto:danderson@sspjschool.net)



## Parish Social Ministry

Food...it nourishes us, it sustains us, it supports our lives....

### FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:

White Meat Tuna  
Canned Fruit



### Remembering in Our Prayers

Lynda Powell  
Thomas F. Kiernan, Jr.

*Safely home in the arms of Jesus*

**RESPECT LIFE~DRIVE BY BABY SHOWER, TODAY, SUNDAY, MAY 23RD**

The Respect Life Committee will have a Drive By Baby Shower THIS WEEKEND , May 22nd and 23rd. All donations should be dropped off in the parking area on the side of the rectory office building. Please drive east on Clinton Ave. Make the first left onto Remsen Street and turn left into the priests parking lot. Drive straight through hand your items to members of the Respect Life Committee and exit turning left onto Carow Place. As in the past, items needed are baby clothes up to age 4 new and used in good condition, diapers, wipes, baby bathing items, including baby bath tubs and personal care items for the moms.



All are invited to join their fellow parishioners by praying the ROSARY FOR AMERICA on Thursday evenings @ 7PM at Our Lady's grotto.

Beginning June 3rd, 2021-July 1st, 2021

In case of rain, we will meet in the church. We pray in thanksgiving for our gift of this nation and to remember those who gave livelihoods and lives for our freedoms. Please bring your family and friends.



### URGENTLY NEEDED...

A Eucharistic Minister to bring Holy Communion to two shut-in couples both living in the same Smithtown community off 25A. Please call the Parish Social Ministry Office at 631-584-5454 and ask for Lynn.  
Thank you.

**"I invite all men and women in our world to make good use of the gifts that the Lord has entrusted to us to preserve and make His creation even more beautiful... In order to ensure the proper care of our common home, we must become a "we" that is ever wider and more co-responsible, in the profound conviction that whatever good is done in our world is done for present and future generations. Ours must be a personal and collective commitment that cares for all our brothers and sisters who continue to suffer... A commitment that makes no distinction between natives and foreigners, between residents and guests, since it is a matter of a treasure we hold in common, from whose care and benefits no one should be excluded."**

**Pope Francis**



## *A NOTE FROM MUSIC MINISTRY*

*Happy Pentecost.*

*Today we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit guides, inspires and strengthens us to live as Apostles of Hope. Our Spirit hymns are, our traditional Come Holy Ghost and Spirit Come, which has the Spirit coming to transform us and is our breath and hope. Lastly, we are Sent Forth by God's Blessing.*

### *A Reflection from Sister T*

*Dear Friends,*

*I am willing to bet that many of us have sung "Happy Birthday to you..." more times than we want to admit. I am also sure that you have planned, attended, or had a surprise birthday celebration. It's always fun to celebrate birthdays.*

*Well, this Sunday is Pentecost Sunday, and we get to celebrate. Unlike the Apostles, we know what happened on that day and what was to follow. The time from the Ascension to Pentecost was a very unnerving time for the Apostles. They had no idea that Pentecost would become the birthday of the Church. I am sure that there were moments of doubt, fear, anxiety as well as some prayer and hope that they would be able to pull themselves together. In her own way, I can hear Mary speaking words of encouragement to them and reminding them of the time they had with Jesus.*

*Then the moment came -- the wind, the fire, the Holy Spirit! This made all the difference in the world. Those once frightened Apostles were given all those gifts of the Spirit (wisdom, courage, knowledge, understanding, counsel, reverence, wonder and awe). The coming of the Spirit released those gifts they already possessed.*

*What about us? There are times that we experience those same feeling the Apostles had. Fear, doubt, anger, anxiety can find its way into our hearts as well. We need to allow the Spirit to set those gifts free in us. Through our baptism, we have been given those gifts and we need not be afraid to use them. But finding courage and wisdom to know when and how to use these gifts may be a challenge. This may be the time when prayer, community support, a good friend, or a spiritual director enter the picture. Be assured you are gifted. One gift may be more evident than another, but all of us have gifts.*

*Like the Apostles, we need to be on fire with the mission of Jesus, to bring about the Kingdom of God. And when we begin to see some of the fruits of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, faithfulness, goodness, gentleness, self-control) come alive in us, we know the Spirit is alive. Spend some time during this week to pray for and recognize which of the gifts you use and recognize the fruits that have developed along the way. I share with you a part of a prayer our community group used this past weekend. For me, it said recognize your gifts, use them, and do not be discouraged if all is not accomplished. May your week be gifted! Happy Pentecost!*

*"...We accomplish in our lifetime only a fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. No statement says all that could be said. No program accomplishes the Church's mission. No set of goals and objectives includes everything. We cannot do everything... We are workers, not master builders, ministers, not messiahs"  
---Bishop Ken Untener*

*Till next week,*

*Sister Theresita*



*SSPJ students were happy to receive a visit from our Pastor, Fr. Tom and Sister T. The students shared how they felt after receiving Jesus at their First Holy Communion. Students were presented with a new prayer book and lamb figurine. May God continue to guide and bless our students.*



SAINTS PHILIP AND JAMES COUNCIL #12839

ANNUAL GOLF OUTING  
 MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 2021  
 SMITHTOWN LANDING COUNTRY CLUB  
 495 LANDING AVENUE  
 SMITHTOWN, NY 11780





**This Year's Honoree**  
**Deacon Kenneth J. Maher**





Registration: 12:30pm  
 (Hotdogs/Beverages at check in)  
 Shotgun Tee Off: 2:00pm  
 Open Bar, Full Dinner, Carving Station, Dessert

Proceeds to benefit Sts. Philip & James Knights of Columbus Charity Outreach Efforts.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Players: \_\_\_ \$190.00 per person  
 (includes Cart, Cocktail Hour, Dinner)  
 Dinner only: \_\_\_ \$90 per person  
 Number attending: \_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- SPONSORSHIPS**
- \_\_\_ Dinner Sponsorship @ \$1,000 (2 Available)
  - \_\_\_ Driving Range Sponsor @ \$500 (2 Available)
  - \_\_\_ Tee Signs Sponsorship @ \$100 each
  - \_\_\_ Cart Sponsorship (1) \$300
  - \_\_\_ Putting Green Sponsorship (4) @ \$250 each
  - \_\_\_ Pin Flag Sponsorship (18) @ \$125
- Sponsor Information

Please Make Checks Out To:  
 Sts. Philip & James K of C Council #12839  
 PO Box 201 St. James, NY 11780  
 Credit Card/PayPal: [www.kofcsspj.org](http://www.kofcsspj.org)  
 Click on "News and Announcements" or scan above



**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**  
 CONTACT: TOM SICA-(631)521-4771  
 SIKACHU45@HOTMAIL.COM



## DAILY PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT



BREATHE IN ME O HOLY SPIRIT,  
 THAT MY THOUGHTS MAY ALL BE HOLY.  
 ACT IN ME O HOLY SPIRIT,  
 THAT MY WORK, TOO, MAY BE HOLY.  
 DRAW MY HEART O HOLY SPIRIT,  
 THAT I LOVE BUT WHAT IS HOLY.  
 STRENGTHEN ME O HOLY SPIRIT,  
 TO DEFEND ALL THAT IS HOLY.  
 GUARD ME, THEN, O HOLY SPIRIT,  
 THAT I ALWAYS MAY BE HOLY.  
 AMEN

St Augustine

## ***SSPJ STUDENTS CONTINUE TO EXCELL!***

SSPJ's Apostle of Hope chapter members of the National Junior Honor Society were recognized and celebrated during a special Mass.

Thank you Fr. Joe for celebrating with us and sharing the 5 lessons of a pencil.

May God continue to guide and bless our members as they share their LIGHT and bring HOPE to all around by the example of how they live their lives and serve others just like our patron Saints Philip and James.





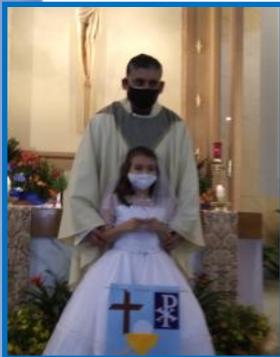
## *Blessings Upon First Communion Candidates Jesus Loves YOU!*

*It is time to celebrate First Holy Communions at SSPJ! Our Communion II Students and their families are so looking forward to receiving Jesus in their hearts during the coming weeks.*

*We will be celebrating their First Holy Communion each Saturday at the 9:15am masses during the months of May and June.*

*We Congratulate our Students and their families and are ever grateful for the lessons of faith and hope that Miss Charlotte has been sharing with them.*

*May God's blessings always shine through each of your beautiful hearts!*



*We Congratulate Our Communion II Students  
Who received their First Holy Communion  
On Saturday, May 15th, 2021*

Vincent Danza  
Ava Noto  
Natalie Noto  
Charles Antonetti  
Carson Porter  
Payton Schmettan  
Taylor Schmettan  
Cole Nordin  
Sophie Wouters  
Graham Mellert  
Addison Manney

*Lord Jesus, I love and adore you. You're a special friend to me.*

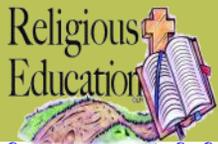


## GREAT NEWS!

Registration for Our 2021-2022 Religious Education Program will begin in  
JUNE!

Please look on our website [sspj.org](http://sspj.org) under the Religious Education tab, for online  
registration forms.

Also, plant the seeds of faith, and share this information with any families  
that may have children entering first grade!



Together, we will grow a bountiful garden of faith!  
Questions, please contact the

God Bless SSPJ YOUTH MINISTRY

## Calling ALL YOUNG PEOPLE from Grades 8 through 12



**SSPJ Youth Group**  
MINISTRY

*Living the Gospel by Our Actions*

## PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR "FRESH AIR & BREATHE" SATURDAY SOCIALS

MAY 29<sup>th</sup>, JUNE 5<sup>th</sup>, JUNE 12<sup>th</sup>,  
JUNE 19<sup>th</sup> & JUNE 26<sup>th</sup>

Immediately following the 5PM Mass  
By SSPJ school's parking lot.

2021-2022 SSPJ YOUTH GROUP REGISTRATION NOW OPEN  
If you're interested in re-joining, or becoming a new member  
of SSPJ Youth Group, please go to [WWW.SSPJ.ORG/Youth](http://WWW.SSPJ.ORG/Youth)  
to download and fill out  
Registration Form for the 2021 – 2022 Season.

# Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

## Feast of the Most Holy Trinity

Deut 4:32-34,39-40  
Ps 33:4-6,9,18-20,22  
Romans 8:14-17  
Matthew 28:16-20

**Monday May 31**  
**Visitation of Virgin Mary**  
Zephaniah 3:14-18a  
or Romans 12:9-16  
Isaiah 12:2-6  
Luke 1:39-56

**Tuesday June 1**  
**St. Justin**  
Tobit 2:9-14  
Ps 112:1-2,7-9  
Mark 12:13-17

**Wednesday June 2**  
Tobit 3:1-11a,16-17a  
Ps 25:2-9  
Mark 12:18-27

**Thursday June 3**  
**St. Charles Lwanga & co.**  
Tobit 6:10-11;7:1,9-17;8:4-9  
Ps 128:1-5  
Mark 12:28-34

**Friday June 4**  
Tobit 11:5-17  
Ps 146:1b-2,6c-10  
Mark 12:35-37

**Saturday June 5**  
**St. Boniface**  
Tobit 12:1,5-15,20  
Tb 13:2,6e-8  
Mark 12:38-44

You are very special to God. You belong to God – *all* of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The reason why it's so important to be baptized in the name of the full Holy Trinity, as Jesus instructs in the Gospel reading, instead of only through Jesus our Savior as a few Protestant sects do, is because God in his fullness – all three Persons of the triune nature of God – wants to have a personal relationship with you, a true friendship.

Are you aware of living in a special love relationship with each Person of the Trinity? Can you sit and chat with God as Father, God as Savior, and God as Holy Spirit? When you're feeling hurt, can you sit in the Father's lap and receive his comfort? When you're fighting temptation, can you feel the strength of Jesus coming to your rescue? When you're worried or confused or struggling to have faith, are you aware of the Spirit's gentle guidance?

The Father of Jesus is our own, very special Divine Daddy or Abba in the reading from Romans. Is he a fearsome punishing authority who barely understands you? No, he gladly adopted you during your baptism, because he's a doting daddy who provides for our needs.

The Holy Spirit assures us of this. God's Spirit embraces us and comforts us and teaches us everything



we need to know so we can live in the joy of a life that's full of love. And in that love, Jesus sacrificed himself for us so that we can be free from the punishment of sin and live holy lives with the

help of his Holy Spirit.

God is a trinity of helpers, healers, strengtheners, faith-builders. He wants you to live in the fullness of his divinity! He wants you to benefit from all that he is.

As baptized Christians and as sacramental Catholics, we lack nothing that really matters!

### Reflect & Discuss:

1. Who is the easiest Person of the Trinity for you to feel close to?
2. Why do you not feel as close to the other two? What will you do to remedy this? (Hint: ask the Holy Spirit to help you with it!)
3. How does the Holy Spirit help you know that Jesus is with you always, just as he promised he would be?
4. And how does this help you understand the goodness of being adopted by God the Father?

In your answers, it's best not to refer to the Father as "God", since Jesus is also God and so is the Holy Spirit. To prevent confusion, it's good to say "the Father" or "Daddy-God" when talking about the Father.

## *Spiritual Reflection by Ron Rolheiser, OMI*

### RICH KIDS GROWING UP WITHOUT MONEY - OR UNDERSTANDING

Gloria Steinem once confessed that, while never having been overweight, she has always been concerned about her weight because the genes she inherited from her parents predisposed her in that direction. So, she says, *I think of myself as a fat woman who is slim at the moment*. Her comment helped me to understand something I misunderstood years before in a classroom.

Early on in my seminary studies, taking a course on the sociology of poverty, I was struggling to accept our professor's explanation as to why poverty isn't always the consequence of personal failure, but is often the product of unchosen circumstances, accidents, and misfortune. Many of us in the class weren't buying it, and this was our logic. Most of us had come from very humble economic backgrounds and believed that we had pulled ourselves up by our own bootstraps. Why couldn't everyone else do the same?

So we protested: we grew up poor. We didn't have any money. We didn't get free school lunches. We had to work to pay for our clothes and books. Our parents never took any handouts. Nobody helped them – they took care of themselves. So have we, their kids. We resent those who are getting things for nothing. Nothing came to us free! We've earned what we have.

Our professor answered by telling us that this is precisely why we needed a course on the sociology of poverty. He wasn't buying the notion that we had grown up poor and had earned things by our own hard work. Then, this surprising phrase: *"None of you were poor as kids; you were rich kids who grew up without money; and where you are today isn't just the result of your own hard work, it's also the result of a lot of good fortune."*

It took me years (and Gloria Steinem's comment) to understand he was right. I was a rich kid who grew up in a family without money. Moreover, so much of what I naively believed that I'd earned by my own hard work was in fact very much the product of good fortune.

I doubt our society understands that. A number of popular clichés have us believe that one's background should never be an excuse for not being a success in this world, that success is open equally to everyone. We've all inhaled the clichés. *Any poor kid can grow up to be President of this country! Any poor kid can go to Harvard! Anybody industrious can make a success of his or her life! There's no excuse for any healthy person not having a job!*

Is this true? Partially, yes; kids from poor economic backgrounds have become president, thousands of poor kids have found entrance into the best universities, countless kids who grew up poor have been highly successful in life, and people who are motivated and not lazy generally do make a success of their lives. However, that's far from the whole story.

What really makes for the separation of rich and poor in our world? Is everyone really on equal footing? Is it really virtue that makes for success and lack of it that makes for failure?

In a best-selling book, *Elderhood*, Louise Aronson, makes this comment about her mother and Queen Elizabeth, both who aged wonderfully and gracefully: *"They both were born into privilege: white, citizens of developed countries, wealthy and educated. Both were gifted with great genetic DNA, and both had the good fortune of not ever having been assaulted, abused, felled by cancer, or in a debilitating car accident. ... These advantages are not a matter of character. Indeed, willpower and capacity for wise decisions are often by-products of fortunate lives."* (Emphasis, mine)

Success isn't predicated only on personal character, hard work, and dedication. Neither is failure necessarily the result of weakness, laziness, and lack of effort. We aren't all born equal, set equally into the same starting blocks, have equally gifted or abusive childhoods, are allotted equally the same opportunities for education and growth, and then are parceled out equally the same measure of accidents, illness, and tragedy in life. However, it's because we naively believe that fortune is allotted equally to all that we glibly (and cruelly) divide people into winners and losers, judge harshly those we deem losers, blame them for their misfortunes, and congratulate ourselves on what we have achieved, as if all the credit for our success can be attributed to our own virtue. Conversely, we see those who are poor as having only themselves to blame. Why can't they pull themselves up by their bootstraps? We did!

But ... some of us have genes that predispose us to become fat, some of us are rich kids who grow up without money, and willpower and capacity for wise decisions are often the products of a fortunate life rather than a matter of character. Recognizing that can make us less cruel in our judgments and far less smug in our own successes.