



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

May 12th, 2024  
The Seventh Sunday of Easter  
Mother's Day

*"Lifting up  
his eyes to  
heaven,  
Jesus prayed  
saying:  
"Holy  
Father, keep  
them in your  
name that you  
have given me,  
so that they  
may be one  
just as we are  
one."  
John 17:11*



"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](http://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](mailto:cczujko@sspj.org)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 4-6

Barbara Luna~[bluna@sspj.org](mailto:bluna@sspj.org)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 7-8

Dominick Avento~[davento@sspj.org](mailto: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, May 5th, 2024:**

Collections from Weekend masses: \$10,580.0

Mail Collections: \$2,789.00

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

**Total Collection: \$16,743.54**

**FAITH DIRECT: VISIT [SSPJ.ORG](http://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 KAIRE

SPC. NICOLE A. CANNON

SGM. MICHAEL P. BORRELLI-US ARMY

CAPT. JOHN TULLY- USN

LT. COL. JAMES TULLY-US ARMY

JOSEPH SAGGIO- USNC

CAPTAIN PAUL WILLMS

STAFF SGT. MICHAEL LONGHENRY

LT. COL. PAUL T. JACKSON-

STAFF SGT ALEXANDER PARRELLA-USAF

RICHARD SOTOMAYER- USAF

SGT. CONNOR F. SCOTT- USMC

SGT. CORY O'HARA -USMC

CDR. ROBERT J. MARSH-USN

PFC. CHARLES CHRISTOPHER HOWELL

STEVEN CAVA-USN

ERIC SEELIN- USMC

CW2 CHRIS MUNZ

CW2 NATASHA WORTMAN

CORPORAL JAMES T. CASEY-USMC

SGT. JOSHUA MAHONEY- US ARMY

KEVIN JONES-USCG

PRIVATE JOSHUA OLSEN-USARNG

GLEN CRIMA-US ARMY

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,

In today's gospel, Jesus prays for the community - the community of his disciples - and that includes us. Fr. Jude Siciliano, OP, reflects:

*Our parish church has often provided us with a community to celebrate our joys, as well as offer us solace and comfort when we need it. It has introduced us to a big family that has nothing to do with blood lines, skin color, language, or place of origin. Here, at very special moments, and even ordinary ones, we felt we could almost touch the mystery of God.*

*There is something else: While we have been strengthened and comforted in our worshiping community and enabled to return to face our lives "out there," still, it should also have been a place where we were made restless and uncomfortable – if the gospel was the focus of preaching and our worship.*

*In today's gospel, Jesus is praying for his disciples, whom he is about to leave behind. He is praying for us as well. "I gave them your word, and the world hated them." **While the Word of God, Christ's gift to us, can reassure us and give us comfort, it also should make us uncomfortable, for it questions our lives, probes our values and challenges how we treat one another. No escape here!** In this place, as we gather week after week and listen to Christ's words, we are made aware that we are not yet fully the disciples Jesus calls us to be not yet, forgiving, compassionate, loving and just.*

Thank you for enriching our community of Apostles of Hope!

Happy Mother's Day to all mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, mothers-to-be and all who have loved and guided us with a mother's love. During May we honor Mary, the Mother of Jesus. One of Mary's many titles is Queen of Peace. Each day of May let's say an extra prayer - perhaps when praying grace - asking Mary to help us to bring peace to our world and to our families. So much violence fills our newspapers and our media. May Mary guide us to non-violent alternatives for resolving conflicts and expressing emotions.

Next weekend we celebrate the great feast of the beginnings of the church. Yes, it's time for the wearing of the **RED**, a traditional color for the Holy Spirit, to mark the feast of Pentecost. Jesus promised to send the Spirit as our Advocate, our Helper, One who deepens in us the gifts of wisdom, understanding, knowledge, courage, right judgment, reverence and wonder and awe. So as we take down our Paschal Lambs and we extinguish the light on our Paschal Candle which has been lit at every Mass this Easter season, we allow the Spirit to lead us as Apostles of Hope to love and to serve. As Apostles of Hope, may we reflect the fruits of the Spirit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. We are the Church together!

Our young ones continue to receive First Holy Communion at Saturday 9:15 Mass. Let's be sure to congratulate them and welcome them to the Lord's table.

And finally,

*A young man got engaged and was excited to show off his future bride. "Ma," he said to his mother, "I'm going to bring home three girls, and I want you to guess which one is my fiancé." 20 minutes later, he walked in the door with three girls behind him. His mother immediately pointed at one girl and without blinking, said, "it's that one." "Holy cow," he exclaimed. "How in the world did you know that?" "I just don't like her."*

Peace,

*Father Tom*

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



# Mass Intentions, For the week of May 12th, 2024

**The Pro Life Rose  
Is Offered...**

**In Remembrance of  
"Pastor Tom blessing my  
marriage to Leon Peter Heffron  
On May 15th, 1982  
At St. Mary's, East Islip"**

**Forever,**

*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  
Brian Carr  
Bob DelCielo  
Rob Remhild  
Brenden Toomey  
Carol  
Carmela Montesano  
Carolyn Nehl  
Cathleen Henchey  
Chase Addonisio  
Christella Stewart  
David Beleck  
David McCue  
Deirdre W.  
Diane LaPorte  
Donna Patrissi  
Dorothy Mitchell  
Ed Ceraso  
Eleanor Bayley  
Elizabeth Martin  
Elizabeth Smith  
Elspeth Bigoness  
Eileen  
Emily Schiaratta  
Emily Souders  
Flo Donohue  
Gail Lumley  
Gloria Montesano  
Ginny & John Rief  
Gregory Parker  
Helen  
Harold Scott  
Jack Donohue  
Jackie Sikorski  
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  
Laura Kennedy  
Larry Baldwin  
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 Cielo  
Maureen Litten  
Mary Ann Cesarski  
Mary Beth McGovern  
Matthew Parrella  
Mia Mednick  
Michael Fisher  
Mike Lofaro  
Michael  
Nick Lella  
Patrice Henry  
Patricia Acker  
Pasquale Savarese  
Pat McCumber  
Peter Donach  
Peter Portanova  
Ricardo Buffit  
Rob Remhild & Family  
Riordan Cavooris  
Rogelio Martinez  
Ronnie Paciella  
Rose  
Ryan Duffy  
Sara Jean Andersen  
Stanley Stura  
Stephen Dolce  
Susanne Smith  
Tonia Perdue  
Tara Cesarski  
Teresa Mattera  
Tina Cafaro  
Tiffany Lochan  
Thomas Liffieri  
Tom Ryan  
Tom Focone  
Vivien & John  
Cordes  
Wayne Smith Sr.

<b>Saturday May 11th Cantor: Feeney</b>	<b>Presider: Father Tom Lector: Grimaldi/Merlino EM: Damato/Drechsler/ Duffy/Toto/Conti</b>	<b>9:15am  5:00pm</b>	<b>Jack Consenz  Mother's Day Novena</b>
<b>Sunday May 12th Cantor: Lohmann</b>	<b>Presider: Father Tom Lector: Czujko/Dervan EM: Rizzo/Ramos/Sica/M&amp;P Tully</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>For the People of SSPJ Parish</b>
<b>Cantor: Lupinacci</b>	<b>Presider: Father Joe Lector: Dobres/Rubano EM: Suski/Clarke/Luna/ Mulhall/Sotomayer/Keane</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Mother's Day Novena</b>
<b>Cantor: Hill</b>	<b><u>Collective Mass</u> Presider: Father Joe Lector: Suski/Just EM: Samson/Latino/ Bleggi/Orlando</b>	<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Mother's Day Novena</b>
<b>Monday May 13th</b>	<b>Adoration 1:30-7pm In the Church</b>	<b>7:30am  9:15am</b>	<b>Mother's Day Novena  Geraldine M. Szymanski</b>
<b>Tuesday May 14th</b>		<b>7:30am  9:15am</b>	<b>Mother's Day Novena  Jack Steele</b>
<b>Wednesday May 15th</b>		<b>7:30am  9:15am</b>	<b>Mother's Day Novena  Michael F. Sforza</b>
<b>Thursday May 16th</b>		<b>7:30am  9:15am</b>	<b>Mother's Day Novena <u>Collective Mass:</u> Sal Palmeri Gregoria Diaz</b>
<b>Friday May 17th</b>		<b>7:30am  9:15am</b>	<b>Mother's Day Novena  Jack Steele</b>
<b>Saturday May 18th Cantor: McCulloh</b>	<b>Presider: Father Joe Lector: Dreschsler/Doran EM: Taurassi/Mantia/ Anderson/Duffy/Urce</b>	<b>9:15am  5:00pm</b>	<b>Mother's Day Novena  Michael Hennessy</b>
<b>Sunday May 19th Cantor: Meringolo</b>	<b>Presider: Father Joe Lector: Koke/Halluska EM: Dervan/Diaz/Rizzo/Sica/ M. Tully</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>For the People of SSPJ Parish</b>
<b>Cantor: Hill</b>	<b>Presider: Father Tom Lector: Tomasino/Piliero EM: Amen/Parish/Clarke/ Keane/Suski/McKie</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Mother's Day Novena</b>
<b>Cantor: Lupinacci</b>	<b><u>Collective Mass</u> Presider: Father Tom Lector: Kenton/Latino EM: Margaret/V&amp;C Rubano/Settineri</b>	<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Claudia Chandler Ceasar A. Figoni Denise Hervey A Holy Soul In Pergatory</b>

**SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND  
MAY 11TH&12TH**

Next week our special collection supports the Catholic Communications Campaign. This campaign connects people with Christ and builds Catholic communities in the United States and developing countries using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Your support helps spread the Gospel message !



## ***Caring for Our Creation***

*Praise the Lord in His Creation and see how you can take action for the earth and our children's future! To celebrate Laudato Si Week (May 19th - 25th), our Laudato Si Committee will be in the church auditorium after the 8 am and 10 am masses next Sunday, May 19th to answer your questions on steps and ideas you and your family can take starting today. There will be free hand outs, prayer cards, seeds, and seedlings for your garden! Please come and lend your support to this important mission.*



Happy Mother's Day from the Music Ministry.

Our Communion hymn this weekend is one of our favorites,

Hail Mary: Gentle woman, # 707 in the Breaking Bread Book. We all know this one, so sing loud and strong. This hymn is dedicated to all our mom's living and deceased. Remember them in a special way as we sing.



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

**""The way to discover the Lord's love is to listen to him. Thus, our relationship with him will no longer be impersonal, cold or a front. Jesus seeks a warm friendship, trust, intimacy. He wants to give us a new and marvelous awareness — that of knowing we are always loved by him and, therefore, that we are never left alone by ourselves.**

## **LECTOR MINISTRY WELCOMES~ MICHAEL DeROSA**



***Michael is finishing his junior year of high school at Smithtown East!***

***Thank you Michael for being an outstanding witness to the presence of Jesus in your life and in your ministry.***

***Your Parish Family is so proud of you! Many thanks to Rita Byrne, who has coached so many young students to embrace their talents and share their gifts in proclaiming the gospel!***

# STS. PHILIP AND JAMES SCHOOL WELCOMES BACK OUR FAMILY FESTIVAL



June 13<sup>th</sup> through June 16<sup>th</sup>

Please consider one of our Family Festival sponsorship opportunities.

## FESTIVAL SPONSOR

As a Festival Sponsor, your name will appear in the SSPJ Bulletin and will be prominently displayed at the Festival. Festival Sponsors will also receive 10 Pay-One-Price tickets.

## RIDE SPONSOR

As a Ride Sponsor, your name will appear in the SSPJ bulletin and will be displayed in front of one ride at the Festival. Ride Sponsors will receive 5 Pay-One-Price tickets.

## FAMILY FESTIVAL SUPPORTER

As a Family Festival Supporter, your name will appear in the SSPJ bulletin and will be displayed on signage at the Festival, along with our other supporters. Family Festival supporters will receive 2 Pay-One-Price tickets.

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### SPONSOR LEVEL:

_____ Festival Sponsor:	\$1,500.00	Please make check payable to:
_____ Ride Sponsor:	\$500	Sts. Philip and James School
_____ Family Festival Sponsor:	\$250	359 Clinton Avenue, St. James, NY 11780

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Please list our donation as follows: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please return no later than May 17, 2024. Contact Jennine Cullen: [jenninecullen@me.com](mailto:jenninecullen@me.com)  
with any questions.



CONGRATULATIONS AND GOD'S BLESSINGS UPON  
SSPJ SCHOOL STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES  
AS THEY RECEIVE THEIR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION!

Congratulations and God bless SSPJ School's Second Grade  
students who made their First Holy Communion on May 4, 2024!



***Let Us INVITE the Holy Sprit into our Hearts and Minds this week as we prepare for Pentecost Sunday~ May 19th, 2024***



## **Pentecost People**

**Come, Holy Spirit, and make us Pentecost people.**

**Let your wisdom and right judgment guide our decisions  
and temper our impulses.**

**Let knowledge and understanding increase our capacity for  
empathy and compassion.**

**Let reverence and awe fill us with gratitude and respect for  
all of creation.**

**Give us the courage to witness boldly to our faith in word  
and deed.**

**Through and with and in Jesus Christ, we pray.  
Amen.**

## ***A Reflection from Sister T***

**Dear Friends,**

**Our Easter season is nearing an end. The feast of the Ascension brings us closer to our next greatest feast, Pentecost. Soon the Apostles will be embarking on the great ministry of spreading the Good News of Jesus to the world!**

**I recently came across this interesting story and thought it bears witness to how the Apostles had to see all others as they spread the Word:**

***A newly married couple moved into their new home and in the morning the wife looked out her window and said to her husband ‘Wow, she really needs to learn how to wash her clothes better. Maybe she needs a new washer or better detergent.’***

***Her husband said nothing. Every time she did her laundry the wife would make similar comments. Then one morning she looked out the window and said ‘Look, she finally figured out how to do it right. I wonder who taught her.’***

***Her husband finally responded, and he said ‘I got up early this morning and washed our windows!’***

**And so it is with life... what we see when watching others depends on the clarity of the window through which we look.**

**With the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, I truly believe that it was then that they began to see clearly what their mission was. The lessons that Jesus taught them started to make much more sense. They would be filled with Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Knowledge, Courage, Reverence, Wonder, and Awe. They would have many challenges to face, but their prayers would pay off.**

**In today’s society, there are so many people who are hurting and need to be heard and treated with gentleness. Each of us needs to make sure that we have a clear window, a new vision, when viewing those we live with, work with, or minister to.**

**How do we keep that window clear? Who are the people who help us clean that window? Am I willing to see with new eyes? Spend some time this week reflecting on these thoughts.**

**Have a wonderful week and know you are blessed.**

**Till Next Week,  
*Sister Theresita***



# *Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism*

*Welcome~Vincent  
Francesco Schmidt*



*May God's abundant blessings  
upon each of our newly baptized  
and their families!*

*Thank you to all who share in  
the Baptism ministry guiding our  
families through this beautiful  
sacrament!*

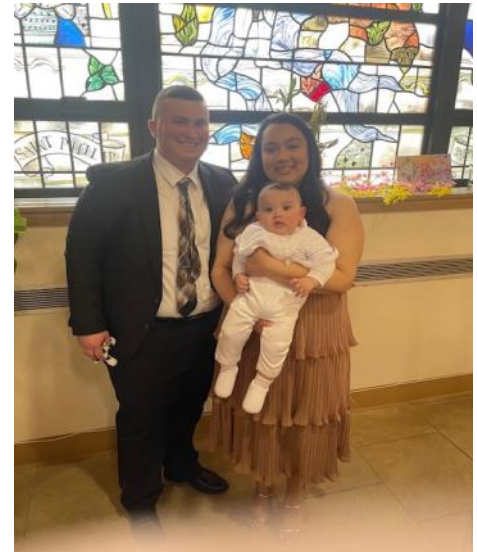


*Welcome ~Lucas  
Matthew Spillane*



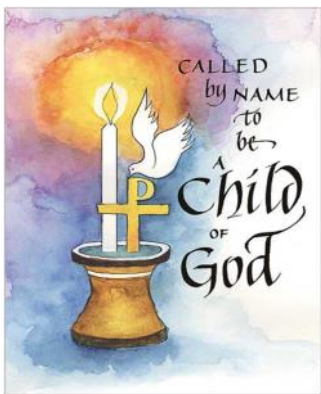
*Welcome~ Emilie  
Gandolfo and family!*

*Welcome~Mateo Esteban Sierra  
And family!*



*Welcome~ Benjamin Joseph  
Chavis*

*Welcome~Hudson Matthew  
Tusa*







# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

STS. PHILIP & JAMES COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IN  
CONCERT WITH STS. PHILIP & JAMES SCHOOL PRESENT THE  
INAUGURAL MID-SUMMER GOLF CLASSIC

## MID-SUMMER GOLF CLASSIC

JULY 17, 2024

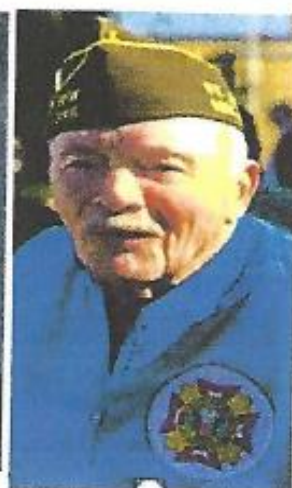
CRAB MEADOW GOLF COURSE. NORTHPORT

REGISTRATION 12:00PM-SHOTGUN START 1:30PM

BBQ LUNCH, DINNER, BEER, WINE, \*RAFFLE PRIZES\*



### Honorees Arthur Dunn & Jack Steele



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



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

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Players: \_\_\_\_ \$200.00 per person  
\_\_\_\_ \$ 750.00 per foursome

(Includes Driving Range, Cart, Lunch, Dinner)

Dinner only: \_\_\_\_ \$90 per person

Please Make Checks Out To:

Sts. Philip & James K of C Council #12839

PO Box 201 St. James, NY 11780

Credit Card & More Info: Scan QR Code



### SPONSORSHIPS

- \_\_ Prizes @ \$2,500 (2 Available)
- \_\_ Dinner @ \$2,000 (2 Available)
- \_\_ Lunch @ \$1,500 (2 Available)
- \_\_ Driving Range @ \$500 (2 Available)
- \_\_ Tee Signs @ \$100 each
- \_\_ Putting Green @ \$500 (2 Available)
- \_\_ Pin Flag @ \$125 (18 Available)

### Sponsor Information



### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CONTACT : TOM SICA (631)521-4771

SIKACHU45@HOTMAIL.COM



## Parish Social Ministry

*We remember,*

*Ann Ehrlich DiPalma  
Gerard Granata*



*Safely home in the arms of Jesus*

### **Our Food Pantry Needs:**

FULLY STOCKED  
AT THE MOMENT

**Thank you so very much!**



## SSPJ SENIOR GATHERING

**Seniors will meet on May 13 in the Sts. Philip & James room. Our meetings are from 1:30 to 3:30. Please join us for an afternoon of faith, fun, and friendship.**

## RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

The Respect Life Committee will be holding a Baby Shower in front of the Parish Office after all the Masses on May 18/19. In case of rain, donations will be accepted in the school lobby. Any help for the mothers and babies is greatly appreciated.



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**

**Are you struggling with your grief?  
The road through grief has many  
of bumps and detours.**

**Join our conversation as we share  
our stories of grief and hope.  
Please call the Rectory Office to  
register.**

**Meeting will be held in the Bethany  
Center on  
Thursday, May 16 at 1PM.**

### **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](http://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](http://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](http://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



# We are at 62% of goal!

## TOTALS RECEIVED AS OF May 6th, 2024

**\*GOAL: \$102,000\***

**PLEDGES: \$63,450.      PAYMENTS:      \$45,554.**



**Happy Mother's Day!** As we join together to celebrate the wonderful Moms in our lives, let's also take time to remember and pray for all the thousands of Moms who worry about how they are going to put food on the table for their children this week.



Please consider supporting the work of the **Catholic Ministries Appeal** so that we can continue to care for God's children and their families through our Parish Outreach programs and Catholic Charities.

*Our hope is that each family will make a gift. We cannot ask everyone to consider the same size gift, but after prayer and reflection, each family is invited to make a gift in response to God's generosity in their lives.*

**No gift is too small and all gifts make a difference in the lives of others!**

For more information visit [catholicministriesappeal.org](http://catholicministriesappeal.org)

or call 516-678-5800- ext. 296 **Thank You!**

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Please make checks payable to **Catholic Ministries Appeal**.

Parish \_\_\_\_\_ Total Pledge: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Down payment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear God of Wisdom,

What is our prayer today?

Is it the long list of our family and friends who need your special attention?

Is it the long list of poor and hungry in the world who need your mercy?

Is it for ourselves that we may work through our stress and struggles and find relief?

Is it for ourselves that we may know how better to do your work in this world?

Is it to find our passion? Is it to know true love? Is it to know true suffering?

It is for our brother, our sister, our mother, our spouse—that they may see Your light shining upon them?

Is it for hope in this world of violence, hunger and despair?

Is it for peace in a never-ending era of war and death?

Is it in thanksgiving for the beautiful life you have shared with us?

Is it joy for the sun, the rain, the moon and the stars?

What is our prayer today, dear God?

Some days it seems that there is so much to pray for that we are overwhelmed.

How do we choose? We ask for the Spirit to guide us.

We ask for the signs of the day to lead us.

We ask for assurance to know that whatever we pray, it matters

What is our prayer today, O God of wisdom? We know your presence is with us.

We know that prayer is powerful. We know your heart is listening to ours.

We know that you are gently guiding us. To pray this prayer and to be of mindful spirit

we know you are here What is our prayer today, dear God? This is our prayer today.

To be with you. To be with the Spirit. And to be heard.

With many thanks for your guiding love, we pray.

Amen—Anonymous (via [Social Justice Resource Center](http://Social Justice Resource Center))



## Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

### Pentecost Sunday

**May 19, 2024:** Acts 2:1-11 | Ps 104:1,24,29-31,34 | 1 Cor 12:3b-7,12-13 or Gal 5:16-25 | Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

**Pray:** Holy Spirit, pour your graces and gifts into our hearts and fuel our passion to love and serve you as ambassadors of Christ. Amen.

**Holy Spirit, fill me to overflowing so I may be a channel of God's goodness and grace.**

What a gift Jesus promised His disciples! He would send them a mighty Advocate, the Spirit of Truth, to be with them forever. The great news is that He meant this for ALL His followers, including us! The Holy Spirit was given to us over 2,000 years ago at Pentecost, the birthday of our Church. The Spirit of God remains a mighty source of power, hope, and transformation, always ready to propel believers toward truth, holiness, God's Holy Will, and heaven.

Every Catholic receives the Holy Spirit's gifts and grace when they receive the Sacrament of Baptism. When we are baptized, we experience our own personal Pentecost. This Sacrament and the gifts of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are indelibly bonded to our souls, along with all the promises, powers, and graces given to the early disciples.

These gifts and graces of the Holy Spirit are meant to help us become who God created us each to be. They are intended to last forever to help us do the work we were designed to do in God's infinite plan. Wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord are the "seven gifts" mentioned in John's Gospel that the Holy Spirit offers to all baptized believers. Today, more than ever, we need to ask for and accept these gifts to follow God's Holy



**Will.** The Holy Spirit enlightens our understanding of the Word and equips us to be bright beacons of light, truth, and hope for others.

After baptism, and again through confirmation, the Holy Spirit continues to pursue us and draw us closer to the image of God in which we were created. God wants to lavish these gifts upon us, but our hearts must be open and docile to receive all He freely wants to give us. We must cooperate using our free will and reach for these gifts to activate them. Prayer, reading Scripture, daily examination of conscience, and frequently receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist will help us grow in the Spirit of Christ to set the world on fire with His love, hope, truth, and peace.

#### Reflect & Discuss:

- † What are you doing to grow in the Holy Spirit's gifts?
- † What specific gift(s) do you need to ask for right now, and why?
- † How are you using the Holy Spirit's gifts in your personal life?
- † How is God calling you to use the gifts of the Holy Spirit in ministry to others?
- † How have you felt the presence of the Holy Spirit when helping others?

## AN INVITATION TO A LITURGICAL PRAYER

We are all priests from our baptism, and with that comes an invitation, namely, *to pray for the world as a priest through the prayer of Christ and the Church*. What does that mean exactly?

Everyone who is baptized as a Christian is baptized into the priesthood of Jesus Christ. The priesthood is given to all baptized Christians and is not just the prerogative and responsibility of those who are officially ordained for ministry, and with this comes an invitation to all adult Christians.

This invitation is something very concrete. We don't have to think about what we are meant to do or invent something. Rather, we are invited to join in a practice that began in the early apostolic community and has come down to us today, that is, the practice of daily praying two sets of prayers out of a ritual set of prayers that are variously called: *The Divine Office of the Church*, *The Liturgy of the Hours*, *The Canonical Hours*, or *The Breviary*. Since the time of the earliest Christian monastics, these prayers have been a key element in the prayer of the Church, Catholic and non-Catholic alike.

There are *eight* such sets of prayers, each meant to be said at a different time of day and linked to the mood and light of the hour. The eight sets of these prayers are: *Lauds* (prayed as morning prayer); *Prime* and *Terce* (prayed at various times during the morning); *Sext* (prayed at noon); *None* (prayed mid-afternoon); *Vespers* (prayed as the workday ends); *Compline* (prayed as a night prayer); and *Vigils* (prayed sometime during the night). Note the appropriateness of the name, *The Liturgy of the Hours*.

While there are eight sets of these prayers, only monks and nuns inside contemplative orders pray all eight of these. Priests, deacons, men and women in religious orders that are fully engaged in ministry, Protestant and Evangelical ministers, and laity who pray these "hours", normally pray only two of them, *Lauds* (Morning Prayer) and *Vespers* (Evening Prayer).

And these prayers need to be distinguished from our private prayers. These are not private meditations, but are what is called public prayer, liturgical prayer, the Church's prayer, the prayer of Christ for the world. Ideally, they are meant to be prayed, indeed celebrated communally, but they are still the public prayer of the Church even when they are prayed alone. The intent in praying them is to join the official prayer of the Church and pray a prayer that is being prayed at that same hour by thousands (perhaps millions) of Christians around the world who, as the Body of Christ, are praying Christ's priestly prayer for the world.

Moreover, since these are the prayers of the Church, and not our own prayer, we are not free to change them or substitute other prayers for them according to our temperament, piety, or theological taste. These prayers don't have to be personally meaningful to us each day. We are praying as priests, offering prayer for the world, and that is deeply meaningful in itself, independent of whether it is affectively meaningful to us on a given day or even during a whole period of our lives. Fulfilling a responsibility isn't always affectively meaningful. In praying these prayers, we are assuming one of our responsibilities as adult Christians, that is, to pray with the Church, through Christ, for the world.

The two hours (*Lauds* and *Vespers*) that we are invited to pray each day follow a simple structure: three psalms, a short scriptural reading, an ancient Christian hymn (the *Benedictus* or the *Magnificat*), a short series of petitions, the Lord's Prayer, and a concluding prayer.

So, this is the invitation: as an adult Christian, as a priest from your baptism, as a woman or man concerned for the world and the Church, I invite you to join thousands and thousands of Christians around the world and each day pray the Church's morning prayer (*Lauds*) and the Church's evening prayer (*Vespers*). Then, like Christ, as a priest, you will be offering sacrifice for the world. Subsequently, when you watch the world news and feel discouraged and helpless in the face of all that isn't right in the world and ask yourself, what can I do? Well, you will be doing something that's very real, praying with Christ and the Church for the world.

Where do you find these prayers, *Lauds* and *Vespers*? Books containing them can be purchased from almost any religious publishing house, Catholic or Protestant. Indeed, they need not even be purchased. Today they are available (free) online. Simply engage your search engine and type in *The Liturgy of the Hours* or *ibreviary* and you will find them.

In praying these prayers each day, whether alone or (ideally) with others, you will be assuming a special power and a responsibility given to you in your baptism and will be giving an important gift to the world. And you will never again have to struggle with the question, how should I pray today?