



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

631-584-5454

July 18th, 2021
The Sixteenth Sunday
In Ordinary Time



“Come away by yourselves to a deserted place
and rest a while”

Mark 6:31

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

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

STS. PHILIP & JAMES PASTORAL STAFF

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

Website—www.sspj.org

PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

Open Monday, Tuesday Wednesday 9am-6pm

Open Thursday 9am-6pm

Closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday

CLERGY

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

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Sister Theresita Donach, CSFN

BUSINESS MANAGER

Virginia Portanova

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 1-3

Charlotte Czujko

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 4-6

Barbara Luna

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 7-8

Dominick Avento

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Margaret Adams

COORDINATOR OF PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

Lynn Sisti

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

Dominick Avento

DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES

John Cordes

SSPJ SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Diane M. Anderson

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

TRUSTEES

Brendan McGovern ~ Tina Cafaro

PASTORAL COUNCIL

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

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

Weekly Collection: Sunday July 11th, 2021 : \$11,459.

Faith Direct : (126Participants) 3,253.

Total Collections: \$14,712.

**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
CAPTAIN MICHAEL DOLAN- JR.
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
STAFF SGT. ANTHONY SCIAMETTA— US ARMY
MARIO CATANIA-USMC
RYAN ANTHONY NASCIMENTO-USMC
KYLE ANTHONY NASCIMENTO-US ARMY
ENS. RYAN M. SHOWS -USN
STAFF SGT. RYAN REXRODE-USMC
DR. KARA VANDEKIEFT, COL.-USAF
SGT. STEPHEN D. OUTCAULT-USMC
PAUL MUMOLO-USN
VICTORIA ZEMAN, USCG
KYLE J. GRUNER—US ARMY
MARK GIORDANO—US COASTGUARD
KELLI MCLAUGHLIN—LT. US ARMY NATL.GUARD
STAFF SGT MICHAEL J BANG SPECIAL FORCES US ARMY
MATTHEW PATRICK GALLAGHER US ARMY
MIDN ERIN NICASTRO, USN.

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

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

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

Father Tom's Letter

Dear Friends,

Lots of talk about shepherds in today's readings. Fr. John Foley, SJ, gives us a little background about sheep and shepherds in Jesus' time:

The flocks were small in Jesus' day. A shepherd could indeed name each one and the herd knew his voice by heart, just as the family dog knows yours. So, in Jesus' day, good shepherds would search and search for a lost sheep. Or find one turned absurdly on its back, unable to roll over again because of its full fleece. The shepherd took his "crook," which had a big curve on one end, and easily maneuver the sheep to its feet. If there was real danger, as for instance if wolves were ready to pounce, the shepherd would take out his "staff," a pole-like instrument, and deal with the predators.

Bad shepherds, on the other hand, would actually scatter the sheep; drive them away without care. The sheep feared and trembled, and many went missing. Sometimes workers were hired who were not shepherds at all and who simply ran away when a wolf approached...

The question for you and me is...whether our own hearts are ever moved with pity for the scattered and fear-filled sheep of our own time. Can we love them as Jesus does? As he loves each of us? Can we imitate God's good shepherd?

I came across a prayer this week to become "an undercover boss". I think it fits in well with today's readings. Please join me in praying:

Loving God, I'm not much but I'm yours. You have summoned me as you did your apostles before me. You have given me a task. I don't want fame and fortune as much as I want a sense of purpose, and a sense that you've created me for that purpose. All that I ask is that you make me an "undercover boss", comforting where I may, helping where I can, supporting where I'm able, being present where it counts. Amen.

We're halfway through July! I hope you are enjoying the summer and staying safe with all the heat and humidity. I also hope you find time to do as Jesus did and *come away and rest for a while.*

And,

My wife claims I'm the cheapest person she's ever met. I'm not buying it.

Did you know that a raven has 17 rigid feathers called pinions, while a crow has only 16. The difference between a raven and a crow is just a matter of a pinion.

I told my carpenter I didn't want carpeted steps. He gave me a blank stair.

What did the surgeon say to the patient who insisted on closing up his own incision? Suture self.

Peace,

Father Tom

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

Mass Intentions, For the week of July 18th, 2021

Eucharistic Adoration

Mondays

**1:30pm- 7pm
In the Church
All are welcome**



**Banns of Marriage
Second**

**Mathew LePage-
St. Joseph Babylon
To
Deanna Braun-SSPJ**



Remembering in Our Prayers~

Angie Mingione
Angela Amoroso
Anna Ormsby
Avery Akhogba
Arthur Gureck
Baby Ben
Barbara Bombace
Barbara Ruland
Mattia Rose Lubrano
Belinda Groneman
Brendan O'Connor
Belinda Vega
Brianna Florio
Bob Keenan
Carol
Carolyn Nehl
Charles Figliosi
Claudia Chandler
Deacon Ron Blasius
Deirdre W.
Dermot O'Connor
Dolores North
Donna Patrissi
Dorothy Mitchell
Dylan Beach
Ella
Ellie Walsh
Esther Styles
Grace Bertolone
Ginny & John Rief
Gladys Blake
Gregory Parker
Helen
Heidi Ray
Joanna
Jack Donohue
John Cronin
John DeStefano
John Soscia
John Scmillio
J.C.

Joseph S.
Luis Anthony
Antonette Sabatino
James Macchiano
John Harney
Judy Rampola
Joseph Mazelis
Joseph Costa
Kenneth Cook
Kathleen N.
Kitty Cronin
Kim Olofson
Leon Donach
Lynn McDonnell
Mark Geld
Mark Hildreth
Mary Fresi
Maryann Kevlin
Maria Clark
Marie del Cielo
Marilyn Suli
Matthew Parrella
Marie & Frank Fiecco
Michael Fisher
Mike Lofaro
Monsignor Iocavacci
Pasquale Savarese
Paul Bertrand
Peter Donach
P.I.
Ricardo Buffit
Riordan Cavooris
Sara Jean Andersen
Stephen Dolce
Tara Cesarski
Vivien Cordes
Vicki Archdeacon
Veronica Broderick
Wayne Hendricks

| | | | |
|---|--|----------------------|--|
| Saturday | July 17th, 2021 Presider: Father Tom Lector: Drechsler/Schor EM: Mantia/Martin/ Dreschler | 9:15am 5:00pm | Armando Lacchiana Joey Morda |
| | July 18th, 2021 Presider: Father Tom Lector: Fitzpatrick/Luna EM: Portanova/Sehne/Sica | 8am | For the People of SSPJ |
| | Presider: Father Ciya Lector: Tobin/Latino EM: Anderson/Lombardi/ Rapp | 10:00am | Living-Rosemarie Sherow & Pete Sherow(Living) |
| | Collective Mass Presider: Father Ciya Lector: O'Hara/ G. Hoonhout EM: Klee/Napolitano | 12:00pm | Gerardo Siblano Edwin Pretter Michael Quagliano Anne M. Childs Jack Kelly Catherine Somma |
| Monday | July 19th, 2021 | 7:30am | Dominic Guadagno |
| | | 9:15am | Mary K. Sposato-Palamara |
| Tuesday St. Apollinaris | July 20th, 2021 | 7:30am | Andrew Munch |
| | | 9:15am | Living-Father Tom Haggerty |
| Wednesday St. Lawrence of Brindisi | July 21st, 2021 | 7:30am | Kenneth Rathjen |
| | | 9:15am | Mario Mignone |
| Thursday St. Mary Magdalene | July 22nd, 2021 | 7:30am | Thomas Akerberg |
| | | 9:15am | <u>Collective Mass:</u> Ludovico Nolfo |
| Friday St. Bridget | July 23rd, 2021 | 7:30am | Conchita Jubela Suzana |
| | | 9:15am | Joseph Mazza |
| Saturday St. Sharbel Makhluf | July 24th, 2021 Presider: Father Joe Lectors: Thompson/Suski EM: Martin/Consenz/Sisti | 9:15am | Daniel & Sophia Cyganowski |
| | | 5:00pm | Deacon Ken Maher |
| Sunday | July 25th, 2021 Presider: Father Joe Lectors: O'Leary/Mantia EM: Sica/Kenney/Koke | 8:00am | For the People of SSPJ |
| | | 10:00am | Carol Walz Living-Karl Walz |
| | Presider: Father Ciya Lectors: Sehne/Cafaro EM: Anderson/Mulhall/ Lombardi | 10:00am | |
| | Collective Mass Presider: Father Ciya Lector: Rubano/Dinnigan EM: Napolitano/Luna/ Parish | 12:00pm | Harrison Thrasher, Jr. Charles Forzano James P. Gerold Edwin Reichert William Harrington Geraldine Tufaro |

Altar Memorials for the Week of July 18th, 2021

Our Bread and Wine
For the week of
July 18th, 2021

Are offered in memory of,
Ken Rathjen

"On his 1st Anniversary in
heaven"
With Our Love always,
Your Family



**Our Altar Candles
For the Week of
July 18, 2021**

**Are burning for,
Leonardo & Pasqua
Campanelli**

**On the occasion of
their, 50th(Golden)
Wedding
Anniversary**



**Our Pro-Life Rose
For the Week of J
July 18th, 2021**

**Is Offered for,
Ken Rathjen**

**"On his 1st Anniversary
In heaven"**

**Love always,
Your Family**



Welcome to Our SSPJ New
Gardeners

The Mass family
Mary Jane Kenney
Mr. & Mrs. McNaster

Let it grow...
Let it be...
Trust...

Thank you for your tending hands!

Religious Ed Registration

1. 1. FIND THE RELIGIOUS ED
REGISTRATION FORM FOR THE 2021-2022
SCHOOL YEAR AT:

SSPJ.ORG UNDER THE RELIGIOUS ED TAB

2. 2. PLEASE NOTE: PERMISSION TO
PUBLISH PHOTOS IN OUR BULLETIN, ON
OUR WEBSITE, PARISH FACEBOOK PAGE
AND GABRIEL.

3. 3. GRADES 1 & 2 WILL BE INVITED BACK
TO PARISH CAMPUS FOR THEIR
RELIGIOUS ED CLASSES. THE DAYS AND
TIMES ARE BEING FINALIZED. ALL CDC
GUIDELINES WILL BE FOLLOWED.

4. 4. GRADES 3-8 WILL CONTINUE THEIR
LESSONS USING GOOGLE CLASSROOM.

5. 5. GRADE LEVEL MASSES TO FOSTER
COMMUNITY WILL BE SCHEDULED
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

6. 6. IF YOU SHOULD HAVE ANY
QUESTIONS, KINDLY CONTACT THE
RELIGIOUS ED OFFICE AT 631-584-3204.

ALWAYS LOOKING FORWARD!

HOPE
starts here

"I am with
you always."

Catholic GENERATIONS.com

Celebrating the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

Sunday, July 25, 2021

OFFICE OF HUMAN LIFE
Office of Human Life,
Family and Bioethics

What is World Day for Grandparents & the Elderly?

The biblical figures of Abraham and Sarah, Moses, Elizabeth and Zechariah, Simeon, and Anna each remind us, in the words of St. John Paul II, that "...at every stage of life the Lord can ask each of us to contribute what talents we have. The service of the gospel has nothing to do with age!" ([St. John Paul II, "Letter of His Holiness Pope John Paul II to the Elderly" 1999](#))

Pope Francis, in expanding upon the groundwork of his predecessors, has proclaimed the fourth Sunday of July as **World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly** to acknowledge and celebrate the indispensable treasure of those "rich in years." While there are separate days of secular recognition for both grandparents and the elderly in the autumn, this combined day of honor, during the more relaxed days of summer and inserted into the liturgical calendar, offers a grand opportunity to emphasize the holy bonds we share in our families and our communities. The temporal proximity to the Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus, is intended to reinforce the vital role of family in honoring the gifts of age.

In preparing for this day, we can contemplate the profound beauty of our Catholic Faith and traditions, the giving and receiving of love through our generational ties, and the perpetual communion we share with our forebearers. We pray this website will be the beginning of a spiritual journey that strengthens faith, family, and community: nurturing intergenerational bonds and helping us to "love the Lord with all your heart and your neighbor as yourself" (Lk 11:25-27) which is the key to our ultimate goal of sharing in God's eternal life.

PRAYER FOR THE FIRST WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

I thank you, Lord,
for the comfort of Your presence
even in times of loneliness,
You are my hope and my confidence,
you have been my rock and my fortress since my youth.

I thank You for having given me a family,
and for having blessed me with a long life,
I thank You for moments of joy and difficulty,
for the dreams that have already come true in my life
and for those that are still ahead of me.

Increase, O Lord, my faith,
make me a channel of your peace,
teach me to embrace those who suffer more than me,
to never stop dreaming
and to tell of Your wonders to new generations.

Protect and guide Pope Francis and the Church,
that the light of the Gospel might reach the ends of the
earth.

Send Your Spirit, O Lord, to renew the world,
that the storm of the pandemic might be calmed,
the poor consoled and wars ended.

Sustain me in weakness
and help me to live life to the full
in each moment that You give me,
in the certainty that you are with me every day,
even until the end of the age.

AMEN.

A PRAYER FOR CAREGIVERS

Blest are you, God of the Universe,
You sent your Son, Jesus, to earth.
We thank you and praise you for His
presence among us even now.

May the example of Christ guide us in
showing compassion for the sick, the
suffering and infirm.

Help us to understand those we come to
serve and reach out in love to them.
Bless our caregivers with patience, mercy
and compassion.

Inspire them with insight to minister to all
people with loving kindness.

May they be Your compassionate presence
and share the peace of Your Holy Spirit
with everyone they meet.

Bless and reward our generous caregivers
and their families with happy hearts now
and forever.

Amen.

Adapted by Sister Mary Christa Kroening,
O.S.B., via the [Catholic Health Association
of the United States](#)

A Reflection from Sister T

Dear Friends,

I enjoy history, especially European history. As a matter of fact, my major was European history for my first degree. I love the richness and stories. So, when an article came across my desk, "[Why did Early Christians Call the Holy Spirit the Wild Goose?](#)," I could not resist reading it. You might be familiar with the term "wild goose chase" and its definition "a hopeless search for something that is impossible to find".

How does all this fit into the early Christians and their understanding and naming of the Holy Spirit? We are used to referring to the Spirit as a dove or a fiery flame. History tells us that the Christians saw the goose as of symbol of vigilance, wisdom, and appreciated their unexpected interventions. Not sure if you have experienced any geese up close, but believe me, they are vigilant and better than a watch dog. You see, if they feel threatened they will honk till they are find themselves safe. The article I mentioned also says, "The Celtic believers in the British Isles saw the Holy Spirit as unpredictable, upsetting the status quo and leading people toward a new adventure with God."

I like the images of the Holy Spirit as a gentle dove coming silently, planting those seeds of wisdom deep within us. I also like the early images of the Holy Spirit being a rambunctious goose, shaking us up a little, disturbing the status quo, and injecting the fire of God's love.

What has been your experience of the Holy Spirit? It is worth taking a walk down memory lane to see how the Spirit has worked in your life. If you are anything like me there may have been some dove like times and if you are lucky some goose times, too. Personally, I think we need them both.

In relation to the Gospel, we see how the Spirit has behaved in both situations. In John 3:8 we read, "The wind blows where it wills and you can hear the sound it makes, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes; so, it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." There is no doubt in my mind that as the Apostles and disciples went out to preach the Word, they experienced both dove and goose. How about you? When, where, and how do you experience the Holy spirit? Have a prayerful and exciting week!

Till next week,

Sister Theresita

Blessings Upon First Communion Candidates

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

First Holy Communion has been celebrated each Saturday at the 9:15am masses during the months of May-June

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

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



**We Congratulate Our Communion II Students
Who received their First Holy Communion
On Saturday, June 26th, 2021**

Lord Jesus, I love and adore you. You're a special friend to me.
Lilah Simonetti
Dylan Barger
Tess Coniglio
Taylor Pugliese
Andrew Schiraldi
Chase Saxton
Gary Rocco
Isadora Kohilas
Angelina Kohlson
Isabella Padilla
Aubrey Simonetti
Julia Swenson





Congratulations to SSPJ School Alumni ~ Final Honor Roll

*Ryan A. Bennett
Jack P. Auleta
Liam Auleta
Christopher R. Caputo, Jr.
Connor D. Collett
Aidan M. Duffy
Andrew E. Ebinger
Cristian F. Rodriguez
Mark L. Stephen*



Save a life. Contact Congress.

WHAT

Congress is trying to force Americans to pay for abortion.

HOW

The Hyde Amendment and similar laws have protected taxpayers from funding elective abortion for 45 years. Now, powerful members of Congress want to take away these laws that *both* Democrats and Republicans have supported for nearly half a century.

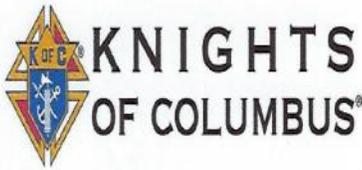
WHAT HAPPENS WITHOUT THESE PROTECTIONS?

Billions of taxpayer dollars could be used to pay for abortion.

TAKE ACTION

Sign the petition to Congress at NoTaxpayerAbortion.com!

Events



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS®**

SAINTS PHILIP AND JAMES COUNCIL #12839

ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 2021

SMITHTOWN LANDING COUNTRY CLUB

495 LANDING AVENUE
SMITHTOWN, NY 11780





This Year's Honoree

Deacon Kenneth J. Maher



Registration: 12:30pm

(Hotdogs/Beverages at check in)

Shotgun Tee Off: 2:00pm

Open Bar, Full Dinner, Carving Station, Dessert



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



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Number of Players: #190.00 per person
(includes Cart, Cocktail Hour, Dinner)

Dinner only: \$90 per person

Number attending: Total: \$

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

Please Make Checks Out To:

Sts. Philip & James K of C Council #12839

PO Box 201 St. James, NY 11780

Credit Card/PayPal: www.kofcsspj.org

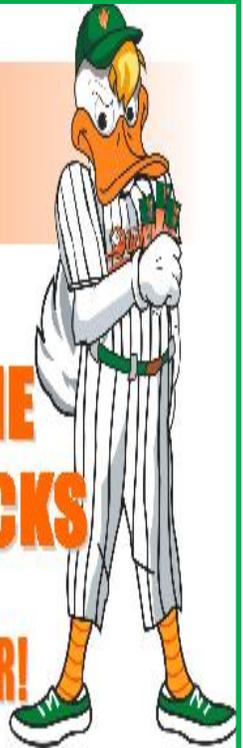
Click on "News and Announcements" or scan above



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CONTACT : TOM SICA - (631) 521-4771

SIKACHU45@HOTMAIL.COM

NIGHT WITH THE LONG ISLAND DUCKS

SSPJ SUMMER FUNDRAISER!

DATE: Saturday, August 14, 2021

TIME: 6:35pm

PRICE: \$17 per ticket

OPPONENT: Lancaster Barnstormers

Visit LIDUCKS.COM for directions to ballpark

**FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR IMMEDIATELY
FOLLOWING GAME!**

Please VENMO payment to: @Jennine-Cullen no later than 7/10
Note in comments: DUCKS TICKETS, FAMILY NAME, # OF TICKETS



| | Name | Phone Number |
|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|  | Amount Enclosed _____ _____ | Number of Tickets _____ _____ |

LOOK! WE ARE ON OUR WAY!!!
2021 ~Catholic Ministries Appeal
The 2021 Goal for SSPJ is: \$105,300.

Status as of July 12th 2021

Pledges: \$84,470. Payments Received: \$69,185.

We are at 80% of GOAL!! Thank you!

**2021 CMA
GOAL**

\$105,300



Sharing Our Gifts and Creating Pathways of Faith through the CMA

As stewards, we choose to live our lives in thanksgiving to our generous God. Our actions and words - what we choose to do or not to do-are all examples of our gratitude. Christian stewards seek ways to share what we have been given. One very important vehicle for exercising our stewardship is the Catholic Ministries Appeal. The CMA allows us an opportunity to share our gifts and *create pathways of faith* in many different ways.

Gift of Financial Resources: Of course, when we think of the Catholic Ministries Appeal, we think of sharing our financial resources. More than 600,000 of our sisters and brothers received support and assistance from the funds shared through the CMA each year. It is rare that just one person or one parish could touch this many lives. The CMA brings us beyond the individual, the group and the parish and unites us as one Church of Long Island.

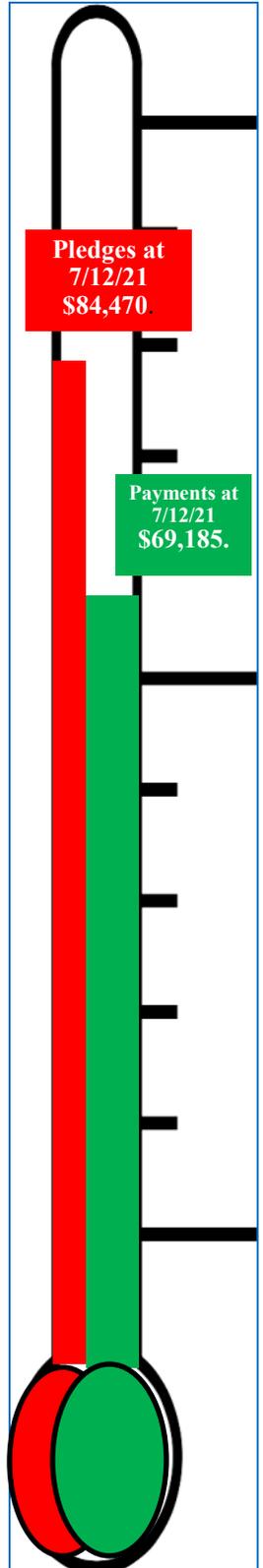
Gifts of Time and Talent: In addition to money, the CMA offers opportunities to share our time and talent. Parishes often form CMA committees to support a smooth and organized Appeal effort. Others share their gifts by volunteering in the ministries that the CMA supports. One of the great benefits of the Appeal is communication. People are informed of the many good works, programs and opportunities in this diocese. The CMA tells of the good works of the Church and communicates the opportunities to share our God-given gifts.

Gift of Prayer: The Catholic Ministries Appeal brings us closer to those we help and support. We can become more "connected" with our sisters and brothers through prayer. We may wish to pray for those who support the Appeal, those who volunteer, those who receive support and even those who cannot participate for whatever reason.

**The Catholic Ministries Appeal is
Stewardship in action!**

To make a donation, you can also visit CatholicMinistriesAppeal.org
or call us at 516-678-5800 ext. 296

Thank You!



Parish Social Ministry



Remembering in Our Prayers

Kevin G. Walsh
Jeff Pose ~Memorial Mass 7/17
Christopher & Roberta
English
Memorial Mass 7/23



The unbearable heat that the world is suffering from is a result of massive deforestation. Cutting trees reduces the green cover which not only affects the environment, but also spells doom for humans.

Need to talk?

855
818
HOPE(4673)
projecthope@nhcc.us
www.nhcc.us



NY Project Hope
Coping with COVID

Feeling uncertain, overwhelmed, anxious during COVID?



Here to talk | Here to listen | Here to support

NY Project Hope Crisis Counselors understand what you are going through. Talking with a crisis counselor is always free, confidential, and anonymous, allowing you to talk freely about the issues that are affecting you. We will help you navigate these unusual times and take some of the burden off of your shoulders.

Project Hope Crisis Counselors will help you with anything from economic hardships to behavioral health issues. We understand there are a whole range of emotions you might be feeling and we will work through it. A Crisis Counselor will give you self-help tips and come up with a plan for you to be your own advocate. We have a multitude of resources available to you and would love to be the shoulder you lean on. After all, New Yorkers are in this together.

NY Project Hope is a program of the NYS Office of Mental Health
Funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency
Administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Free, anonymous & confidential

A program of the NYS Office of Mental Health
Funded by FEMA

SUFFOLK COUNTY STRONGLY ENCOURAGES THE HOMEBOUND POPULATION TO GET VACCINATED AGAINST COVID-19!



- **BUREAU OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING** is administering the Covid-19 Johnson & Johnson single-dose vaccination to homebound individuals 18 years of age and above.
- To receive the vaccination at home, please call 311 to be added to the list.
- A Public Health Nurse will call to schedule an appointment.



SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
Greggson H. Pigott, MD, MPH, Commissioner



Music Ministry

Jesus talks about rest in this week's readings. Rest awhile with Jesus. Listen to his teachings. While you are resting and enjoying the summer think about joining the Music Ministry. There are many ways to help and you too can become an Apostle of Hope in Music. We start in September for a brand-new season after the Covid break. So now let us get back to music with all the enthusiasm we can!!

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

17th Sunday of Ordinary Time

2 Kings 4:42-44
Ps 145:10-11,15-18
Ephesians 4:1-6
John 6:1-15

Monday, July 26
Sts. Joachim & Anne
Exodus 32:15-24,30-34
Ps 106:19-23
Matthew 13:31-35

Tuesday, July 27
Exodus 33:7-11;34:5b-9,28
Ps 103:6-13
Matthew 13:36-43

Wednesday, July 28
Exodus 34:29-35
Ps 99:5-7,9
Matthew 13:44-46

Thursday, July 29
St. Martha
Exodus 40:16-21,34-38
Ps 84:3-6a,8a,11
John 11:19-27
or Luke 10:38-42

Friday, July 30
Leviticus 23:1,4-11,
15-16,27,34b-37
Ps 81:3-6,10-11ab
Matthew 13:54-58

Saturday, July 31
St. Ignatius of Loyola
Leviticus 25:1,8-17
Ps 67:2-3,5,7-8
Matthew 14:1-12

Sometimes people de-supernaturalize John 6:1-15 with explanations such as: "The real miracle is that Jesus got the people to share the food they had brought with them", and even this: "There wasn't enough food for everyone to have their fill, but what they had was offered to everyone, and the people were just so appreciative and willing to make sacrifices that they ate very little and thus there was food left over."

Yeah, r-i-i-ight. As if God can't multiply food miraculously.

The multiplication of the loaves and fish into a meal that not only satisfied everyone but was more than what they needed is an important foreshadowing of the Eucharistic banquet we celebrate today. If we pay close attention to what's going on in Mass, and if we take it to heart, Jesus satisfies our hungers and gives us more than we need. What did you

need from him before you arrived at church? He's trying to give it to you or lead you to it -- in abundance!

Receiving all that he wants to miraculously give us requires that we trust him to provide for us. We have to expect the unexpected. We have to wait on his perfect timing. But rest assured that he wants to give us more than we need.

Maybe some of the folks on that ancient hillside wanted steak instead of fish, but what they received was a Messiah who filled their hearts with more than enough faith to grow spiritually, more than enough hope to be-

come stronger in their trials, and more than enough love to share as they went forth to reveal Christ to others.

In our Liturgies of the Eucharist, there's a lot more abundance to receive from Jesus than just a little wafer of his Body and a sip of his Blood. What do you really need from

Jesus? More faith? More hope? More love? It's a good idea to think about this on the way to Mass so that you can participate in Mass more expectantly.



Reflect & Discuss:

1. Why do you go to Mass? Was there ever a time when you didn't go, and if so, why didn't you? What motivated you to start attending Mass again?
2. How satisfied are you now? What's missing? How might God provide for those needs?
3. What is available from Jesus during Mass other than his real presence in the Host and Precious Blood of the Eucharist?
4. How are the various elements of Mass gifts from God that can help satisfy our spiritual, emotional, and even physical needs?

WHY STAY IN THE CHURCH?

Several weeks ago after giving a lecture at a religious conference, the first question from the audience was this one: How can you continue to stay in a church that played such a pivotal part in setting up and maintaining residential schools for the indigenous people of Canada? How can you stay in a church that did that?

The question is legitimate and important. Both in its history and in its present, the church has enough sin to legitimize the question. The list of sins done in the name of the church is long: the Inquisition, its support for slavery, its role in colonialism, its link to racism, its role in thwarting women's rights, and its endless historical and present compromises with white supremacy, big money, and political power. Its critics are sometimes excessive and unbalanced, but, for the most part, the church is guilty as charged.

However, this guilt isn't unique to the church. The same charges might be leveled against any of the countries in which we live. How can we stay in a country that has a history of racism, slavery, colonialism, genocide of some of its indigenous peoples, radical inequality between its rich and its poor, one that is callous to desperate refugees on its borders, and one within which millions of people hate each other? Isn't it being rather selective morally to say that I am ashamed to be a Catholic (or a Christian) when the nations we live in share the same history and the same sins?

Still, since the church is supposed to be leaven for a society and not just a mirror of it, the question is valid. Why stay in the church? There are good apologetic answers on this, but, at the end of the day, for each of us, the answer has to be a personal one. Why do I stay in the church?

First, because the church is my mother tongue. It gave me the faith, taught me about God, gave me God's word, taught me to pray, gave me the sacraments, showed me what virtue looks like, and put me in contact with some living saints. Moreover, despite all its shortcomings, it was for me authentic enough, altruistic enough, and pure enough to have the moral authority to ask me to entrust my soul to it, a trust I've not given any other communal entity. I'm very comfortable worshipping with other religions and sharing soul with non-believers, but in the church in which I was raised, I recognize home, my mother tongue.

Second, the church's history is not univocal. I recognize its sins and openly acknowledge them, but that's far from its full reality. The church is also the church of martyrs, of saints, of infinite generosity, and of millions of women and men with big, noble hearts who are my moral exemplars. I stand in the darkness of its sins; but I also stand in the light of its grace, of all the good things it has done in history.

Finally, and most important, I stay in the church because the church is all we've got! There's no other place to go. I identify with the ambivalent feeling that rushed through Peter when, just after hearing Jesus say something which had everyone else walk away from him, Peter was asked, "do you want to walk away too?" and he (speaking for all the disciples) replied: "We'd like to, but we have no place else to go. Besides we recognize that, despite everything, you still have the words of everlasting life."

In essence, Peter is saying, "Jesus, we don't get you, and what we get we often don't like. But we know we're better off not getting it with you than going any place else. Dark moments notwithstanding, you're all we've got!"

The church is all we've got! Where else can we go? Behind the expression, *I am spiritual, but not religious* (however sincerely uttered) lies either an invincible failure or a culpable reluctance to deal with the necessity of religious community, to deal with what Dorothy Day called "the asceticism of church life". To say, *I cannot or will not deal with an impure religious community* is an escape, a self-serving exit, which at the end of the day is not very helpful, not least for the person saying it. Why? Because for compassion to be effective it needs to be collective, given the truth that what we dream alone remains a dream but what we dream with others can become a reality. I cannot see anything outside the church that can save this world.

There is no pure church anywhere for us to join, just as there is no pure country anywhere for us in which to live. This church, for all its checkered history and compromised present, is all we have. We need to own its faults since they are our faults. Its history is our history; its sin, our sin; and its family, our family – the only lasting family we've got.