



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

631-584-5454

July 30th, 2023
The Seventeenth Sunday
In Ordinary Time



"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and
hides again, and

Out of joy

goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."

Matthew 13:44

"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 July 23rd, 2023:

Collections from Weekend masses: \$8,374.

Collections from mail: \$ 2,325 .

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

Total Collections: \$14,073.04

**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 KAIRES

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

LIVE-STREAMING THE 8:00AM SUNDAY MASS

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

Father Tom's Letter

Dear Friends,

Have you ever read in the newspaper or heard on the news of someone who found an old “something” – piece of furniture, painting, piece of jewelry – brought it to an appraiser and found that it was worth a fortune? Did this entice you to clean out your attic or basement in hopes of finding such a “buried treasure” yourself?

In the first parable in today's gospel, a person does find such a treasure. Was this person looking for a treasure? Maybe. Maybe not. In the second parable, a merchant searches for and finds a particular treasure - a pearl of great price. Both people sell all they have to purchase what they have found.

This gospel may invite us to consider – for what would we “sell all that we have”? It may also invite us to consider for what do we sell all that we have. Sometimes without actually realizing it, we make choices which cost us, and which may cost us dearly. We can get swept away with competitions – with keeping up with the neighbors or family, with having all the latest things – cars, fashions, cell phones. One of the most enlightening experiences of reflection suggested to me was to “pray with my checkbook and my daily calendar”. How do I spend not only my money, but also my time? Reflecting on these things helps me to recognize what I am treasuring in life.

There also are many times when we make choices which cost us in other ways. We choose to spend time with someone in need. We choose to make time to listen to the children in our lives. We chose to continue on with last year's model (car, computer, outfit, etc.) When these choices put us more deeply in touch with compassion, with love, with contentment, with joy, we have found our treasure, our pearl of great price, for we find ourselves in God's embrace. Like Solomon in today's first reading, let's pray for the wisdom of an understanding heart, so that we may make choices which uncover the treasure of God's love.

Happy to welcome back Fr. Joe back from India. I'm looking forward to hearing about his time back home. And now it's time for the changing of the guard. I begin my vacation on August 1st and am excited about spending time with family and friends. While I'm gone Father Shibi, pastor of St Ignatius in Hicksville, will be here filling in for me. Please be sure to give home your characteristic warm welcome.

And finally,

Think English isn't a challenging language? Consider:

The bandage was wound around the wound.

The farm was used to produce produce.

The dove dove into the bushes.

I do not object to the object.

The traveler deserted his dessert in the desert.

See you in September!!

Peace,

Father Tom

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

Mass Intentions, For the week of July 30th, 2023

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday

1:30-7pm In the Church



We Pray for those who are ill...

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

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

Saturday July 29th Cantor: K. Murtha	Presider: Father Samson Lector:Dreschler/ Thompson EM:Mantia/Duffy/ Taurassi/Toto/Urce	9:15am 5:00pm	Deceased Members of Baglivi Family Deacon Ron Blasius
Sunday July 30th Cantor: J. Lohmann	Presider: Father Samson Lector:Czujko/Halluska EM:..Napolitano/M. Dunn/ Kenney/LaSerra/Portanova	8am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
Cantor: L. Stefanowski	Presider: Father Tom Lector:Koke/Wagner EM:Amen/Luna/McKie/ Mulhall/Orlando	10:00am	Charles Gusmano
Cantor: J. Hill	<u>Collective Mass</u> Presider: Father Tom Lector:Geier/Smith EM:Consenz/Bleggi/ Kaleita	12:00pm	Teresa Hynes Andrew DiMarino Living~ Thomas & Linda Christy
Monday July 31st	Eucharistic Adoration 1:30-7pm St. Ignatius of Loyola	7:30am 9:15am	Sgt Steven Giacoppo & Sgt Peter Jirsa Kevin Kirdahy
Tuesday August 1st	St. Alphonsus Liguori	7:30am 9:15am	Francoise Segretain Carol Kirdahy
Wednesday August 2nd	St. Eusebius of Vercelli St Peter Julian	7:30am 9:15am	Sister Marie Gerard Hoffman Thomas O'Brien
Thursday August 3rd		7:30am 9:15am	<u>Collective Mass</u>
Friday August 4th	St. John Vianney	7:30am 9:15am	Loretta Parrella
Saturday August 5th Cantor:	Presider: Father Joe Lector:Schor/Ryan EM: Licari/Calderone/ Anderson/Drechsler/ Kanuika	9:15am 5:00pm	Marie Melo William Olsen
Sunday August 6th Cantor:	Presider: Father Joe Lector:Luna/Marino EM: Rapp/Suski/Czujko/ Sehne/M. Tully	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
Cantor:	Presider: Father Shibi Lector:Wagner/Cavooris EM: Sisti/Latino/ Mulhall/Conti/Reichert	10:00am	Ellie Walsh
Cantor:	<u>Collective Mass</u> Presider: Father Shibi Lector: Nicastro/Rubano EM: Consenz/Samson/ Stack	12:00pm	Vivian Lawoo Wayne Johnson Thomas James O'Brien

**LET US WELCOME TO
SSPJ...**

FATHER SHIBI PAPPAN

**Father Shibi will be with
us during the month of
August.**

**Welcome Father Shibi to
the SSPJ Parish Family!**

*"I know that the providence of
the Lord brought me to this land
and He has a plan for me; His
grace is sufficient for me!"
~Father Shibi*



**Feast of the Assumption
Tuesday, August 15th, 2023**

*The Feast of the Assumption
is a Christian holiday that
celebrates the day when the
Holy Virgin Mary ended her
earthly life and was taken to
heaven together with her soul
and body*

Mass Schedule:
Monday, August 14th 5:00pm
Tuesday, August 15th 7:30am
9:15am
7:00pm



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



**"To better appreciate God's way of acting, let us
remember that our life is meant to be lived to the
full, and that our greatest hopes and dreams are
not achieved instantly but through a process of
growth and maturation, in dialogue and in
relationship with others. Those who focus only on
the here and now, on money and possessions, on
"having it all now", are blind to the way God
works. His loving plan spans past, present and
future; it embraces and connects the generations.
It is greater than we are, yet includes each of us
and calls us at every moment to *keep pressing
forward.*"**

Pope Francis~ July 25th, 2023



Our Summer fun has begun, weekend calendars fill up quickly with
gatherings, celebrations, and vacations.
Sometimes far-off places or a simple day at the beach takes us away from our
Spiritual Home.
Our summer collections drop approx. \$2,500 per week. You can help us
"Beat The Heat" by contributing one extra envelope for July and August,
in any amount you can comfortably afford.
Mark your donation as "Summer Appeal"

We appreciate the generosity of all who have donated to this appeal
in support of our parish.

Wishing you a blessed summer!
My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.

Exodus 33:14

Virginia Portanova
SSPJ Business Manager

**The Catholic Daughters will be selling chances for their annual Labor
Day 50/50 Scholarship Raffle in the school lobby this weekend after all
masses.**

**The raffles are \$2.00 each or 6 for \$10.
The drawing will be held in the church lobby following
the 9:15 Am Mass on Labor Day, September 4th, 2023**



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MINISTRY
"LET THE LITTLE ONES COME TO ME"

Registration for the 2023-2024 Religious Education School
Year IS OPEN!

Enrollment began on: June 5th, 2023 and will remain
Open until September 15th, 2023

All of the information for registration can be found on our
website SSPJ.ORG,
Select: "Religious Education"
Then Select: "Registration Information."

FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES, GRADES 1 AND 2
ARE TAUGHT UP AT THE CHURCH

ALL OTHER CLASSES, GRADES 3-8
Are remote based, on line using Google Classroom
and Google Meets
They are designed as a "Family Participation Curriculum"
Any questions kindly contact the
Religious Ed Office at 631-584-3204



"Everyone NeEdS Jesus Program"

SSPJ ministry of special education offers time spent with
Jesus for our students and their families.

This wonderful program begins in October and meets at
9am on scheduled Saturdays through April, 2024

Together, we learn and grow in the special faith that
Jesus has taught us and has blessed us with, deep in our
hearts.

If your family may be interested in this ministry, kindly
contact the religious ed office at 631-584-3204

SSPJ ACADEMY

Class of 2023 earned a total of

\$282,340

in scholarship money to the
Catholic High School of their choice!

★★★★★ Facebook and Google Rating

★★★★★ Greatschools.org

*If you are considering Catholic Middle School, schedule a tour with
SSPJ. We offer a welcoming environment where students thrive!*



Academics
Regents Algebra 1
Living Environment



Faith
Over 100 Years of
Faith Based Education



Community
Buddy Program
Apostles of Hope



Register Now: 631-584-7896
danderson@sspjschool.net

Sts Philip & James School, St James NY



June 2023— July 2024

Our Year of the Eucharistic Revival

All My Brothers and Sisters

“At Mass we find ourselves with all sorts of men and women: young and old, poor and well off, locals and strangers. Are these people my brothers and sisters?”

Pope Francis asks to consider our actions at Mass carefully. It is so important to him that we realize at Mass we—all together—are being transformed into the one body of Christ, and that we are being called to give ourselves as Jesus gave himself. Take a look around the next time you are at Mass—who’s there you’ve never seen before? Who’s there every week? Where do people sit? Do people make room for others? Do you? When this call to unity and service seems overwhelming, remember that God doesn’t call the qualified, God qualifies the Called.

Ponder:

How welcoming am I to newcomers and strangers?

Pray:

God of Mystery and wonder, help me to see your face reflected in everyone around me.

(Taken from What Pope Francis Says About Eucharist)

Sister T

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



CAN YOU HELP?
The Thermometer is inching upward!
WE ARE AT 70% OF OUR GOAL as of July 27th, 2023
Our Pledges are \$71,790
Our Payments are \$58,512.
Together we can reach our goal!

GOAL: \$102,000
PAYMENTS AT
 7/27/23
\$58,512.
PLEDGES AT
 7/27/23
\$71,790
 We are on our
 Way~
 Thank you!

GOAL
\$102,000
PAYMENTS

\$60,000

\$10,000



"God, who cannot be outdone in generosity, still uses you and me to help our brothers and sisters."
 -Pope Francis

STEP 1: Suggested Gift Plan – Every Gift Counts!

Use the table below as a guide but feel free to adjust the payments to your means.

Pledge	Down Payment	5 Monthly Payments (billed by Diocese)	Here's what your Pledge can do to fuel Dramatic Missionary Growth
\$60	\$ 10	\$10 per month	\$60 may pay for gas for a Meals on Wheels van to deliver food.
\$100	\$25	\$15 per month	\$100 may help pay a utility bill for a family in need.
\$125	\$25	\$20 per month	\$125 may help provide services and care for a mom and newborn from Catholic Charities Regina Maternity Community Case Management Program.
\$175	\$35	\$28 per month	\$175 may help fund a Youth minister, inspiring vocations and evangelization.
\$300	\$ 50	\$50 per month	\$300 may help subsidize a home for an adult who is developmentally disabled.
\$600	\$100	\$100 per month	\$600 may help support a Deacon's formation.
\$750	\$150	\$120 per month	\$750 may help support a Seminarian's education.

STEP 2: Pledge & Payment Information – To make a payment on line, go to <https://www.drvc.org/CMA/>

Please check the appropriate boxes below. Checks should be made payable to: **Catholic Ministries Appeal**

Amount of Pledge: \$ _____

Payment Plan: (Please Check One)

☐ Full Payment Today of \$ _____ ☐ Down Payment Today of \$ _____

STEP 3: Name and Address

Make checks payable to: **Catholic Ministries Appeal**

Parish _____ Pledge: \$ _____

Name _____ Down payment: \$ _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Thank you for your support!

To make a donation, you can also visit <https://www.drvc.org/CMA/>

or call us at 516-678-5800 ext. 296.

GOAL
\$102,000
PLEDGES

\$60,000

\$10,000

A Reflection from Sister T~

Dear Friends,

The one thing I like as much as talking and driving all over creation is having a lively conversation – the type where you often end up agreeing to disagree. Such has been my opportunity this week. Although many topics have been brought up and solved by us, there is one that is lingering in my mind and is on my heart: **TECHNOLOGY!**

Mind you, I am not against technology but some of us have become slaves to the phone, iPad, tablet, and all sorts of other gadgets. As I travel, I don't see people talking to each other anymore; they are too busy listening to their iTunes or texting. Even at a restaurant, I saw folks texting at the table instead of talking to each other!

When was the last time they heard the birds singing as they did their daily run, or heard the river flowing, the voice of another person, or even the noise of a busy street? Do they see the beautiful clouds, witness a beautiful sunrise or sunset, or see the flowers on the side of the road? I think too many people are self-absorbed in Technology and are missing the beauty that is right around them while they are busy searching for it elsewhere.

Stopping to smell and see the roses takes on a new meaning. We don't need technology to do that. Be present to the people around you and enjoy their company. See the beauty that surrounds you!
Below is a Native American Table Grace that might help you to stop and pause and think about the food you are eating. You don't have to take a picture of it just **Eat It** and **Enjoy It!**

The prayer goes like this:

*Creator, Mother Earth, Thank you for our lives and for another day.
Thank you for the summer sun and rains that come to renew our Earth.
Thank you for this circle of family and precious time to share a meal together.
After each intention, please say this refrain:*

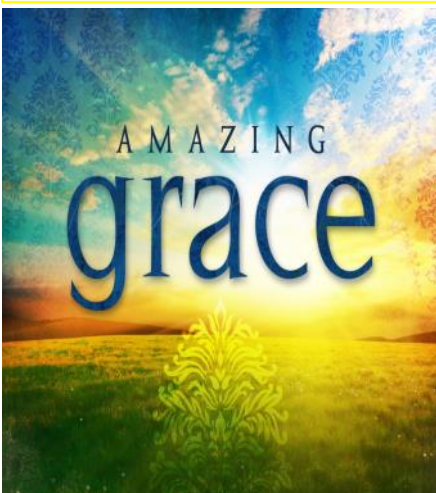
*We are grateful for the gift of life received from the food we eat.
May we honor them in how we live our lives and share this food, may it be with great love.
May beauty be before me...
May beauty be behind me...
May beauty be below me...
May beauty be above me...
May beauty be all around me...
In beauty it was begun...
In beauty it is finished...
AMEN*



This week, my friends, put down some of the electronics and enjoy what God has created for you and others have provided you with.

May your heart and mind be filled with the beauty that surrounds you.

Till next week,
Sister Theresita



Music Ministry~

What really matters in life? Today's focus. It's not the things of this world but an opportunity to bring the reign of God into the world. We need the Holy Spirit to give us wisdom to see beyond the needs and realities of our own day-to-day living and find true value and to live generously as you. Be the people God wants us to be. The God of All Grace is the Gathering hymn. This has become one of my favorite hymns. God 's Holy Spirit is coming to us with faith, hope and love as we are blessed this day. Giving us the tools to live a life that matters.

Summer is moving on. As you are relaxing, think about joining the music ministry and the many blessings you will receive by praying twice.

How wonderful!!

Parish Social Ministry

Our Food Pantry Needs:
Please check expiration dates.

Canned Chicken
Canned Solid White Tuna
Beef Chili
Canned Ravioli
Parmalat Milk

Thank you for your kindness and compassion



We remember the family and friends of,

Robert J. Moss, Jr.
Arthur Joseph Schmitt
Frank Klima
Frederick L. Walling
Carmela Musto

Safely Home in the arms of our Lord

It is our profound conviction that the future of the human family depends on how we safeguard, both prudently and compassionately, with justice and fairness, the gift of creation that our Creator has entrusted to us. Therefore, we acknowledge in repentance the wrongful mistreatment of our planet.



It's the Most Wonderful Time of the YEAR!!!

It is hard to believe that we are already talking school supplies...September is just around the corner!

We have children in our community in need of teacher mandated items.

If you can help, kindly take a "school supply card" from the baskets in the back of the church.

You may return your school supply donation, along with the card, to the parish office during the week,

Or, items can be placed In the St. Anthony's Bread Closet in the back of the church.

As always, thank you for all you do!



Summer can get very busy. The Respect Life Committee is asking you to please remember all life: The babies, born and unborn, the physically and mentally challenged, the sick, the aged. Since all need our help you are invited to join us for any of the parish prayer opportunities available to us each week.

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



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

My Weekly SUMMER Sunday Gospel

The Seventeenth Sunday In Ordinary Time ~ Sunday, July 30th, 2023

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

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

Saturday, August 5th or Sunday, August 6th, 2023

The Gospel Message: Matthew 13:44-52

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for another lesson.

It is sometimes hard to give up things I want, but you remind me that your love for me and your guidance bring to me and my family everything we need.'

Things seem so much more valuable to me when I want them, so if I have collected too many things...please help me to share them with others knowing that to serve others is to serve and to love you.

I love you Jesus,
Amen

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

Jesus teaches us about the Kingdom of Heaven. But Jesus teaches, as we learned last week in parables...short stories to better understand his message.

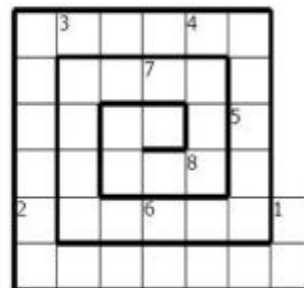
The first two parables describe the great value of the kingdom of heaven. In the first parable, Jesus says that the kingdom of heaven is like a buried treasure that is worth possessing even if it means giving up everything else. In the second parable, Jesus tells us that the kingdom of heaven is like a pearl of great worth for which one will sell everything else to possess. These parables teach us that we are to place everything we value in the service of others.

Parables Of The Kingdom Spiral

Hidden Treasure and the Pearl

When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it. Matthew 13:46 (NIV)

Look at the numbered clues, determine the correct word, and write that word in the spiral puzzle. Each numbered square will begin a new word.



- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Something of great value; gold, silver, or jewels, for example | 5. Gave something in exchange for money |
| 2. A small, shiny, hard ball that forms inside some oysters | 6. A territory or country ruled by a king or queen |
| 3. A feeling of great happiness | 7. An adult male human |
| 4. To put in a place where something cannot be seen or found (past tense) | 8. The worth of something in money |

VALUE	PEARL	HID	KINGDOM
TREASURE	MAN	SOLD	JOY

Reflecting and Preparing for Next Sunday, August 6th, 2023
The Transfiguration of the Lord

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

Transfiguration of the Lord

Sunday August 6

Daniel 7:9-10,13-14
Ps 97:1-2,5-6,9
2 Peter 1:16-19
Matthew 17:1-9

Monday August 7

Numbers 11:4b-15
Ps 81:12-17
Matthew 14:13-21

Tuesday August 8**St. Dominic, Priest**

Numbers 12:1-13
Ps 51:3-7,12-13
Matthew 14:22-36 or
Matthew 15:1-2,10-14

Wednesday August 9

Numbers 13:1-2,25 –
14:1,26a-29a,34-35
Ps 106:6-7b,13-14,21-23
Matthew 15:21-28

Thursday August 10**St. Lawrence, Dcn, Martyr**

2 Corinthians 9:6-10
Ps 112:1-2,5-9
John 12:24-26

Friday August 11**St. Clare, Virgin**

Deuteronomy 4:32-40
Ps 77:12-16,21
Matthew 16:24-28

Saturday August 12

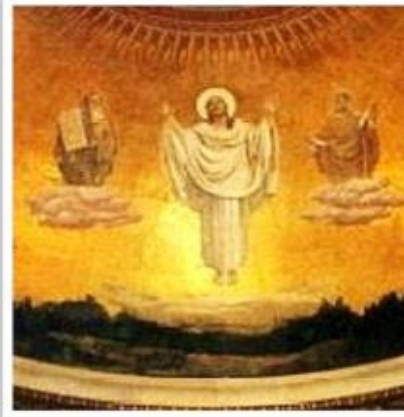
Deuteronomy 6:4-13
Ps 18:2-4,47,51
Matthew 17:14-20

Atop Mount Tabor in Israel is where the pure light of Christ – the uncreated light of his true identity – was first revealed to the world. Not at his birth, not at his baptism, nor as he preached and healed. Although the Light of the World came to us in those momentous events, it was not revealed so clearly, so powerfully, so dramatically as when he let Peter, John, and James witness it on the mountaintop, as seen in today's Gospel passage.

The highest experience of faith was, and still is what happens when the Father says, "This is my beloved Son; *listen to him.*" The transfiguration of Christ occurs again and again every time we listen to him and our faith is enlightened. It happens every time we have a breakthrough from blindness to understanding, from sinfulness to holiness, from doubt to trust. However, now we are transfigured *with Jesus!*

Whenever we let his uncreated light consume the darkness within us, the people around us see Christ's true

identity in us. We shine with him. Therefore, it's vitally important that we give Jesus the areas of darkness that still linger within us and let him expose the truth in his light. By repenting (which means we change), we're transformed into our true identity. What is our true identity? It's our innermost



being that was created in the image of God. It's our sainthood!

Listen. Can you hear God's voice saying about you what he said about Jesus on Mount Tabor? "This is my beloved child; listen to him/her." He is saying this to

others as you do the work to which he's called you. Some folks will hear him, some won't, but our yes to his calling is not based on how many people will heed his voice. We serve God because we have been transfigured. Our holiness impels us to go where we can do the greatest good.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † What sins do you still try to hide or deny?
- † Why are you afraid to let Jesus shine his light into these areas of darkness? Are you afraid he'll stop loving you?
- † What do you do that reveals your sainthood?
- † Describe a time when you listened to Jesus and the truth you learned from him transformed you. How did it help you become a true child of God more fully? How did it reveal your true identity more accurately?

P R I V A T E I N T E G R I T Y

In a 1990s movie, *City Slickers*, there's a scene that sheds light on the importance of private integrity. Three men, New Yorkers, close friends, have gone off together for a summer to ride on a cattle drive in the hope that this experience will help them sort through their respective mid-life issues.

At one point, riding along on the trail, they are discussing the morality of having a sexual affair. Initially their conversation focuses mostly on the fear of getting caught, and two of them agree that an affair isn't worth the risk. You're too likely to get caught. But their friend poses the question again, this time asking them if they would have an affair if there was the absolute assurance that they wouldn't be caught:

"Imagine," he says, "that a spaceship touches down. A beautiful woman emerges from the spaceship. You make love and she returns to Mars. There are no consequences. Nobody can possibly know. Would you do it?"

Billy Crystal, who plays the lead role, answers that he doubts that this is ever possible. "You always get caught," he submits, "people smell dishonesty on you." "But," his friend protests, "what if it was really possible to have an affair and not get caught. What if nobody would know? Would you do it?" Billy Crystal's answer: "*But I'd know, and I'd hate myself for it!*"

His answer highlights an important truth. What we do in private, in secret, has consequences that are not dependent upon whether or not our secret leaks out. The damage is the same. What we do in secret molds our character and influences how we relate to others in more ways than we suspect. There is no such a thing as a secret act. One person always knows. *We know*. And we hate ourselves for it, hate ourselves for having to lie. And this gives off its own scent.

What we do in secret ultimately shapes what we look like in public. Dishonesty changes the way we look because it changes who we are. That's the reason why so often those around us will intuit the truth about us, smell the lie, even when they don't have any hard evidence on which to suspect us.

Doing something in secret that we can't admit in public is the very definition of hypocrisy, and that forces us to lie. And, among all sins, lying is the most dangerous. Why? Because we hate ourselves for it, stop respecting ourselves, and when we stop respecting ourselves we will, all too soon, notice that other people stop respecting us too. That's the intuitive place where we "smell" each other's lies.

Worse still, lying forces us to harden ourselves so that we can live with our lie. Sin doesn't always make us humble and repentant. We have the all-too-easy, popular image of the honest sinner, like the sinners in Gospels who more easily accepted Jesus than did the religiously upright. That's sometimes the case, but not always.

The biblical image of the honest sinner humbly turning towards God is predicated on honesty, on a sinner not hiding or lying about his or her sin. But sin can have a very different effect on us. When we don't honestly admit our sin, we move in the opposite direction, namely, towards rationalization, hardness of attitude, and cynicism. Moreover, it's the lying, not the original weakness, that then becomes the real canker and constitutes the real danger. When we hide a sin, we are forced to lie, and with that lie we immediately begin to harden and reshape our souls. There's a moral axiom that says: *You can do anything as long as you don't have to lie about it*. That's quite different than saying that you can do anything as long as nobody finds out about it.

The quality of our person depends upon the degree of our private integrity. We are as sick as our sickest secret, and we are as healthy as our most hidden virtue. We cannot be doing one thing in private and radiate something else in public. It doesn't matter whether others know our secrets or not. We know and, when those secrets are unhealthy, we hate ourselves for them and our hearts harden so to live with our lie.

We should never delude ourselves into thinking that the things we do in private, including very small actions of infidelity, self-indulgence, bigotry, jealousy, or slander, are of no consequence since no one knows about them. Inside the mystery of our interconnectedness as a human family and as a family of faith predicated on trust, even our most private actions, good or bad, like invisible enzymes inside the blood stream, affect the whole. Everything is known, felt, in one way or another. There is no such thing as a private act, inside the family of humanity or inside the body of Christ. Others know us, even when they don't exactly know everything about us. They smell our vices, just as they smell our virtues.