



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

631-584-5454

November 19th, 2023  
The Thirty third Sunday  
In Ordinary Time

*"What have you done with your gifts? Have you given them away?"*



"For to everyone who has, more will be given and he will  
grow rich; but from the one who has not, even what he  
has will be taken away"

Matthew 25:29

"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, November 12th, 2023:**

Collections from Weekend masses: \$12,336.

Collection for Heat: 3,125.

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

**Total Collection: \$18,835.04**

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

**November 5th Collection:**

**\$19,522.04**

## 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

**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,

Today we hear again the parable of the talents. Fr. Jude Siciliano, OP writes,

*"The third servant didn't fail because he invested foolishly, but because he didn't invest at all- he didn't try. It's not a parable about the servant's own gifts., "talents," but about his laziness and fear. Perhaps he was even afraid of the slight risk putting the money in the bank would involve. His solution: take no risk and bury the money. The parable isn't concerned with specific talents we might have been given and how we use them. It's about all that we have. The master expected the money to be invested, hoarding it was a waste. So too for us. Jesus is encouraging us to put all of our lives on the line in his service - not just specific talents. We are to invest ourselves in God's name, serving God by serving others."*

The parable of the talents is both a challenge and an affirmation. How we hope to hear those words, "Well done, my good and faithful servant!" So many in our parish and in our families share their goodness and faithfulness - and talents - with us! We are grateful.

Please be sure to check out the flyer in today's bulletin inviting families to participate in the Advent Family Retreat on Saturday, December 2nd. Last year's Lenten Family Retreat was outstanding. Please be sure to send in the registration form so we can properly prepare.

Another Advent offering for all in the Parish will be a showing of The Chosen Christmas story. Again, you are asked to call in so that we can properly set up.

And don't forget our Tree Lighting following the 5pm Mass on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>!

This Thursday we celebrate Thanksgiving. As you know, Eucharist means thanksgiving. Hopefully many of us will be able to gather to celebrate Thanksgiving Eucharist on Thursday at 9:15am.

And,

'Twas the night of Thanksgiving,  
but I just couldn't sleep...  
I tried counting backwards,  
I tried counting sheep.  
The leftovers beckoned...the dark meat and white,  
but I fought the temptation with all of my might.  
Tossing and turning with anticipation,  
the thought of a snack became infatuation.  
So, I raced to the kitchen, flung open the door  
and gazed at the fridge, full of goodies galore.  
I gobbled up turkey and buttered potatoes,  
stuffing with gravy, green beans and tomatoes.  
I felt myself swelling so plump and so round,  
till all of a sudden, I rose off the ground.  
I crashed through the ceiling, floating into the sky  
with a mouthful of pudding and a handful of pie  
But, I managed to yell as I soared past the trees...  
Happy eating to all -- pass the cranberries, please.

Peace,

*Father Tom*

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



# Mass Intentions, For the week of November 19th, 2023

**Our Bread & Wine  
Are Offered In memory of,**

**David Schue**

**On your  
"First Anniversary  
In Heaven"**

**Forever in our hearts**



*We Pray for those who are ill...*

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

Judy Rampola  
Joe Dorrian  
Joseph Costa  
Joseph Domizzio  
Kaitlyn Remhild  
Kathleen Draper  
Kathleen N.  
Kerry  
Karl Walz  
Kitty Cronin  
Kristin Galetta  
Laura Bode  
Leon Donach  
Lola Santangelo  
Lori Cearney  
Mary Monte  
Marty Rizzo  
Margaret Remhild  
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  
P.I.  
Ricardo Buffit  
Rob Remhild  
Riordan Cavooris  
Rogelio Martinez  
Rose  
Ryan Duffy  
Sara Jean Andersen  
Stanley Stura  
Stephen Dolce  
Susanne Smith  
Tonia Perdue  
Tara Cesarski  
Teresa Mattera  
Tina Cafaro  
Tiffany Lochan  
Thomas Lifrieri  
Tom Ryan  
Tom Focone  
Vivien & John  
Cordes  
Wayne Smith Sr.

<b>Saturday November 18th Cantor: M. McCulloh</b>	<b>Presider: Father Joe Lector:Healy/Student EM:Calderone/Mantia/ Anderson/Duffy/Urce</b>	<b>9:15am</b>  <b>5:00pm</b>	<b>Thomas J. Spellman</b>  <b>Patricia Monetti</b>
<b>Sunday November 19th Cantor: L. Lupinacci</b>	<b>Presider: Father Joe Lector:Koke/Luna EM:Conti/Dervan/Diaz/Sica/ M. Tully</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>For the People of SSPJ Parish</b>
<b>Cantor: B. Meringolo</b>	<b>Presider: Father Tom Lector:Piliero/Regan EM:Napolitano/Rizzo/ Parish/Amen/McKie/ Orlando</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>John Scally</b>
<b>Cantor: J. Lohmann</b>	<b><u>Collective Mass</u> Presider: Father Tom Lector:Nicastrò/Rubano EM:Margaret/Rubano/ Settineri</b>	<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>John DeGennaro Tom Spellman Sabrina Navarette Albina M. Sangemino Nicola Giannantonio Living~Maria DeMasi</b>
<b>Monday November 20th</b>	<b>Adoration 1:30-7pm In the church</b> 	<b>7:30am</b>  <b>9:15am</b>	<b>Friedl Vierling</b>  <b>Barbara Hutchinson</b>
<b>Tuesday November 21st</b>	<b>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>	<b>7:30am</b>  <b>9:15am</b>	<b>Albina M. Sangemino</b>  <b>Thomas John Watson</b>
<b>Wednesday November 22nd</b>	<b>St. Cecilia</b>	<b>7:30am</b>  <b>9:15am</b>	<b>Sophia Cecere</b>  <b>Dorothy Coyle</b>
<b>Thursday November 23rd</b> 	<b>St. Clement St. Columban</b>	<b>7:30am</b>  <b>9:15am</b>	<b><u>No Mass</u> <u>Collective Mass</u> People of the Parish</b>
<b>Friday November 24th</b>	<b>St. Andrew Dung-Lac</b>	<b>7:30am</b>  <b>9:15am</b>	<b>Living~ Donna&amp; Christopher Regina Anthony Hurtado</b>
<b>Saturday November 25th Cantor: N. LoCastro</b>	<b>Presider: Father Tom Lector:Schor/Thompson EM:Rapp/Damato/Sisti/ Byrne/Toto St. Catherine of Alexandria</b>	<b>9:15am</b>  <b>5:00pm</b>	<b>Tony Galano</b>  <b>Vincenza&amp;Nunzio Colantropo</b>
<b>Sunday November 26th Cantor:L. Stefanowski</b>	<b>Presider: Father Tom Lector:White/Sehne EM:Czujko/Dunn/Kenney/ LaSerra/P. Tully</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>For the People of SSPJ Parish</b>
<b>Cantor: L. Lupinacci</b>	<b>Presider: Father Joe Lector:Tomasino/Dobres EM:Rizzo/Suski/Clarke/ Keane/Amen/Conti</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Pegeen R. Amato</b>
<b>Cantor: J. Hill</b>	<b><u>Collective Mass</u> Presider: Father Joe Lector: Kenton/Just EM: Consenz/Stack/C. Napolitano</b>	<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Claudia Chandler Thomas Spellman Christine Sidoli Marilyn Ormiston Living~Rob Remhild Living~ Philip Giarraputo</b>

## ***SSPJ Parish~ Abundantly Blessed***

### **SACRAMENTAL LIFE OF THE PARISH**

Through the stewardship of our parishioners, we have been able to provide the following services to our members and larger communities:

September 1, 2022-August 31, 2023

<b>Sacraments</b>		<b>Outreach</b>	<b>Funerals</b>
<u>Baptisms</u>	72 Children 3 Adults	Total Children Assisted 360 Total Adults Assisted 564	95 Families were assisted by the Parish Ministry of Consolation
<u>First Communions</u>	71 Children 8 Adults	Total Seniors Assisted 4	
<u>Confirmation</u>	104 Children 8 Adults	9 Families were assisted at Easter 10 Families were assisted at Thanksgiving 27 Families and Organizations were assisted at Christmas	
<u>Weddings</u>	17 Couples		

#### **In Our Family of Faith Formation**

535 Religious Education students were served by REO Administrators supervising student lessons on Google Classroom as well as classes on campus.

184 children attend SS. Philip & James School – 78 from within our parish, 86 from neighboring parishes, and 9 children who are not of the Catholic faith

SS Philip & James is presently being served by 50 Eucharistic Ministers and 21 of them serve homebound parishioners as well as bring communion to residents at the local Health Centers. Our Parish is also blessed with 39 lectors, 11 student lectors, 22 ushers, 112 altar servers (105 children and 7 adults) and 31 adults and 7 students in the Music Ministry.

The Stewardship and so much more was provided by:  
4,100 Registered Families

*God Bless you and God Bless SS. Philip & James*



#### ***A Thanksgiving Day Prayer***

*O Heavenly Father: we thank Thee for food and remember the hungry. We thank Thee for health and remember the sick.*

*We thank Thee for friends and remember the friendless. We thank Thee for freedom and remember the enslaved.*

*May these remembrances stir us to service that Thy gifts to us may be used for others.*

*Amen. -  
Anonymous*

## ***The Chosen***

***During the Advent season, we will be showing an episode from The Chosen, The Nativity, on December 9<sup>th</sup> in the auditorium from 3:30 to 5:00 pm. All in the parish are invited to attend and participate.***

***This is the season of giving. We plan to put together small kits for the needy. Perhaps we will have a contest or game or two for everyone (both kids and adults). Are you up to the challenge?***

***Since we all come from varied backgrounds, we also would like to have a few adults give a 3-minute talk about how their family celebrates Christmas with traditions from your youth, e.g., Mexican traditions, Polish traditions, etc. If you would like to participate by giving a brief highlight, please submit your name and phone number to Fr. Tom no later than December 1<sup>st</sup>.***

SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2ND!!

WE WELCOME ALL FAMILIES TO OUR ADVENT RETREAT...

*"WAITING IN SILENCE,  
FOR THE LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS"*

The fun begins at  
10am  
In the  
Auditorium  
AND  
CONCLUDES AT  
12:00  
WITH A VERY  
SPECIAL  
FAMILY  
BLESSING



HOPE

PEACE

LOVE

JOY

FUN, CRAFTS, SNACKS, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY  
ADVENT ACTS OF LOVE SERVICE PROJECTS!

ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH CENTER OFFICE AT 631-584-5454

*REGISTRATION FOR THIS EVENT ENDS ON SUNDAY NOVEMBER 26TH, 2023*

*COMPLETE THE REGISTRATION FORM AND DROP IT OFF AT THE PARISH CENTER OFFICE OR IN  
THE COLLECTION BASKET AT MASS*

YAY! WE WILL BE ATTENDING THE ADVENT RETREAT:

*"WAITING IN SILENCE,  
FOR THE LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS"*

FAMILY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILDS NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

CHILDS NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILDS NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_



## ***Music Ministry***

*Our theme this weekend is the gifts and talents that God has given us.*

*Wouldn't it be great if you used some of these talents in the Music Ministry.*

*This week we have a special feast day.*

*This Wednesday, November 22 is the feast of St. Cecilia, the patroness of Musicians. All musicians receive a special blessing from St. Cecilia on this, her feast day.*

### ***Prayer to St. Cecilia***

*St. Cecilia, heroic martyr who stayed faithful to Jesus your divine bridegroom, give us faith to rise above our persecutors and to see in them the image of our Lord.*

*We know that you were a musician and we are told that you heard angels sing.*

*Inspire musicians to gladden the hearts of people by filling the air with*

*God's gift of music and reminding them of the Divine Musician Who created all beauty.*

*Amen*



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

**All are invited**

to

an ecumenical service of

**Thanksgiving &**

**Prayer for Peace**

*a joint worship service with*

*St James United Methodist Church, the Orthodox Monastery  
of St Dionysius the Aereopagite,  
and Sts Philip & James Roman Catholic Church*

**Sunday, Nov. 19, 4:00 pm**

*at*

*St James Episcopal Church*

**490 Rte 25A**

**St James, NY**

Any who would like to join the choir for this occasion, contact the parish office at 631.584.5560 or [StJamesChurchNY.Office@gmail.com](mailto:StJamesChurchNY.Office@gmail.com)

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2023**

In every personal or social situation or circumstance of our life, the Lord is present. He calls to us to live in our own time, to share our lives with others, to mix in with the joys and sorrows of the world. Pope Francis



# THE GREAT NEWS AT SSPJ SCHOOL

Congratulations and God bless Juliana on being the 1st member of the SSPJ 2024 graduating class to join the Lector Ministry. Thank you Rita for preparing our students so well.



SSPJ Academy students enjoyed listening to Fr. John Crozier, the new associate Vocation director, share his vocation story during National Vocations Week. Thank you for helping us to remember that through our baptism, we have a call, a vocation to follow Jesus and to be light to others.

## SSPJ Kindergarten Students Love to Pray with Prayer Bear!



What did you do in Physical Education class? Pre-K students used scarves to practice throwing and catching while working on their hand eye coordination!





*We Remember with love...SSPJ Lights of Love Tree Lighting*  
*~ Saturday, December 2nd, 2023~Following the 5pm First Week of Advent Mass*

***We Invite all to the 2023 Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony***

*This event offers a wonderful opportunity to remember in your hearts*

*"the lights of our loved ones, safely home" during this holiday season*

*Our Christmas Tree located on the front lawn of the rectory*

*Will be lit as the names of our loved ones are read aloud...*

*Hot chocolate and cookies will be served*

***Those who wish to remember their loved ones with this special tribute are asked to complete the form below and return it to the Parish center office by the following dates:***

***TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28th~ For your loved ones to be remembered at the tree lighting ceremony***

***MONDAY, DECEMBER 4th~ For your loved ones names to be printed in the Christmas bulletin and displayed upon the Christmas Altar***

***\$5.00 donation per each name being memorialized***

***Annual Tree Lighting Memorial***

***We Remember:***

---

---

---

***Remembered***

***by:*** 

---

***Contact #:*** 

---

***Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Names: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$5.00 per name***  
***= Total Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_***

*Please place this form in an envelope with payment and return to the Parish Center office by: Tuesday, November 28th for names to be read at Tree lighting or Monday December 4th for inclusion in the Christmas bulletin.*

## ***THIS WEEKS REFLECTION FROM SISTER T~***

Dear Friends,

We are heading into the Holiday season as you already know by going to the store. During these days **Feelings** can and will run high. That is why I wanted to share this story with you that my former student Gail Lowney Alofsin sent me from part of a homily by the Fr. Greg Sakowicz rector at Holy Name Cathedral.

### *Island of Feelings*

*Once upon a time, there was an island where all the feelings lived: Happiness, Sadness, Knowledge, and all the others, including Love. One day, the feelings learned that the island would sink, so they all repaired their boats and left. Love was the only one who stayed.*

*Love wanted to persevere until the last possible moment. When the island was almost sinking, Love decided to ask for help. Richness was passing by Love in a grand boat. Love said, "Richness, can you take me with you?" Richness answered, "No, I can't. There is a lot of gold and silver in my boat. There is no place for you."*

*Love decided to ask Vanity, who was also passing by in a beautiful vessel. "Vanity, please help me!" "I can't help you, Love. "You are all wet and might damage my boat," Vanity answered.*

*Sadness was close, so Love asked for help, "Sadness, let me go with you." "Oh...Love, I am so sad that I need to be by myself!"*

*Happiness passed by Love, too, but she was so happy that she did not even hear when Love called her!*

*Suddenly, there was a voice. "Come, Love, I will take you." It was an elder. Love felt so blessed and overjoyed that he forgot to ask the elder where they were going. When they arrived at dry land, the elder went her own way. Love, realizing how much he owed the elder, asked Knowledge, another elder, "Who helped me?" "It was Time," Knowledge answered. "Time?" asked Love. "But why did Time help me?" Knowledge smiled with deep wisdom and answered, "Because only Time can understand how valuable Love is."*

There is a lot of material to digest here. The story can leave you thinking, especially during this hectic time. How will I handle the different situations I find myself in, will I remember taking time will nurture love in no matter what situation I find myself in. Check out those different feelings and see if the shoe doesn't fit sometimes.

Till Next week,  
Sister Theresita



"LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME, AND DO NOT HINDER THEM BECAUSE THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN BELONGS TO SUCH AS THESE." Matthew 19:14



### RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

GRADE 3	MONDAY NOVEMBER 27TH	6:30-7:30PM
GRADE 4	MONDAY DECEMBER 4TH	5PM-6PM
GRADE 5	MONDAY NOVEMBER 20TH	5-6PM 6-7PM
GRADE 6	MONDAY NOVEMBER 6TH	5PM-6PM
GRADE 7	MONDAY NOVEMBER 13TH	5-6PM 6-7PM



## ***The Barnabas Ministry Needs Your Help....***

*The SSPJ Barnabas ministry shares their time and treasure by reading the reflections of our Religious Education Students and School Students.*

*They share positive compliments for our students and encourage them upon their journey of faith.*

*Reflections can be picked up weekly at the Parish Center and returned to the office within a weeks time.*

*If you are interested in joining this wonderful ministry, kindly contact the religious education office at 631-584-3204.*

*A brief training will be provided .*

*Thank you for sharing in this gift of love and service.*



Everyone NEEds Jesus Program is thanking God for the beautiful day they shared together outside planting tulip bulbs in their Garden of hope!



***We are at 79% of GOAL which mean we are \$21,260 away!***

***WE ARE AT 79% OF OUR GOAL as of November 15th, 2023***

***Our Pledges are \$80,740***

***Our Payments are \$77,136.50.***

***Could you help us reach this goal?***

**GOAL: \$102,000**

**PAYMENTS AT**

**11/14/23**

**\$77,136.50**

**PLEDGES AT**

**11/14/23**

**\$80,740.**

**Thank you!**



**June 2023— July 2024**

**Our Year of the Eucharistic Revival**

***Becoming Riches***

***The Eucharist helps us understand that this road of service and sharing leads us to become riches through the power of God.***

The power of God Pope Francis says, is the power of love, and this love empowers us to be Eucharist for others. The little we have, he reminds us, like the few loaves and fishes, can feed a multitude. God is always with us in a solidarity that, Pope Francis says, never ceases to amaze us. Indeed, when we actually pause to consider God's closeness to us—through the sacrifice on the cross and in every encounter in the Eucharist—we begin to see that we need not fear to follow Jesus' way. God will be with us, perhaps most visibly in the face of the next person we help.

**Ponder:**

Where will I find Jesus today?

**Pray:**

God of mystery and wonder, may I see you today everywhere and in every one!

***(Taken from What Pope Francis Says About Eucharist)***

Sister T

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



## Parish Social Ministry

### SSPJ SENIORS

*Will meet on Nov. 27 in the Sts Philip & James room from 1:30-3:30 PM. All Seniors are welcome to join us for faith friendship, and fun.*



*We remember the family and friends of,*

*Thomas Ficht  
Richard Pederson  
Catherine Smith  
Linda Woods*

*Safely Home in the arms of our Lord*

#### Our Food Pantry Needs:

*Thanks to your continued generosity, our pantry is currently fully stocked.*

**Thank you for all of your support!**



#### **RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY**

*All in the community are welcome to join us each morning at 8AM in the prayer room of the church as we pray the rosary for all life.*



*One of Pope Francis' central beliefs at the heart of Laudato Si is that everyone and everything is connected, interdependent. We are responsible for each other. God speaks to us and calls us to conversion in many ways. In the context of Creation, we need to listen to that Word of God in "the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor."*



## Katie's Way

Collecting new and gently used baby items and delivering them to the Life Center of Long Island. These items benefit mothers, children, and expectant mothers in need. Your donations build a community that supports mothers who choose life for their unborn children under difficult circumstances. **Suggested donation items:** Diapers, wipes, bottles. Gently used baby and toddler items such as car seats, high chairs, strollers, clothing, toys, etc. New baby and toddler items, including diapers, wipes, formula, baby food, clothing, etc.

**PLEASE DROP OFF AT: 56 TILLOTSON AVENUE,  
ST. JAMES, NY**

#### 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



### My Weekly Sunday Gospel Reflection For Grades 1-3

For the: Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Sunday, November 19th, 2023

My Name Is: \_\_\_\_\_ My Grade IS: \_\_\_\_\_ SSPJ SCHOOL

Please share this time with Jesus, Complete your reflection from your heart, and bring it to mass with you next weekend November 25th or November 26th, 2023



Share God's Word

### **The Gospel Message: Matthew 25:**

In today's gospel, Jesus again tells the parable of the talents, or, the spiritual gifts that God has given to each of us to use in the service of others.

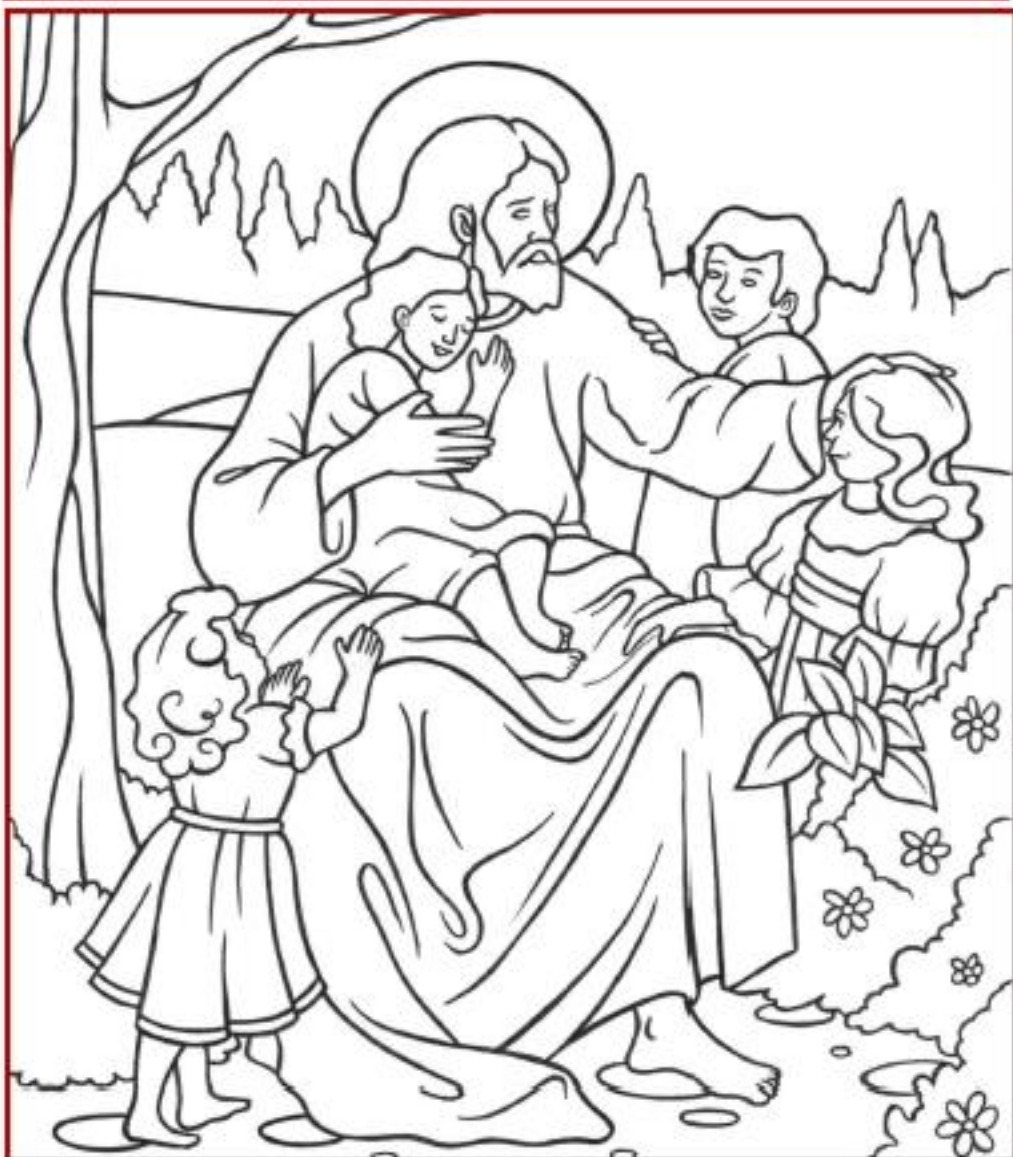
What gift of yours do you share to serve others?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Dear Jesus,**  
**Thank you for reminding me that I have so many gifts.**  
**Gifts to help others that don't require money.**  
**Simple gifts of time, kindness, love, listening, sharing, patience, laughter and love.**

**As I celebrate Advent, help me to try to share a gift with someone in need, each day.**

**men**



Let the Little Children Come to Me - © 2017 TheCatholicKid.com All rights reserved.



## Weekly Sunday Gospel Reflection For Grades 4-6

For The Thirty third Sunday In Ordinary Time ~ Sunday, November 19th, 2023

My Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ My Grade IS: \_\_\_\_\_ SSPJ SCHOOL

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

Saturday, November 25th or Sunday, November 26th, 2023



### **The Gospel Message: Matthew 25:**

In today's gospel, Jesus again tells the parable of the talents, or, the spiritual gifts that God has given to each of us to use in the service of others.

*Dear Jesus,  
Thank you for reminding me that I have so many gifts.  
Gifts to help others that don't require money.  
Simple gifts of time, kindness, love, listening, sharing, patience, laughter and love.*

*As I celebrate Advent, help me to try to share a gift with someone in need, each day.*

*Amen*



Did you know that you were so wonderfully blessed by God with spiritual gifts?

These are simple gifts that you cannot buy and wrap. They are gifts of kindness, awareness, compassion, patience.

What are two of your spiritual gifts?

In today's parable Jesus reminds us that more gifts will be given to us, when we use our gifts in service to others.

How have you used the two gifts you described above?

## Weekly Sunday Gospel Reflection For Grades 7-8

For The Thirty third Sunday In Ordinary Time ~ Sunday, November 19th, 2023

My Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ My Grade IS: \_\_\_\_\_ SSPJ SCHOOL

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

Saturday, November 25th or Sunday, November 26th, 2023



### **The Gospel Message: Matthew 25:14-30**

In today's gospel, Jesus again tells the parable of the talents, or, the spiritual gifts that God has given to each of us to use in the service of others.

Dear Jesus,  
Thank you for reminding me that I have so many gifts. Gifts to help others that don't require money. Simple gifts of time, kindness, love, listening, sharing, patience, laughter and love.  
As I celebrate Advent, help me to try to share a gift with someone in need, each day.

Amen



**"For to everyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away" \_**

This parable from our gospel reading sounds harsh. But in reality it is a loving reminder to us that when we use our gifts in service to others, we will be blessed with more!

What are the spiritual gifts that you hold in your heart?

---

---

---

---

---

How are you using them to serve others?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



## Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

### Solemnity of Christ the King

#### Sunday November 26

Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17

Ps 23:1-3,5-6

1 Corinthians 15:20-26,28

Matthew 25:31-46

#### Monday November 27

Daniel 1:1-6,8-20

Daniel 3:52-56

Luke 21:1-4

#### Tuesday November 28

Daniel 2:31-45

Daniel 3:57-61

Luke 21:5-11

#### Wednesday November 29

Dan 5:1-6,13-14,16-17,23-28

Daniel 3:62-67

Luke 21:12-19

#### Thursday November 30

**St. Andrew, Apostle**

Romans 10:9-18

Ps 19:8-11

Matthew 4:18-22

#### Friday December 1

Daniel 7:2-14

Daniel 3:75-81

Luke 21:29-33

#### Saturday December 2

Daniel 7:15-27

Daniel 3:82-87

Luke 21:34-36

We don't usually think of shepherds as kings, but the scriptures this Sunday describe the kingly powers of Jesus as our Good Shepherd. A good king cares for his subjects the way a shepherd cares for his sheep.

Kings increase the size of their reign and accomplish their work over the whole territory through their subjects. That's why Jesus says, "Whatever you do for one of the least of mine, you do for me."

For example, our Good Shepherd-King wants to distribute food to the hungry, all the way to the farthest reaches of his kingdom. How does he get it done? He gives an abundance of food to some of us and commands us to take it to those who need it.

What happens if we don't fulfill the King's commands? Do the starving people think the King is benevolent?

No, they can only see his goodness when we do as he tells us to do.

Look at the people who are around you. Each one is an opportunity to give the King a good name.

What about the people whom you like least of all? What about those who've made you feel angry or intimidated or hurt? Well, ask this: What is he/she hungry for? If the answer's not obvious, ask the Holy Spirit. Observe that person long enough to identify the emptiness or pain or fears that are buried under the surface.



Then ask this: What abundance has God given to me that this "least one" is lacking and needs from Christ our King? Can I show him/her the King's benevolence despite my feelings?

When we say no to opportunities to share what we have, we are behaving like one of the goats whom the Good Shepherd-King separates from the sheep. And when we say yes, despite the feelings that could make us goat-like, the King's good reputation spreads, and we are all blessed.

#### Reflect & Discuss:

- † What good things do you have in abundance? How readily do you share them?
- † Who is of least importance to you? How can you take your focus off of what you don't like about them so that you can give them what God wants to give to them through you?
- † Have you ever done something good to someone who didn't deserve it? How did this affect your relationship with Jesus?
- † What abundance do you see in each member of your family or faith sharing community that, when shared, blesses others?



## HELPLESSNESS AS FRUITFUL

Sometimes we are the most helpful and life-giving at the very times when we are most helpless. We've all been there. We're at a funeral and there's nothing to say that will ease the heartache of someone who has lost a loved one. We feel awkward and helpless. We'd like to say or do something, but there's nothing to be said or done, other than to be there, embrace the one nursing the grief, and share our helplessness. Passing strange, but it is our very helplessness that's most helpful and generative in that situation. Our passivity is more fruitful and generative than if we were doing something.

We see an example of this in Jesus. He gave both his life and his death for us – but in separate moments. He gave his life for us through his activity and his death for us through his passivity, that is, through what he absorbed in helplessness. Indeed, we can divide each of the Gospels into two clear parts. Up until his arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus is the active one: he teaches, he heals, he performs miracles, he feeds people. Then, after he is arrested, he doesn't do anything: he is handcuffed, led away, put on trial, scourged, and crucified. Yet, and this is the mystery, we believe that he gave us more during that time when he couldn't do anything than during all those times he was active. We are saved more through his passivity and helplessness than through his powerful actions during his ministry. How does this work? How can helplessness and passivity be so generative?

Partly this is mystery, though partly we grasp some of it through experience. For example, a loving mother dying in hospice, in a coma, unable to speak, can sometimes in that condition change the hearts of her children more powerfully than she ever could during all the years when she did so much for them. What's the logic here? By what metaphysics does this work?

Let me begin abstractly and circle this question before venturing to an answer. The atheistic thinkers of the Enlightenment (Nietzsche, Feuerbach, Marx, and others) offer a very powerful critique of religion and of religious experience. In their view, all religious experience is simply subjective projection, nothing more. For them, in our faith and religious practices, we are forever creating a god in our own image and likeness, to serve our self-interest. (The very antithesis of what Christians believe.) For Nietzsche, for instance, there is no divine revelation coming from outside us, no God in heaven revealing divine truth to us. Everything is us, projecting our needs and creating a god to serve those needs. All religion is self-serving, human projection.

How true is this? One of the most influential professors I've studied under, Jesuit Michael Buckley, says this in face of that criticism: *These thinkers are 90% correct. But they're 10% wrong – and that 10% makes all the difference.*

Buckley made this comment while teaching what John of the Cross calls a *dark night of the soul*. What is a *dark night of the soul*? It's an experience where we can no longer sense God imaginatively or feel God affectively, when the very sense of God's existence dries up inside us and we are left in an agnostic darkness, helpless (in head, heart, and gut) to conjure up any sense of God.

However, and this is the point, precisely because we are helpless and unable to conjure up any imaginative concepts or affective feelings about God, God can now flow into us purely, without us being able to color or contaminate that experience. When all our efforts are useless, grace can finally take over and flow into us in purity. Indeed, that's how all authentic revelation enters our world. When human helplessness renders us incapable of making God serve our self-interest, God can then flow into our lives without contamination.

Now, this is also true for human love. So much of our love for each other, no matter our sincerity, is colored by self-interest and is at some point self-serving. In some fashion, we inevitably form those we love into our own image and likeness. However, as is the case with Buckley's critique of the atheistic thinkers of the Enlightenment, *this isn't always the case*. There are certain situations when we can't in any way taint love and make it self-serving. What are those situations? Precisely those in which find we ourselves completely helpless, mute, stammering, unable to say or do anything that's helpful. In these particular "*dark nights of the soul*", when we are completely helpless to shape the experience, love and grace can flow in purely and powerfully. In his classic work *The Divine Milieu*, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin challenges us to help others both through our activity and through our passivity. He's right. We can be generative through what we actively do for others, and we can be particularly generative when we stand passively with them in helplessness.