

The Parish of Saints Philip and James
1 Carow Place, St. James, NY 11780
631-584-5454

April 7th, 2024

Sunday of Divine Mercy



“Peace be with you”

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 John Keenan

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Sister Theresita Donach, CSFN

BUSINESS MANAGER

Virginia Portanova

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: 631-584-3204

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 1-3

Charlotte Czujko~cczujko@sspj.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 4-6

Barbara Luna~bluna@sspj.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 7-8

Dominick Avento~davento@sspj.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Margaret Adams

COORDINATOR OF PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

Lynn Sisti

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

Dominick Avento

DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES

John Cordes

SSPJ SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Diane M. Anderson

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

TRUSTEES

Brendan McGovern ~ Tina Cafaro

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Michael Sharkey, Lou Guerra, Cynthia Lombardi, Paul Damato
Lisa Keane, Maureen Burke, Nancy Sanders, Peter Suski, Sheila Cavooris

Collections: ~

Thanking you for your generosity

Financial Support Needed weekly to meet Parish budget:

\$16,700

Weekly Collection: Sunday, March 24th, 2024:

Collections from Weekend masses: \$13,172.

Mail Collections: \$815.

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

Total Collection: \$17,361.04

Catholic Relief Services sent to DRVC

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

**EASTER COLLECTIONS UNAVAILABLE AT
PRINT DATE****

Sacraments

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVE FOR US IN YOUR PRAYERS



LCDR. MEGAN M. SHUTKA-VIK, USN
CAPT. WILSON MARKS- USN
CAPT. MICHAEL T. DOLAN- JR. -D.O, US ARMY
LT. COL. JOHN KAIREZ
SPC. NICOLE A. CANNON
SGM. MICHAEL P. BORRELLI-US ARMY
CAPT. JOHN TULLY- USN
LT. COL. JAMES TULLY-US ARMY
JOSEPH SAGGIO- USNC
CAPTAIN PAUL WILLMS
STAFF SGT. MICHAEL LONGHENRY
LT. COL. PAUL T. JACKSON-
STAFF SGT ALEXANDER PARRELLA-USAF
RICHARD SOTOMAYER- USAF
SGT. CONNOR F. SCOTT- USMC
SGT. CORY O'HARA -USMC
CDR. ROBERT J. MARSH-USN
PFC. CHARLES CHRISTOPHER HOWELL
STEVEN CAVA-USN
ERIC SEELIN- USMC
CW2 CHRIS MUNZ
CW2 NATASHA WORTMAN
CORPORAL JAMES T. CASEY-USMC
SGT. JOSHUA MAHONEY- US ARMY
KEVIN JONES-USCG
PRIVATE JOSHUA OLSEN-USARNG
GLEN CRIMA-US ARMY
MARIO CATANIA-USMC
RYAN ANTHONY NASCIMENTO-USMC
KYLE ANTHONY NASCIMENTO-US ARMY
ENS. RYAN M. SHOWS -USN
STAFF SGT. RYAN REXRODE-USMC
DR. KARA VANDEKIEFT, COL.-USAF
SGT. STEPHEN D. OUTCAULT-USMC
PAUL MUMOLO-USN
VICTORIA ZEMAN, USCG
KYLE J. GRUNER -US ARMY
MARK GIORDANO—US COASTGUARD
KELLI MCLAUGHLIN- LT. US ARMY NATL.GUARD
1 LT MICHAEL J BANG—MILITARY INTELLIGENCE US ARMY
MATTHEW PATRICK GALLAGHER US ARMY
LT. COMMANDER CHRISTOPHER SHANK MD
MIDN ERIN NICASTRO, USN.
MAJ. BRENDAN JOHNSTON-USAF
CHRISTOPHER A. HIONIDIS-USAF
EMMETT MOLONEY—USN
HANK MOLONEY—USAF
CARL JOSEPHSON-USAF
DANIEL JOSEPHSON-USAF
SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON-USAF

LIVE-STREAMING THE 8:00AM SUNDAY MASS

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

Father Tom's Letter

Dear Friends,

Christ is risen! Alleluia! Alleluia! Yes, I know last Sunday we celebrated Easter, rejoicing in Jesus' Resurrection. But Easter isn't just one day. The Easter Season lasts for *fifty days*. And in reality, we celebrate Christ's Resurrection every day. We are an Easter people!

What does that mean? Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM, writes,

"In the Risen Christ, God reveals the final state of all reality. God forbids us to accept "as-it-is" in favor of "what-God's-love-can-make-it". To believe in Resurrection means to cross limits and transcend boundaries. Because of the promise of the Resurrection of Jesus we realistically can believe that tomorrow can be better than today. There is a future that is created by God, and much bigger than our own efforts.

We should not just believe in some kind of survival or immortality or just "life after death" – but Resurrection, an utterly new creation, a transformation into Love that is promised as the final chapter of all history. That is why a true Christian has to be an optimist. In fact, if you are not an optimist, you haven't got it yet."

Many thanks to all who shared so prayerfully in last week's Holy Week Services and our Easter celebrations. It was such grace to celebrate those sacred days together. Thanks, too, to all whose loving ministry made each of the celebrations so meaningful, enabling us to be encountered by God's loving heart.

This Sunday is also known as Divine Mercy Sunday, reminding us of the call to each of us to be so touched by God's mercy that we will extend that mercy to all. Pope John Paul II designated Divine Mercy Sunday in April of 2000, when he canonized St. Faustina, a Polish nun whose great devotion to Jesus and his divine mercy has spread throughout the world. Jesus instructs us to be merciful, to enter into the often painful, messy, confusing situations of others to offer help and a caring presence. Faithfulness to our faith tradition's corporal and spiritual works of mercy guides in following the example of Jesus.

During the 50 days of Easter, we will be blessed at the beginning of each Mass with water, a reminder of our baptismal commitment which we renewed on Easter. These drops of holy water being sprinkled upon us are a sign of God's continued loving presence and support as we live as disciples of Jesus – as Apostles of Hope.

Many thanks to all who have joined in our effort to reach our goal in the Catholic Ministries Appeal. The CMA is a concrete way in which we live the gospel call to care for those with whom the Lord identified and also support our local community as we work together to build up the Body of Christ. Please, if you are able, join in our efforts by making a pledge this week.

And finally,

*If you see a crime at an Apple store, are you an iWitness?
If the early bird catches the worm, I'll sleep in until there are pancakes.
Singing in the shower is fun until you get soap in your mouth. Then it's a soap opera.
The past, present, and future walk into a bar. It was tense.
Someone stole my mood ring. I don't know how I feel about that.*

Peace,

Father Tom

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

Mass Intentions, For the week of April 7th, 2024

**EUCCHARISTIC
ADORATION
MONDAY
1:30PM-7PM
IN THE CHURCH**



We Pray for those who are ill...

Alan Piscak
Andy
Anna Capizzio
Anna Maria
Alfred Fox
Antonette Sabatino
Angie Mingione
Angela Amoroso
Arthur Gureck
Austin Rocky
Baby Ben
Baby Penny Grace
Candela
Barbara Bombace
Brian
Mattia Rose Lubrano
Barbara Sammarco
Belinda Groneman
Benito Fernandez
Betty DiSimone
Bob DelCiello
Rob Remhild
Carol
Carolyn Nehl
Cathleen Henchey
Chase Addonizio
Christella Stewart
David Beleck
David McCue
Deirdre W.
Diane LaPorte
Donna Patrissi
Dorothy Mitchell
Ed Ceraso
Eleanor Bayley
Elizabeth Martin
Elizabeth Smith
Eileen
Emily Schiaratta
Emily Souders
Flo Donohue
Gail Lumley
George Fitzpatrick
Gloria Montesano
Ginny & John Rief
Gregory Parker
Helen
Harold Scott
Jack Donohue
Jakob King
Jamie Accardi
Jean Saladino
Jenny Bonanno
Jerry
Jessie Lokai
Joelle Nicholas
Joni Deleo
John Capizzio
John Cronin
John DeStefano
John Maynes
John Mattia
Joseph
Joe Benaburger

Joseph Domizzio
Judy Rampola
Joe Dorrian
Joseph Costa
Joseph Domizzio
Kaitlyn Remhild
Kathleen Draper
Kathleen N.
Kerry
Karl Walz
Kitty Cronin
Kristin Galetta
Lauretta Prague
Laura Bode
Leon Donach
Lola Santangelo
Lori Cearney
Marjorie Fox
Mary Monte
Margaret Remhild
Mark Hildreth
Mark Wagner
Mary Ryan
Marie Feicco
Maria Clark
Maria Collaro
Marie del Ciello
Maureen Litten
Mary Ann Cesarski
Mary Beth McGovern
Matthew Parrella
Michael Fisher
Mike Lofaro
Michael
Nick Lella
Patricia Acker
Patricia Trippree
Pasquale Savarese
Pat McCumber
Peter Donach
Peter Portanova
Ricardo Buffit
Rob Remhild & Family
Riordan Cavooris
Rogelio Martinez
Ronnie Paciella
Rose
Ryan Duffly
Sara Jean Andersen
Stanley Stura
Stephen Dolce
Susanne Smith
Tonia Perdue
Tara Cesarski
Teresa Mattera
Tina Cafaro
Tiffany Lochan
Thomas Liffrieri
Tom Ryan
Tom Focone
Vivien & John
Cordes
Wayne Smith Sr.

Saturday April 6th Cantor: Murtha	Presider: Father Tom Lector: Dreschler/Burke EM: Licari/Sisti/Anderson/ Damato/Drechsler	9:15am 5:00pm	Easter Novena Liam Bentley & Family
Sunday April 7th Cantor: . Meringolo	Presider: Father Tom Lector: O'Leary/White EM: Conti/Rizzo/Czujko/Sehne/ M. Tully	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
Cantor: Meringolo	Presider: Father Joe Lector: Zahorodny/Luna EM: Napolitano/Suski/ Parish/Mulhall/Orlando/ Sotomayer	10:00am	Easter Novena
Cantor: Hill	Collective Mass Presider: Father Joe Lector: Latino/Smith EM: Consenz/Samson/ Stack/Settineri	12:00pm	Joey Morda Thomas O'Brien Maria Fazio Heidi Alicia Austin Claudia Chandler Antonina Griffo
Monday April 8th	The Annunciation of the Lord	7:30am 9:15am	Easter Novena Richard Cooper
Tuesday April 9th		7:30am 9:15am	Joan & John Purcell Living~Susannah Mary and Mark Nathan
Wednesday April 10th		7:30am 9:15am	Carmel Serani Diana M. Catalano
Thursday April 11th	St. Stanislaus	7:30am 9:15am	Agnes Kingston Collective Mass:
Friday April 12th		7:30am 9:15am	Living~Jental Marie Thomas J. Ficht
Saturday April 13th Cantor: McCulloh	Presider: Father Lector: Schor/Student EM: Toto/Mantia/Taurassi/ Urce/Drechsler	9:15am 5:00pm	Stephanie Liffrieri Krepplein Joseph Caltabiano
Sunday April 14th Cantor: Lohman	Presider: Father Lector: Dervan/Cullen EM: Koke/Portanova/Ramos/ Sehne/P. Tully	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
Cantor: Hill	Presider: Father Lector: Contrino/Dobres EM: Licari/Luna/McKie/ Mulhall/Orlando/Kaleita	10:00am	Al & Jennie Muscara
Cantor: Lupinacci	Collective Mass Presider: Father Lector: Piliero/Rubano EM: Napolitano/Blggi/ Rubano/Conti	12:00pm	Nicholas Gargiulo Living~Joseph Claude Bertrand Living~Claude Bertrand Living~Dou Dou

Altar Memorials for the Week of April 7th, 2024

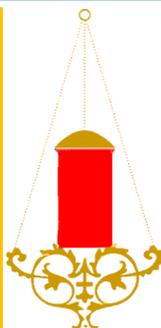


*Our Bread & Wine
Is Offered in memory of,
Stephanie Lifrieri Kreppein
In Our Hearts
Maria & Albert Biele*



*The Altar Candles are dedicated
to...
Stephanie Lifrieri Kreppein
“May your light forever shine”
With love from,
The entire Lifrieri Family*

*The Sanctuary Flame
Is burning in loving memory of,
Stephanie Lifrieri Kreppein
“Forever in our hearts”
Angela & Thomas Lifrieri*



*The Pro Life Rose
Is dedicated in memory of,
Stephanie Lifrieri Kreppein
Love,
Mary Lifrieri*



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

"All too often we look at life and reality with downcast eyes; we fix our gaze only on this passing day, disenchanted by the future, concerned only with ourselves and our needs, settled into the prison of our apathy, even as we keep complaining that things will never change. In this way, we halt before the tomb of resignation and fatalism; we bury the joy of living. Yet tonight the Lord wants to give us different eyes, alive with hope that fear, pain and death will not have the last word over us. Thanks to Jesus' paschal mystery, we can make the leap from nothingness to life. "Death will no longer be able to rob our life" (K. RAHNER), for that life is now completely and eternally embraced by the boundless love of God. True, death can fill us with dread; it can paralyze us."

Pope Francis ~ Saturday, March 30th, 2024



*This weekend is the Second Sunday of Easter and Divine Mercy Sunday.
We have gone through the darkness into the light.
Everything is a gift from God.
We believe in God without seeing him.
The Sending Forth will be changed to another peace song, Prayer of St. Francis. A well-known hymn. The hymn is St. Francis of Assisi's words and speaks of peace and how again peace starts with us. We commit ourselves to promoting peace.
Together let us sing our Easter praise to God .*

A REFLECTION FROM SISTER T...

Dear Friends,

I just love this week after Easter. Partly because I love the fact that Mary Magdalene was the first to see Jesus and she ran to spread the good news. I always thought that together we could have spread the Good News of the Resurrection twice as fast. For those of you who know me, you know how I love to promote a great happening. And so if you remember last week's, Be Attitude of Pope Francis it was to Be my Witness, Mary Magdalene certainly was a great witness to the resurrection. I pray that I can be as well.

By some act of God, a podcast by Fr. Mike Schmitz keeps playing on my car audio (don't know how it got there and can't get it off), It is about Mercy, and I can't get this line out of my head "Mercy is when we love someone who needs it the most and deserves it the least." WOW! It's easy to be kind to someone who appreciates your act of kindness but on the other hand...? With this thought in mind how am I a witness of mercy to those in need. Can I really give without counting the cost? Sorry as we are human, it can be a real challenge.

During this Easter season I am sharing the joy of the resurrection with others. If the mood in the room is less than joyful do I adapt the mood or am I able to influence the mood and bring the joy of the good news to light? We really can't change anyone but ourselves and as we witness the Joy, mercy, hope of this sacred season, God will be in the midst of it all and "All will be well" (Julian of Norwich).

Use this Easter season to absorb all the wonderful things that happened for the followers of Jesus and share the joy and mercy they experienced and shared. May your week be exciting!

Till next week,

Sister Theresita

ALL
WILL BE
WELL

God Bless Christina



God Bless Mariana



God Bless Nick



God Bless Christina



God Bless Stephen



We at Saints Philip and James are happy to congratulate our five RCIA Candidates .

We Welcome them to our SSPJ Parish Family!

We welcome Christie through the sacrament of Baptism!

Mariana and Stephen have completed their sacraments of initiation!

Nick and Christina have joined in full union to the Catholic faith!

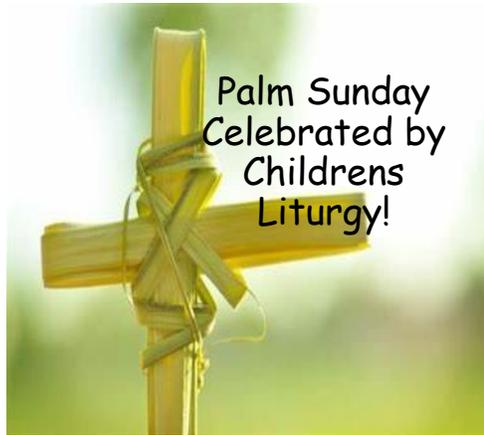
May their lives be filled with the love of the Father Son and Holy Spirit.

May we at Sts. Philip and James always be here to support you.

Sister Theresita and the RCIA Team



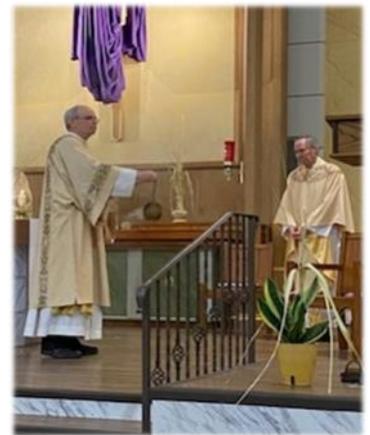
CELEBRATING HOLY WEEK AT STS PHILIP AND JAMES PARISH



Palm Sunday
Celebrated by
Childrens
Liturgy!



HOLY THURSDAY MASS OF THE LAST SUPPER



***CELEBRATING HOLY WEEK AND EASTER VIGIL
AT STS PHILIP AND JAMES PARISH***

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST



***“Christ Be Our Light, Shine In The Dark Shine In The
Darkness”
Celebrating the Easter Vigil***



CMA 2024 TOGETHER WE CAN REACH IT!!

**TOTALS RECEIVED AS OF
MARCH 28TH, 2024**
GOAL: \$102,000
PLEDGES: \$40,650. PAYMENTS: \$23,770.



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

- Pope Francis

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

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



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

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

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

Name: _____ Parish: _____

Address: _____

City, State and Zip Code: _____

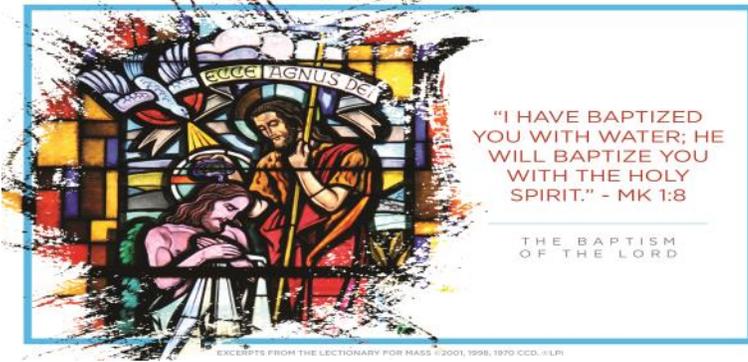
Telephone number: Home _____ Cell: _____

Signature: _____

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

THANK YOU

*GODS ABUNDANT BLESSINGS UPON
ALEXANDER REILLY
AND HIS FAMILY
ON HIS BAPTISM DAY~
FEBRUARY 4TH, 2024*



Religious Education Ministry



Please remember in your prayers, Our Confirmation II Students, their Sponsors their Families and their Teachers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday, April 16th, 2024

We are so proud of our Students and continue to pray that they follow the Lord's voice and heart on their journeys forward.



OUR EVERYONE NeEDs Jesus Saturday morning program had a very special St. Patrick's Day lesson! Miss Kim shared a St. Patrick Day Story and a wonderful craft that described the Holy Trinity!
GOD BLESS MISS KIM AND OUR AWESOME STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES!



Please open your hearts to these beautiful ministries;

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

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

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

Liturgical Minister Training- Spring 2024

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

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

Dates and Locations for Liturgical Minister Training

Training in SPANISH:

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

Training in ENGLISH:

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

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

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

Parish Social Ministry

Our Food Pantry Needs:

**CANNED CHICKEN
CANNED TUNA**
Thank you so very much!



We remember the family and friends of,

Eugene Hartigan

Safely Home in the arms of our Lord

SENIOR GROUP GATHERING

Seniors will meet on Monday, April 8
from
1:30-3:30 in the Sts. Philip & James Room.

Please join us for an afternoon of faith, fun,
and friendship.



We give thanks for the gift of the earth, our common home. At this time, many people the oceans, and the eco-systems of the earth are struggling to survive. Help us to change our ways and guide us to live a life which is not centered exclusively on ourselves but on the needs of others.



THE RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

On this Divine Mercy Sunday, please remember to recite the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. It is a prayer that invokes God's mercy on all humanity, offering the Passion and Love of Jesus, His suffering as a sacrifice to bring God closer to all. You can join in prayer on The Catholic Faith Network @3PM Channel 296 on Verizon or Channel 29/137 on Optimum!

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**

CONGRATULATIONS TO SSPJ SCHOOL STUDENTS HONOR ROLL ACHIEVEMENT

SSPJ School Trimester II Honors



Principal's List

Students must attain a grade Of 95% in all major subjects and have a good character rating to be considered for this honor and no less than a 90% in all minor subjects.

Grade 8

Jack Carey
Vincenza Franco
Isabella Gebbia
Sofia Herin
Jude Hughes
Chrys Kenton
Juliana Merlino
Fiona O'Connor
Monica Rocco

Grade 7

Julianna Carey
Matilda Dias
Tyler Farrell
Lucas Hoffmann
Jack Kollmer
Connor Morosky
Francesca Scott

Grade 6

Antonella Franco
Chrystaluz Kenton
Declan Morosky



Honor Roll

Students must attain a grade Of 90% in all major subjects and have a good character rating to be considered for this honor and no less than an 85% in all minor subjects.

Grade 8

Maggie Baker
Seamus Beam
Sarah Cullen
Sarah Franco
Shane Waldmann

Grade 7

Connor Cassidy
Allura McNeill
Mason Ring
Raizel Silvestre

Grade 6

Nico Ciaravino
Mikaela Grimaldi
Capri Lisa
Brendan McAlvin

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SSPJ SCHOOL APOSTLES OF HOPE FOR MARCH!! WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!

SSPJ Apostles of Hope March 2024

Nursery

Keira Bloodgood is an Apostle of Hope. Keira is always excited and ready to learn! She loves our circle time and especially singing our song of praise to God. Keira enjoys attending Mass with her buddy as well as with her family on the weekends. She is helpful with all her classmates and often will assist them with putting on their jackets. A perfect teacher's helper!

Pre-Kindergarten

Aria Negri is an Apostle of Hope. Aria is a hard worker in school. She takes her time and completes all of her work with excellence. Aria is friends with all the children in her class and enjoys talking and playing with them. Aria often chooses to be the prayer leader. She enjoys leading the class in the grace prayer at lunch and the Our Father at the end of the school day. Aria enjoys showing her SSPJ school spirit as an owl cheerleader. Her kind heart shows she is a follower of Jesus.

Kindergarten

Thomas Lavrigata is an Apostle of Hope. Thomas is an active participant during religion lessons. He loves to learn about Jesus and says his prayers loud and proud. Thomas always offers a helping hand to his classmates and teacher and often puts others before himself. Thomas has been successfully participating in his class Lenten challenge and has shown great growth in his faith by completing each activity. He enjoys attending school Masses and weekend Masses with his family. Thomas's actions have shown that he is a true follower of Jesus.

Grade 1

Ayden Polacsek is an Apostle of Hope. Ayden is a kind and caring person to everyone around him. He actively participates in weekly grade Masses and school Masses. Ayden always works hard and is a wonderful follower of Jesus.

Grade 2

Troy Abbazio is an Apostle of Hope. Everyday he enters the classroom with a smile and positive attitude. Troy is always looking for ways to make his teacher and friends smile. He is kind and very giving. He even brought in Pokémon cards to hand out when students come around with their birthday bags just because he wants to make people smile. Troy works very hard to respond and be active during Mass. He makes sure to sing and say his prayers loudly. He submits his reflections from Mass every week. He loves learning about religion and always asks questions to learn even more. Troy is a true follower of Jesus.

Grade 3

Joseph Franco is an Apostle of Hope. Joseph comes in each day ready to work hard and do his best. He loves learning more about his faith, especially the cardinal virtues. He likes to think of them as superpowers for our faith! Joseph is reverent and participates during class prayers and our weekly Masses with fourth grade. He also attends weekend Masses with his family and completes his reflections. Joseph is a leader and teacher for his classmates, just like Jesus.



Grade 4

Margarita Todesco is an Apostle of Hope. Margarita is a sweet lovely child who has a beautiful voice and enjoys singing in church. She knows all of her prayers and recites them with reverence. Margarita is an altar server and takes her responsibility very seriously. She attends Mass with her family and submits her weekly reflections. Margarita is a good friend to all and is always ready to lend a helping hand when needed. She always has kind words for her friends. She is a true Apostle of Hope.

Grade 5

Sebastian Martinez is an Apostle of Hope. Sebastian is always reverent during morning and afternoon prayers. He actively participates in the weekly grade level Mass and reflects on the gospel readings. In the classroom, Sebastian is always engaged in the lesson and respectful to his classmates. Sebastian always goes the extra mile to be kind and to help anyone in need without being asked. Sebastian's dedication to his faith is very admirable.

Grade 7

Raizel Silvestre is an Apostle of Hope. Raizel is a kind natured student. Her service at church is impressive. Balancing studies while serving others reflects her well-rounded character. Raizel is very creative and artistic. She is an inspiration to her classmates. Her quiet presence is an example of following Jesus in a peaceful way.

Grade 8

Vincenza Franco is an Apostle of Hope. Vincenza is a kind friend and always smiling. She is dedicated to her studies and is a positive role model to others. Vincenza attends Mass with her family and always hands in her reflections. She continues to grow in her faith and is a wonderful example of an Apostle of Hope.

Faculty

Ms. Lumley is an Apostle of Hope. She lovingly cares for her kindergarten students. She incorporates God in her teaching as well as exhibiting her faith throughout the building. Ms. Lumley enthusiastically works with our other teachers in planning fun/educational activities for the children. She is our cheer/dance club moderator...teaching her students how to be a team, and showing them how to raise others up and be better. She is a bright light at SSPJ, a true example of a follower of Jesus.

*Reflecting and Preparing for Next Sunday, April 14th, 2024
The Third Sunday of Easter*

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

3rd Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 14

Acts 3:13-15,17-19

Ps 4:2,4,7-9

1 Jn 2:1-5a

Lk 24:35-48

Monday, April 15

Acts 6:8-15

Ps 119:23-24,26-27,29-30

Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday, April 16

Acts 7:51 – 8:1a

Ps 31:3c-4,6-7b,8a,17,21ab

Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday, April 17

Acts 8:1b-8

Ps 66:1-3a,4-7a

Jn 6:35-40

Thursday, April 18

Acts 8:26-40

Ps 66:8-9,16-17,20

Jn 6:44-51

Friday, April 19

Acts 9:1-20

Ps 117:1-2

Jn 6:52-59

Saturday, April 20

Acts 9:31-42

Ps 116:12-17

Jn 6:60-69

Jesus knew his apostles well. He knew some felt shame and remorse for having denied and abandoned him.

However, His sign of peace let them know that they were forgiven and that He still loved them.

Our Divine Savior continues to offer Himself in peace and forgiveness to us all.

How can we find this peace in Christ? What if you have doubts? What if you're angry? What if life has been challenging, and things don't seem fair? What if you feel abandoned and God doesn't seem to be answering your prayers? What if you feel guilty because of sin and mistakes? Christ's peace and unconditional love are offered to all, especially to you.

First, ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and tell him in your own words that you need Jesus and want Him to help. "Apart from me, you can't do anything," says the Lord (Jn. 15:5). Then, read the Bible, go to Confession, and nourish your soul with Holy Communion.

Prayer is another crucial element in reaching interior peace, as it raises your mind and heart to God in a relationship of love, trust, and peace. God wants to hear from you! He wants to hear about your praise, thankfulness, frustrations, anger, worries, needs, and repentance.

Many people begin with standard memorized prayers and then move into more honest, intimate conversations. Meditative prayer can be fruitful as well, like praying with Scripture,



spiritual books, or the Rosary.

To hear back from God, we must listen. Begin by letting go of all the busy conversation and spiritual reading and just sit silently in love and total surrender with our Lord. The goal is to bask

in His glory, trusting His holy will in all things.

Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta once said, "The fruit of silence is prayer. The fruit of prayer is faith. The fruit of faith is love. The fruit of love is service. The fruit of service is peace." May the peace of our Lord be with you always.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † What matters are troubling you that you can bring to prayer?
- † As Christ displayed patience with the disciples' lack of understanding and unbelief, how has he been patient with you? How are you patient with others?
- † How does the virtue of forgiveness lead to peace?
- † How has Christ's resurrection made a difference in your life? Since Jesus calls us to do so, how can we share the literal truth of the Resurrection, and how can we witness this in our lives?

THE PASSION OF CHRIST AS PASSIVITY

We speak of that section in the Gospels which narrates Jesus' life from the Last Supper until his death and burial, as chronicling his "Passion". On Good Friday, the lector begins the Gospel with the words: "The *Passion* of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John".

Why do we call Jesus' suffering just before his death his passion?

Generally, this is not properly understood. We tend to think that "passion" here refers to intense sufferings, as in "passionate suffering". This isn't wrong but misses a key point. Passion comes from the Latin, PASSIO, meaning passiveness, non-activity, absorbing something more than doing something. Hence, the "Passion" of Jesus refers to that time in his life when his meaning for us is not defined by what he was doing but rather by what was being done to him. What's being said here?

The life and ministry of Jesus can be divided into two distinct parts: scholars estimate that Jesus spent about three years preaching and teaching before being put to death. For most of that time, in fact for all of it except the last day, he was very much the doer, in command, the active one, teaching, healing, performing miracles, giving counsel, eating with sinners, debating with church authorities, and generally, by activity of every sort, inviting his contemporaries into the life of God. And he was busy, so pressured that at times he didn't have time to eat. For almost all his public life Jesus was actively doing something.

However, from the time he walked out of the last supper room that activity stopped. He is no longer the one who is doing things for others, but the one who is having things done to him. In the garden, they arrest him, bind his hands, lead him to the high priest, then to Pilate. He is beaten, humiliated, stripped of his clothes, and eventually nailed to a cross where he dies. This constitutes his "passion", that time in his life and ministry when he ceases to be the doer and becomes the one who has things done to him.

What is so remarkable about this is that our faith teaches us that we are saved more through his passion (his death and suffering) than through all his activity of preaching and doing miracles. How does this work?

Allow me an illustration: some years ago, my sister Helen, an Ursuline nun, died of cancer. A nun for more than thirty years, she much loved her vocation and was loved within it. For most of those thirty years, she served as a den-mother to hundreds of young women who attended an academy run by her order. She loved those young women and was for them a mother, an older sister, and a mentor. As well, for the last twenty years of her life, after our own mother died, she served in that same capacity for our family, organizing us and keeping us together. Through all those years she was the active one, the consummate doer, the one whom others expected to take charge. And she relished the role, was born for it. She loved doing things for others.

Then, nine months before she died, cancer struck her brutally and she spent the last months of her life bedridden. Now things needed to be done for her. Doctors, nurses, the sisters in her community, and others, took turns taking care of her. And, like Jesus from the time of his arrest until the moment of his death, her body too was humiliated, led around by others, stripped, prodded, and stared at by curious passers-by. Indeed, like Jesus, she died thirsty, with a sponge held to her lips by someone else.

That was her passion. She, who had spent so many years doing things for others, now had to submit to having things done to and for her. But, and this is the point, like Jesus, she was able in that period of her life when she was helpless and no longer in charge, to give life and meaning to others in a deeper way than she could during all those years when she was active and doing so many things for others.

That is the mystery of the fruitfulness of passivity, of helplessness. And there's an important lesson here, not the least of which is the potential fruitfulness of the terminally ill, the severely handicapped, and the sick. There's a lesson too on how we might understand what we have to give to others when we are ill, helpless, and in need of care from others.

The passion of Jesus teaches us that, like Jesus, we give as much to others in our passivity as in our activities. When we are no longer in charge, beaten down, humiliated, suffering, and unable even to make ourselves understood by our loved ones, we are undergoing our passion and, like Jesus in his passion, have in that the opportunity to give over our love in a very deep way.