



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

631-584-5454

January 28th, 2024
The Fourth Sunday
In Ordinary Time



"Quiet! Come out of him!" Mark 1:25
"He commands even the unclean spirits
and they obey him"
Mark 1:27

"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 21st, 2024:

Collections from Weekend masses: \$8,440.

Mail Collections: \$1,393

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

Total Collection: \$13,207.04

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

Sacraments

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVE FOR US IN YOUR PRAYERS



LCDR. MEGAN M. SHUTKA-VIK, USN
CAPT. WILSON MARKS- USN
CAPT. MICHAEL T. DOLAN- JR. -D.O, US ARMY
LT. COL. JOHN 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,

Have you ever said about yourself or your family “I/we live an ordinary life” If you look up the word ordinary, you’ll see that it can be defined as ‘common place, unexceptional’. My guess is that most of us can say that we live an ordinary life.

So, what does the word ordinary mean in the Church? The Church teaches that Ordinary Time is that time that comes between our celebrating times (Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost) and our fasting times (Advent and Lent). During ordinary time we are reminded that God walks among us and is constantly transforming our lives. Ordinary time is a time for growth and maturation, a time which the mystery of Christ is called to penetrate ever more deeply into our lives. The length of time we spend in ordinary time is about 33 /34 weeks as opposed to 18/19 collectively with Advent, Lent, Christmas, and Easter.

All of this says to me that we need to spend more time on being transformed. All of this talk about ‘ordinary’ made me think of a conversation I had with a friend. In asking about the serious health situations this family was dealing with I came to find out about a brother, mother-in-law, nephew, and friend they were helping out. Truly they had enough on their plate, caring for and helping them was the last thing they need to do and yet...He shared that before they did anything they prayed, asking to know what God was asking of them at this time and place. I need to tell you that I was blown away.

The icing on the cake was that they agreed that helping these other folks helped them live out their faith life. I could only compare it to the life of the Holy family. They lived simple ordinary lives and yet I am sure they had an influence on anyone who came to know them. I told my friend he and his family were living in a *Holy Family house*. They did nothing exceptional and lived a simple commonplace life. Each day, encounter, experience was continually transforming them.

Another quick example (it was a week full of them) is another friend who takes time out of his full schedule to have lunch with a group of retired priests once a week. Nothing exceptional but it does allow them to tell their stories to a new set of ears, plus bring some laughter into their day. I am also sure that this person is also enriched by their stories and wisdom. Transformation is certainly taking place. Both of these situations are making the ordinary Holy. Amazing and so simple.

What ordinary things have you been doing that speak of self-transformation, of becoming more Christ-like? Like my friends I think we forget to bless these transformative moments. For me I know that this week I need to see *how I live my ordinary life in a Holy Family kind of way. What about you?*

Till next week,

Sister T

Mass Intentions, For the week of January 28th, 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
Bety 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
Marty Rizzo
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 Trippree
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
Tonia Perdue
Tara CesarSKI
Teresa Mattered
Tina Cafaro
Tiffany Lochan
Thomas Liffrieri
Tom Ryan
Tom Focone
Vivien & John
Cordes
Wayne Smith Sr.

Saturday January 27th Cantor: McCulloh	Presider: Father Joe Lector: Grimaldi/Burke EM: Rapp/Damato/Sisti/ Byrne/Toto	9:15am 5:00pm	Living~Joseph Saggio USN & Capt. Paul Wilms Anne Ellis
Sunday January 28th Cantor: . Lohmann	Presider: Father Joe Lector: Sehne/White EM: Czujko/Kenney/Koke/ LaSerra/P. Tully	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
Cantor: Hill	Presider: Father Joe Lector: Zahorodny/Koke EM: Rizzo/Suski/Clarke/ Keane/Amen/Luna	10:00am	Brett Auletta
Cantor: Stefanowski	Collective Mass Presider: Father Joe Lector: Kenton/Suski EM: Consenz/Chilton/ Suski/Latino	12:00pm	Carmela & Nunzio Salerno Living~Steve & Veronica Aghabekian
Monday January 29th		7:30am 9:15am	Jack Haynes
Tuesday January 30th		7:30am 9:15am	James Winters Edwin Reichert
Wednesday January 31st	St. John Bosco	7:30am 9:15am	Alexander Salerno Mary & Carmen Pontillo
Thursday February 1st		7:30am 9:15am	<u>Living~Donna & Christopher Regina</u> <u>Collective Mass:</u>
Friday February 2nd	The Presentation of the Lord	7:30am 9:15am	Living~Patti Hovagin Dominica Marsicovertere
Saturday February 3rd Cantor: St Blaise	Presider: Father Lector: Healy/Student EM: Mantia/Duffy/Taurassi/ Toto/Urce	9:15am 5:00pm	C. Robert Ingram Marilyn Thode
Sunday February 4th Cantor:	Presider: Father Lector: Cavoorris/Dervan EM: Koke/Kenney/Dunn/ Portanova/Ramos	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
Cantor:	Presider: Father Lector: Dobres/Franco EM: Parish/Amen/Luna/ McKie/Mulhall/Orlando	10:00am	Lorraine Vaccari
Cantor:	Collective Mass Presider: Father Lector: Rubano/Piliero EM: Bleggi/Kaleita/ Rubano/Margaret	12:00pm	Anthony Nicholas Diomede II Gudys Vinces Christopher Bataglia Martin Caltabiano

Second Collection This Weekend: January 28th, 2024 ~
The Church in Need

On January 28, 2024 a collection will be taken for "The Church in Need." The monies collected at this time will be shared among three areas of the world where there is particular need for help:

Church in Central and Eastern Europe - this collection supports the Church in more than 25 countries that struggle to recover from former communist rule. It also aids communities throughout the region that are affected by the war in Ukraine. Funds support pastoral care, catechesis, renovations, and seminary formation. Your support restores the Church and builds the future in this region.

The Church in Latin America For many in Latin America and the Caribbean, a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers all present obstacles to practicing the faith. Your support for the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, and other programs to share our Catholic faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ.

The Church in Africa – The Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa supports pastoral projects to build the capacity of the Church and foster lasting peace and reconciliation across a continent often marked by division and tension. Although the Church in Africa is growing, many still lack access to basic resources and pastoral care.

Thank you for your generosity.



MUSIC MINISTRY

The Lenten Season is fast approaching. Three more weeks until Ash Wednesday. Wow!! That sure came fast. It was just Christmas!! Well, the Music ministry is getting ready for the next church season, Lent/Easter. Want to be a part of the music? Come join us, at least see what it's all about. You know there are NO auditions and you don't have to read music. If you liked what you heard at Christmas come check us out. And "sing your praise to God"



TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024

"Calling others to join His mission is one of the first things Jesus does at the beginning of His public life: He approaches some young fishermen and invites them to follow Him to "become fishers of men" (v. 17). And this tells us something important: the Lord loves to involve us in His work of salvation, He wants us to be active with Him, He wants us to be responsible and protagonists."

Pope Francis

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





STS. PHILIP AND JAMES SCHOOL

ST. JAMES, NY

NURSERY-8TH GRADE



At Saints Philip & James School, we are on a mission to create the leaders of tomorrow. By infusing the Gospel into every aspect of our students' development, we are confident they will be well-equipped to take on the world! Let's create a brighter future together!

STOP BY OUR OPEN HOUSE EVENT!

Sunday, January 28th from 11am - 1:30pm

📷 SSPJACADEMYANDSCHOOL

📘 SSPJSCHOOL

☎️ (631) 584-7896

📍 359 CLINTON AVENUE, ST. JAMES, NY 11780



WWW.SSPJSCHOOL.NET

*Tuition-Assistance
is Available*



www.TomorrowsHopeFoundation.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



*A GREAT BIG THANK YOU TO THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS,
FOR THEIR HOSPITALITY BREAKFAST!
SO BLESSED TO HAVE OUR RELIGIOUS ED FAMILIES JOIN IN
FELLOWSHIP AFTER THEIR GRADE LEVEL MASS
CELEBRATION.*



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

SEE FLYER ON NEXT PAGE!



**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: _____



MUSIC MINISTRY

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Well, the Music ministry is getting ready for the next church season, Lent/Easter. Want to be a part of the music? Come join us, at least see what it's all about. You know there are NO auditions and you don't have to read music. If you liked what you heard at Christmas come check us out. And "sing your praise to God"



**I AM THE LIVING BREAD
THAT CAME DOWN FROM
HEAVEN; WHOEVER EATS
THIS BREAD WILL LIVE
FOREVER; AND THE
BREAD THAT I WILL GIVE
IS MY FLESH FOR THE
LIFE OF THE WORLD.**

JOHN 6:51

Congratulations and God's Abundant Blessings Upon...

***Baby, Austin James Quioco
and his Family***

And

***Baby Leila Ona Goodstein
and her Family***

***Welcome on your very special
Baptism Day
Sunday, January 21st, 2024***



Congratulations and God Bless the Recipients of the Ad Altare Dei Medal

Five Boy Scouts from Troop 7 St James - Steven Ciraolo, Andrew Davidson, Brendan Kieran, Matthew Trabulsi and Joshua Prew- were awarded the Ad Altare Dei medal by Rev. Luis Miguel Romero Fernandez Auxiliary Bishop of DRVC at a convocation Mass at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church in Melville on Sunday, January 21st. The Ad Altare Dei is a program developed by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting for Boy Scouts of the Catholic faith. Its purpose is to foster personal and spiritual growth of each scout by encouraging him to actively live out his Catholic faith. The program entails close to 40 hours of work and study. It was started in 1929 and was the first religious emblem program of any faith officially recognized by the Boy Scouts.



Save the date!



Dine Around Dinner

SSPJ Audit

6:00

Tick

No

**This EVENT IS
SOLD OUT!
THANK YOU TO ALL FOR
YOUR SUPPORT!**



...and more to come!

THE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND AT SSPJ SCHOOL!

SSPJ Academy Students enjoyed learning all about the history of aviation and space exploration at the *Cradle of Aviation* during a field trip sponsore by *Catholic Health Services*!



Grateful - Thankful - Blessed

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.

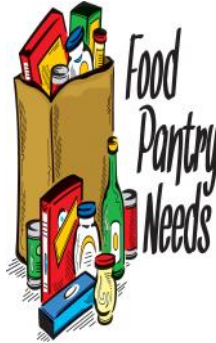
Parish Social Ministry

Our Food Pantry Needs:

Canned Fruit
Chili with Beef
Grape Jelly
Facial Tissues

Dinty Moore Stew

Thank you for your generosity



We remember the family and friends of,
Walter T. Vendura
Judy Conde
Patricia Jeanne Thompson
Patricia McCloskey
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

We read in last week's bulletin this quote from Martin Luther King Jr.

'The time is always right to do what is right.'

Now, not only our country but many countries around the world

have lost respect for human life in all its stages.

We must not be overwhelmed, but we must work to change hearts and continue to build a society of love.

Won't you please consider joining the Respect Life Committee?

We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the Sts.

Philip and James room @7PM

Call 631-862-9370 with any questions .

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**

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

Our Family Prayer Intention~ February

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;

September 30th and October 1st, 2023

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....



Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

5th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday, February 4

Jb 7:1-4,6-7

Ps 147:1-6

1 Cor 9:16-19,22-23

Mk 1:29-39

Monday, February 5

St. Agatha

1 Kgs 8:1-7,9-13

Ps 132:6-10

Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday, February 6

St. Paul Miki &
Companions, Martyrs

1 Kgs 8:22-23,27-30

Ps 84:3-5,10-11

Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday, February 7

1 Kgs 10:1-10

Ps 37:5-6,30-31,39-40

Mk 7:14-23

Thursday, February 8

1 Kgs 11:4-13

Ps 106:3-4,35-37,40

Mk 7:24-30

Friday, February 9

1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19

Ps 81:10-11b,12-15

Mk 7:31-37

Saturday, February 10

St. Scholastica

1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34

Ps 106:6-7b,19-22

Mk 8:1-10

If Job's words resonate with you, it may be because he captures the essence of the universal struggle of human existence. Our lives can sometimes seem like they are marked by toil with only fleeting moments of hope. It's a poignant reminder that, at times, we may find ourselves weighed down by the burdens of life, yearning for relief and happiness.

We are then shown a different view of life's duties. The Apostle Paul talks about his responsibility to share the Gospel. He willingly becomes like a servant to everyone, adapting to connect with different people to share the message of salvation. This calls to mind our own responsibilities — are they forced on us like Job's troubles, or do we take them on willingly, like Paul?

In the Gospel, Jesus emerges as the epitome of compassionate service. His healing touch and selfless acts of curing the sick and driving out demons depict a profound commitment to alleviating the suffering of others. The passage of Simon's mother-in-law being restored to health and immediately attending to the needs of those around her echoes the transformative power of compassion.

There is another important message that we should take to heart. Jesus takes time for solitude and prayer, even when things are busy. This emphasizes how important it is to connect with God for strength and nourishment, especially



when life gets tough. In the midst of life's chaos, it's all too easy to lose sight of the need to turn to God, even when (or possibly especially when) His guidance is most crucial.

Take some time to reflect on the different experiences portrayed in these readings and the lessons God is trying to teach you through them. As you navigate your life's complexities, do you make an effort to fulfill your responsibilities with purpose and to show compassion to those around you?

Reflect & Discuss:

- † How do you handle tough times and moments of hope?
- † What responsibilities do you have, and do you take them on willingly?
- † How can your life be a source of healing and compassion for others, like how Jesus served others selflessly?

THE SPIRITUALITY OF EUGENE DE MAZENOD

During the years I have been writing this column, I have rarely mentioned the fact that I belong to a religious order, the *Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate*. That omission is not an evasion, since being an Oblate of Mary Immaculate is something of which I am quite proud. However, I rarely flag the fact that I am a priest and a member of a religious order because I believe what I write here and elsewhere needs to ground itself on things beyond titles.

In this column, however, I want to speak about the founder of the *Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate*, Saint Eugene de Mazenod, because what he had to say about Christian discipleship and spirituality is something of value and importance for everyone, like the legacies that have been left us by other great religious founders like Bernard, Francis, Dominic, Angela Merici, Ignatius of Loyola, Vincent de Paul, and others.

Saint Eugene de Mazenod (1779-1861) was a French bishop of aristocratic origins who some popular myths identify as the bishop in *Les Miserables*. He was a man whose personality ran somewhat naturally in the direction of the stern, the introverted, the strongly inner-directed, the mystical, and the single-minded. He wasn't the type of person most people would choose as their first choice for light dinner conversation, but he was the type of person who is often God's first choice to found a religious order.

Soren Kierkegaard once stated that *to be a saint is to will the one thing*. Eugene de Mazenod clearly did that and, in his case, that one thing had a number of aspects which, taken together, form the basis of a very rich, balanced spirituality – one which emphasizes some salient aspects of Christian discipleship that are often neglected today.

What shaped the spirituality of Eugene de Mazenod and the charism he left behind?

First, he emphasized *community*. For him, a good life is not just one of individual achievement, fidelity, or even greatness; it is a life that links itself to the power inherent within community. He was a firm believer in the axiom: *what we dream alone remains a dream, what we dream with others can become a reality*. In his view, compassion only becomes effective when it becomes collective, when it issues forth from a group rather than from just one individual. He believed that alone you can make a splash but not a difference. He founded a religious order because he deeply believed this.

In the face of all the issues confronting the world and the Church today, if someone were to ask him: “What's the one single thing I might do to make a difference?” He would reply: Connect yourself with others of sincere will within community, around the person of Christ. Alone you cannot save the world. Together we can!

Second, he believed that a healthy spirituality makes *a marriage between contemplation and justice*. Judged in the light of our contemporary sensitivities, his exact expression of this is perhaps linguistically awkward today, but his key principle is perennially valid: only an action that issues forth from a life that is rooted in prayer and deep interiority will be truly prophetic and effective. Conversely, all true prayer and genuine interiority will burst forth in action, especially in action for justice and the poor.

Third, in his own life and in the spirituality he laid out for his religious community, he made a *strong preferential option for the poor*. He did this not because it was the politically correct thing to do, but because it was the correct thing to do; the Gospel demands this, and it is non-negotiable. His belief was simple and clear: as Christians, we are called to be with and work with those whom nobody else wants to be with and work with. For him, any teaching or action that is not good news for the poor cannot claim to be speaking for Jesus or for scripture.

Fourth, he put *all of this under the patronage of the mother of Jesus, Mary*, whom he saw as an advocate for the poor. He recognized that the poor turn to her, for it is she who gives voice to the *Magnificat*.

Finally, in his own life and in the ideal he laid out, he brought together two seemingly contradictory tendencies: *a deep love for the institutional Church and the capacity to prophetically challenge it at the same time*. He loved the Church, believed that it was the noblest thing for which one might die; but at the same time, he wasn't afraid to publicly point out the Church's faults or to admit that the Church needs constant challenge and self-criticism... and he was willing to offer it!

His personality was very different from mine. I doubt that he and I would spontaneously like each other. But that's incidental. I'm proud of his legacy, proud to be one of his sons, and convinced enough of his spirituality to give my life over for it.