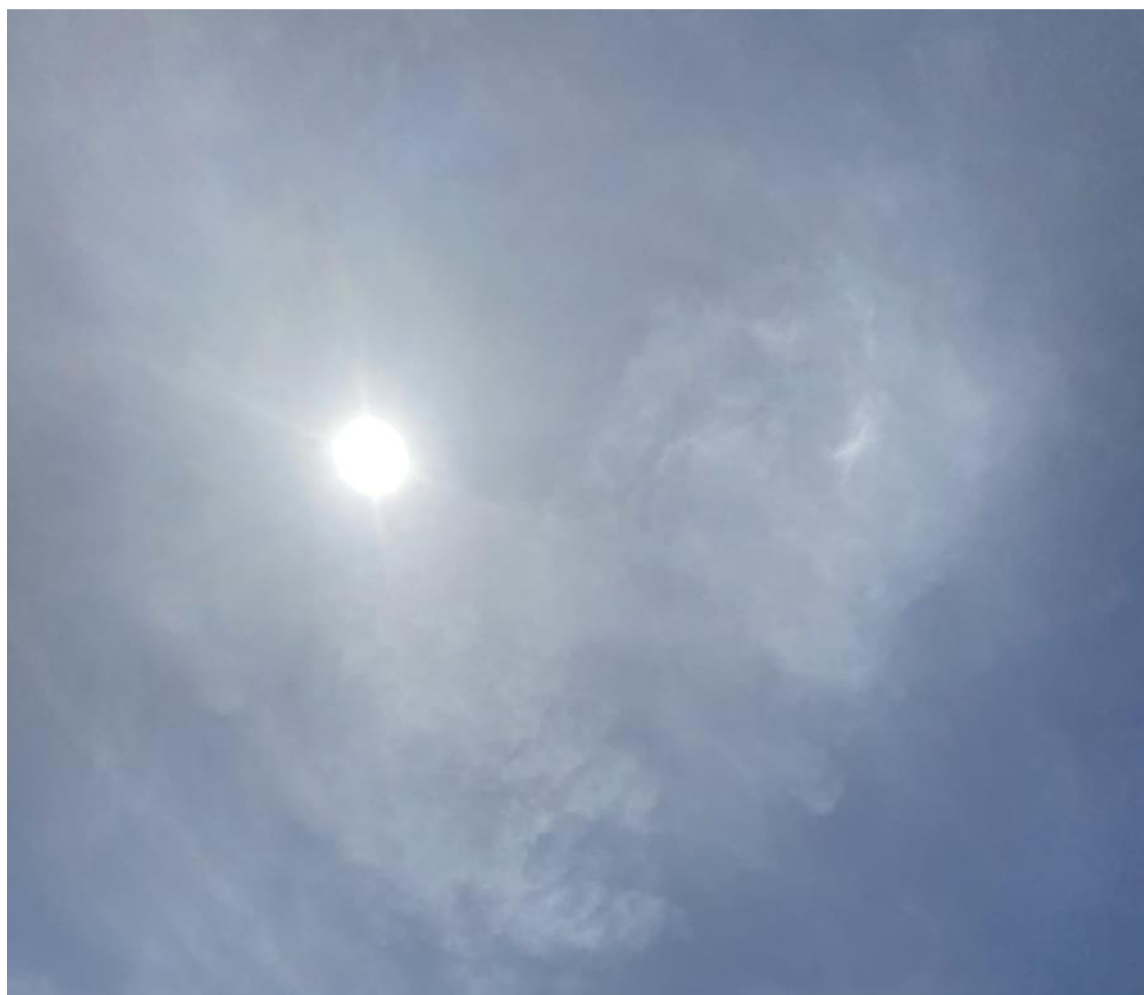




The Parish of Saints Philip and James
1 Carow Place, St. James, NY 11780
631-584-5454

May 22nd, 2022

The Sixth Sunday Of Easter



*"Peace I leave with you;
my peace I give to you"*
John 14:27

"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: 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
Martin Marut, Maureen Burke, Erin Nicastro

Collections: ~Thanking you for your generosity
Financial Support Needed weekly to meet Parish budget:

\$17,890

Weekly Collection: Sunday, May 15th, 2022:

Collections from Weekend masses: \$ 7,076

Collections received in mail: 2,180.

Faith Direct : (131Participants) 3,622.

Total Collections: \$12,878.

Collection for Communications:

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 KAIRES
SPC. NICOLE A. CANNON
SGM. MICHAEL P. BORRELLI-US ARMY
CAPT. JOHN TULLY- USN
LT. COL. JAMES TULLY-US ARMY
JOSEPH SAGGIO- USNC
CAPTAIN PAUL WILLMS
STAFF SGT. MICHAEL LONGHENRY
LT. COL. PAUL T. JACKSON-
STAFF SGT ALEXANDER PARRELLA-USAF
RICHARD SOTOMAYER- USAF
SGT. CONNOR F. SCOTT- USMC
SGT. CORY O'HARA -USMC
CDR. ROBERT J. MARSH-USN
PFC. CHARLES CHRISTOPHER HOWELL
STEVEN CAVA-USN
ERIC SEELIN- USMC
CW2 CHRIS MUNZ
CW2 NATASHA WORTMAN
CORPORAL JAMES T. CASEY-USMC
SGT. JOSHUA MAHONEY- US ARMY
KEVIN JONES-USCG
PRIVATE JOSHUA OLSEN-USARNG
GLEN CRIMA-US ARMY
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
1 LT MICHAEL J BANG -MILITARY INTELLIGENCE US ARMY
MATTHEW PATRICK GALLAGHER US ARMY
MIDN ERIN NICASTRO, USN.

LIVE-STREAMING THE
8:00AM SUNDAY MASS

We have begun live-streaming of the 8am Sunday mass which is available to view on our the SSPJ Church Facebook page, while it is live at the 8am mass, it can be recalled at any time.

A Letter From Father Tom

Dear Friends,

*Peace, I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
Not as the world gives do I give it to you.
Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.*

In today's gospel Jesus speaks of peace. The peace he leaves us is not passive acquiescence or the absence of hostility and conflict; the peace of Jesus is a mindset; a constant seeking out of God's love, justice and mercy, an understanding of our "connectedness" to God and to one another as children of the same God. Christ's peace is a perspective that shapes all of our actions, behaviors, and values. Fr. Jude Siciliano, OP, says, *"Knowing God is with us in all circumstances enables us to put our lives into God's hands and receive the grace we need for our journey. Jesus tells the disciples, 'Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.' The Spirit in our midst continues to teach us so that we need not be anxious – 'troubled or afraid.'"* May such a perspective of peace, such an understanding of love, dwell forever in our hearts and spirits in the midst of our everyday lives.

This Thursday we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord, a holy day of obligation. Can you imagine how Jesus' disciples felt at that time? After the devastation of his death and the joy of his resurrection, Jesus was leaving them – though he promises they will not be alone. He will be with them - and us - always, in a new and deeper way. Must have sounded strange to the disciples. Yet, such "absence and presence" is part of our human experience. Fr. Ron Rolheiser calls it "the mystery of saying good-bye". Poet Anne Osdieck writes,

*Jesus lingered a while. It was hard to leave them.
But he had to go on so he could give them a gift, of his Spirit.
Jesus, through your Spirit, let us be your witnesses,
so we can take your life gift of love and forgiveness to the ends of the earth.*

We are well into the month of May during which we honor Mary, the mother of God. Many of us feel a special connection to Mary. She was such a strong and courageous woman whose love of Jesus is a model for us. Many songs have honored Mary. One of my favorites is a hymn by the Monks of Weston Priory.

*O with what joy we sing of Mary,
a woman of great love, whose openness
and loving kindness, gave birth to God's own son.
Mary, O so gentle and discreet, be with us as we pray
to know the whisper of his presence, the wonder of his love.*

Mary also has many "titles" attributed to her. The title "Queen of Peace" is so meaningful in these days of conflict. Pope Francis has asked us to pray the Rosary each day of May for peace in the world, especially in the Ukraine. He says, *"I beg you, let us not surrender to the logic of violence, to the perverse spiral of weapons. May the path of dialogue and peace be taken! Let us pray."*

May Mary, strong, gentle, courageous, kind, loving, Queen of Peace, continue to guide us toward Jesus!

And,

*What's the difference between ignorance and apathy? I don't know and I don't care.
Adam and Eve were the first ones to ignore the Apple terms and conditions.
Refusing to go to the gym is a form of resistance training.
The rotation of the earth really makes my day!*

Peace,

Father Tom

Mass Intentions, For the week of May 22nd, 2022

Banns of Marriage

Third

Daniel Skora ~ SSPJ

To

Cassie Cause

Remember in our hearts and prayers

Andy
Alfred Fox
Antonette Sabatino
Angie Mingione
Angela Amoroso
Anna & Harold Clayton
Arthur Gureck
Baby Ben
Baby Penny Grace Candela
Barbara Bombace
Barbara Ruland
Mattia Rose Lubrano
Barbara Sammarco
Belinda Groneman
Bill Connors
Brendan McAlvin
Carol
Carolyn Nehl
Catherine & Jimmy
Charles Figliosi
Charlie Stangarone
David Beleck
Deacon Ron Blasius
Deirdre W.
Donna Patrissi
Dorothy Holdorf
Dorothy Mitchell
Elizabeth
Elizabeth Martin
Elinor Glasser
Ellie Walsh
Emily Schiaratta
Esther Styles
Flo Donohue
Gerald Maas
Gloria Montesano
Grace Bertolone
Ginny & John Rief
Gladys Blake
Gregory Parker
Helen
Heidi Ray
Ida Jean D'angelis
Jack Donohue
Jakob King
Jamie Geiman
Jamie Accardi
Jennifer Clark
Jenny Bonanno
Jessica Venditto
John Cronin
John DeStefano
John Scomillio
Joseph B
Joseph H
Joseph

Judy Rampola
Gerry F.
Joe Dorrian
Joseph Costa
Kenneth Cook
Kathleen Draper
Kathleen N.
Kerry
Kitty Cronin
Lee Krauer
Lexi Dorman
Leon Donach
Lola Santangelo
Lynn McDonnell
Mark Geld
Mark Wagner
Mary Ann CesarSKI
Mary Monte
Mary Fresi
Maria Clark
Maria Collaro
Marie del Ciello
Marilyn Suli
Maureen Flynn
Maureen Litten
Matthew Parrella
Melissa C.
Michael Fisher
Michael Viviano
Michele Williams
Mike Lofaro
Nancy & Paul Bertran
Nancy Cuccinotta
Pasquale Savarese
Pat LeDoux
Peter Donach
P.I.
Ricardo Buffit
Riordan Cavooris
Robert Koop
Ronnie Paciella
Sara Jean Andersen
Sofia McCormick
Stephen Dolce
Susanne Smith
Tara CesarSKI
Tina Cafaro
Vivien Cordes
Veronica Broderick
Wayne Hendricks
William Capurso
William Martin

Saturday May 21st	Presider: Father Kevin Lector: Contrino/Grimaldi EM: Mantia/Rapp/Damato/ Duffy/Toto	9:15am 5:00pm	Anna Cafarelli Simon Stabile
Sunday May 22nd	Presider: Father Kevin Lector: Czujko/Luna EM: Czujko/Kanuika/Ramos/ Sehne/Sica	8am	For the People of SSPJ
	Presider: Father Joe Lector: O'Hara/Dobres EM: Luna/McKie/Parish/ Reichert/Sotomayer	10:00am	Joseph Galletta
	<u>Collective Mass</u> Presider: Father Joe Lector: Geier/Smith EM: Samson/Keane/Margaret	12:00pm	Enzo Diamanti Gerard Bishop Joanne Aiello Rose Giambalvo Carol J. Kirdahy Catherine McCulloch
Monday May 23rd	<u>Eucharistic Adoration:</u> Monday 1:30pm-7pm In the Church	7:30am 9:15am	Teresa Vaitis
Tuesday May 24th		7:30am 9:15am	Living~Joe & Rae Billone Brendan Walsh
Wednesday May 25th	Saint Bede	7:30am 9:15am 5:00pm	Jim Hanrahan Raquel Graham
Thursday May 26th	The Ascension of the Lord	7:30am 9:15am 7:00pm	Eva & Philip Alaimo <u>Collective Mass</u> Donna Anne Martin Edward Hildebrandt
Friday May 27th	Saint Augustine of Canterbury	7:30am 9:15am	Peter Opatowsky Harrison Thrasher, Jr.
Saturday May 28th	Presider: Father Joe Lector: Dreschler/Thompson EM: Rapp/Lombardi/Damato/ Drechsler/Duffy	9:15am 5:00pm	Patrick Tardo John Tatatunio
Sunday May 29th	Presider: Father Kevin Lector: Mantia/Fitzpatrick EM: Czujko/Kanuika/Kenney/ Koke/P. Tully	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
	Presider: Father Joe Lector: Lombardi/Tobin EM: Amen/Latino/Luna/Parish/ Reichert	10:00am	Donnie Veliath
	<u>Collective Mass</u> Presider: Father Kevin Lector: Margaret/Consenz/ Samson/Keane/Napolitano	12:00pm	John Fascina John Nicholas Nicholas Materdomini Edna Beninati Carlos Augusto Navarro Pescador, MD Joseph Napolitano

Altar Memorials For The Of May 22nd, 2022

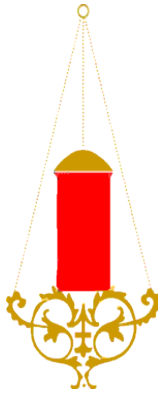
The Sanctuary Lamp is illuminated in memory of,

The Son of Laura Mallon

May your family be at peace knowing the love you hold in your hearts for him.

In our hearts,

Diane Anderson and the SSPJ School Community



Our Bread & Wine

Are offered in thanksgiving for,

Deacon John Keenan and Deacon Ron Blasius

On the Anniversaries of your ordination

Thank you for responding to the gentle call of your hearts and your dedication for faith filled service to the SSPJ Family

Happy Birthday
SSPJ SCHOOL
is
CELEBRATING
100
Years
of
Catholic Education

**JOIN US FOR A CENTENNIAL
PLANNING MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 31 AT 7PM IN THE
STS. PHILIP AND JAMES ROOM!
RSVP: 631-584-7896**

**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD~
Holy Day of Obligation**

THURSDAY, MAY 26TH, 2022

**MASSES: WEDNESDAY, MAY 25TH
AT 5PM**

**THURSDAY, MAY 26TH
AT 7:30am
9:15am
7PM**

MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBRANCE

Nassau County has announced two County-wide 50-second moments of silence on Memorial Day, May 30th to honor the men and women who laid down their lives in service to our nation. The first moment of silence will be at 12 Noon, followed by the second at 6:00 pm. During those 50 seconds at 12 Noon and 6:00 pm on May 30th, Fire Departments, Police Cars, and Volunteer Ambulance Corps will sound their sirens and horns to remind residents to pause and remember our nation's fallen heroes.

All parishes in Nassau and Suffolk are encouraged to publicize this initiative and perhaps dedicate the Angelus bells at 12 Noon and 6:00 pm on May 30th to the prayerful memory of our deceased servicemen and women, especially in gratitude for their defense of our religious liberties.

THE MEN'S FORUM

A brotherhood of men dedicated to growing in their faith & discipleship in the Lord Jesus Christ.



MONDAY, MAY 23, 2022

**Father Joe Lobo, Associate Pastor at SSPJ Church
Closing Liturgy for the 14th Season of the Men's Forum**

As is our custom, we close out the year with a Mass of Thanksgiving for all the wisdom, graces and blessings our good God has shared with us as men called to follow Jesus Christ. The Men's Forum is a brotherhood of Catholic men who are dedicated to growing in our faith and discipleship. We seek to become better men of Christian virtue and witness in our families, friendships, Church, and community. *Please join us!*

6:00 - 7:00pm: Adoration: Main Church

7:00 - 8:00pm: Closing Mass, followed by coffee & cake fellowship.

Come for all, or part of our evening's schedule. No membership required. Open to all men!

www.sspjmensforum.org

Church of Saints Philip & James • 359 Clinton Avenue • St. James, NY 11780 • 631-584-5454



A Reflection from Sister T~

Dear Friends,

This is the season in which we get to experience Nature at its best and sometime worst. Worst first: it is the season for tornadoes, earthquakes, and some tropical storms that can turn into hurricanes. We need to be vigilant.

Now for the Best! We get to watch the flowers and trees come to life. The grass becomes green. Hopefully all the snow (especially in the northeast!) is gone. We also get to see new animal life. Barn animals are being born, forest animals are coming alive, and one that so many of us have experienced... the hatching of those chirping birds, whether they be robins or mourning doves, blue jays or wood peckers, it is always magical to watch.

As we are preparing to celebrate the feast of the Ascension, we will hear about Jesus leaving his apostles to go to the Father. I came to realize that Jesus is like a Mother Bird; after His resurrection, He continued to instruct and encourage the apostles and disciples. He was preparing them to leave the nest. And like all good Mother Birds, He knew when the time was right. I have yet to see a Mother Bird push her young out of the nest before its time. Jesus knew when they were ready, and he promised to send the Spirit; they would not be left alone.

We, too, are like those baby birds. This is our time to fly, to use our wings and bring the good, Joyful news to all! Jesus is calling, even if we don't feel ready to leave the nest. Are we willing to be pushed out of our nests of complacency, indifference, and security?

We have been prepared by those around us to serve the Lord at all cost, just like the apostles. Jesus knows each one of us and He has made us to succeed, to be His image, His hands and feet in the world. We are asked to stand up, take flight, and go forth being and preaching the Good News.

What are some of the things that make me afraid to leave the nest? What do I hang on to that stops me from flying? I hope this makes sense, because I know we are all called to soar with the eagles and live life to the fullest. As Jesus said so many times "Fear not, for I am with you and I am sending the Spirit"!

May you have a week filled with little nudges, pushing you out of your comfortable nest. God is with you!

Till next week... happy flying,

Sister Theresita



Pauline Marie Jaricot (1799-1862), foundress of the **Society for the Propagation of the Faith**, will be beatified on **May 22, 2022**, in her birthplace, Lyon, France, following recognition of a miracle attributed to her intercession. This event takes place during the 200th anniversary year for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, the first of the four Pontifical Mission Societies. Today, this mission organization born of the vision of Pauline Jaricot provides help for more than 1,100 mission dioceses all over the globe. For more information and to become a Member of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith today visit www.drvcmissionoffice.org or contact the Diocesan Mission Office at propfaithmission.org.

Music Ministry

The Communion Hymn this week is our 3rd Mary song of the month. Hail Mary: Gentle woman # 704. A favorite of all, so let us sing loud and strong our praise to Mary.

Choirs are winding down. At the end of the month, we will have our last rehearsals. In June they will sing on the weekends and then off July and August for a much-needed rest.

Please take the time over the summer to think about becoming a member of the music ministry. Our numbers are low since covid 19. We need to come back stronger!!!

This Thursday is the Ascension of the Lord. Jesus goes up to heaven. We sing Worthy is the Lamb. Jesus laid down his life and died for us. We have become a people of hope, praise, and light for the world. Jesus is rising to new life.

SUPPORT THE:

Catholic Daughters Garage Sale

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday:

May 20th, 21st, 22nd 9-3

408 Moriches Rd, St. James

Donations are welcome

Proceeds to benefit CDA Charities.

Contact : Evelyn Sica Tel:

631-521-4772

evsica@hotmail.com

Are You Being Called to Serve?

By virtue of our Baptism, we are all called to holiness—lay faithful as well as Bishops, priests and deacons.

But have you felt called to serve in a much deeper and committed way?

If you are a man between the ages of 30 and 60, who feels that you are being called to ordained ministry

as a deacon in the Church, you are invited to come for an Evening of Prayer and Discernment

with other men of faith to discuss and explore that very question.

There is no cost to the evening—just your time and openness.

COME PREPARED

to LISTEN to PRAY to REFLECT to DISCERN
where God is calling you!

The evenings are being offered conveniently at three locations in our diocese.

7:00PM, Tuesday, June 7 — St. Rose of Lima, Massapequa, 2 Bayview Avenue

7:00PM, Wednesday, June 8 — St. Mary Manhasset, 1300 Northern Boulevard

7:00PM, Thursday, June 16 — St. Joseph, Ronkonkoma, 45 Church Street

with a Saturday Morning option to be held at

10:00AM, Saturday, June 18 — Ss. Peter & Paul, Manorville, 781 Wading River Road

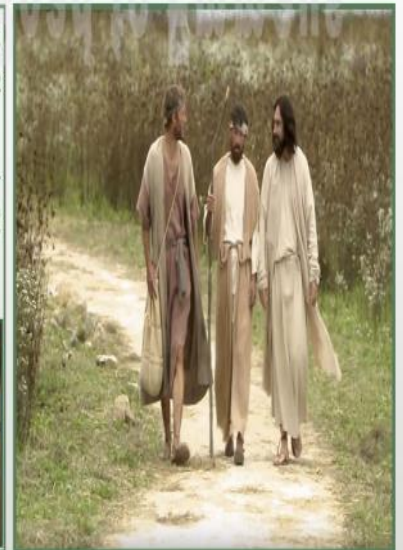
RSVP by Friday, June 3rd, to 631-423-0483 Ext. 179 or by email to

diaconateformation@drvc.org

We thank you and look forward to being with you.

Bishop Andrzej's Easter Reflection The Road to Emmaus

"... and it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them..."



Monday, May 23, 2022 at 7:30 pm; Via ZOOM

You are invited to join Bishop Andrzej for his
Easter Evening of Reflection,
as we continue our Synodal Journey together,

Communion * Participation * Evangelization

I LIVE MY FAITH MEDAL

Congratulations to SSPJ Girl Scout Troop 2111, on receiving this awesome award of distinction!

Convocation was held on Sunday, May 15th at St. Agnes Cathedral.

Gabriella D'Agostino, Sarah Franco, Erin Kieran, Reagan Prew, Rosalia Radosta, Francesca Scott, Reilly Williams

Your SSPJ Parish Family are so proud of YOU!



*****Missing from the photos is the awesome, Sarah Franco ~Congrats Sarah!***

STS. PHILIP AND JAMES SCHOOL WELCOMES BACK OUR FAMILY FESTIVAL



June 16th through June 19th

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.

SPONSOR LEVEL:

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

Name: _____ email: _____

Phone: _____ Address: _____

Please list our donation as follows: _____

Please return no later than June 6, 2022.

WE ARE NOW AT **84%** OF GOAL!! **THANK YOU!** **WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER~WE CAN GET THERE~** **2022 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL SSPJ GOAL: \$102,000**



As Catholics, we all hold dear the responsibility of bringing our young people into our family of faith and guiding them on a lifelong journey with Christ.

One opportunity to nurture their faith is by supporting the Catholic Ministries Appeal. Every day, young people in Catholic Campus Ministry are actively committing to their faith and living lives filled with joyful service. Young men and women are participating in programs like Camp Quo Vadis (Latin for "Where are you going?"), which has as its core purpose to help young people listen to God's voice, answer questions about future vocations and prepare the way for their leadership in the Church

"I decided to participate because of the Eucharist. It is the center of my faith and it calls me to do so much that I do. I had never been to a retreat before, so I wanted to experience what that was like. I don't want to make the mistake of having my faith be just a part of my life like music or sports. I want it to guide me through my life and be the reason I do things."

— Sean, participant Quo Vadis



The Catholic Ministries Appeal is also important for so many other ministries and programs that involve our children. Are you aware that collectively parish-based religious education programs serve more than 100,000 of our young people in public schools? Similarly, youth and young adult ministry programs serve more than 5,000 each month.

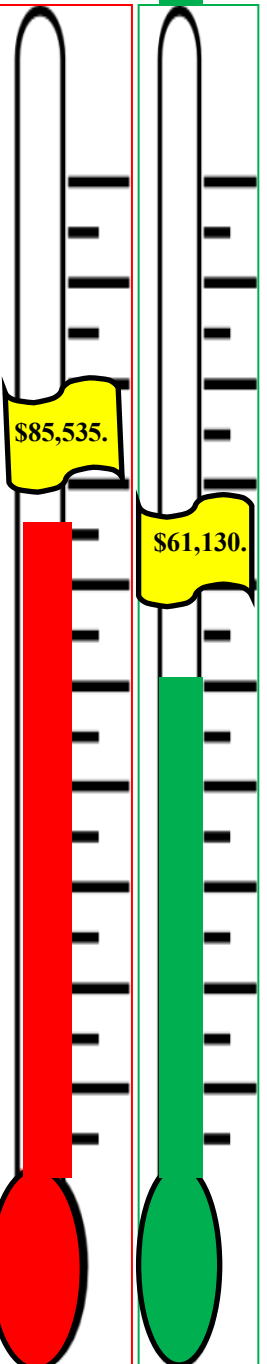
Your support helps to inspire young adults to journey together as they continue to find Christ in their lives.

Please know that I thank you most sincerely for your consideration of this special request to make a gift to the 2022 Catholic Ministries Appeal. Please know that no gift is too small, and every gift makes a difference in the lives of our young people - the now and the future of our Catholic Church.

AS OF: 5/17/22

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SSPJ SCHOOL CULTURAL ARTS EVENING!

SSPJ Spring Art Show and Concert!

SSPJ family and friends gathered to view the wonderful artwork our students created.

A big thank you to Mrs. Falco, our Art teacher for instructing our students so well.

Thank you to our students for their many hours of practice and dedication to the Arts!



Congratulations to the many talented students at Sts. Philip & James School!



The choral clubs, violinist, ukuleles, and band members did not skip a beat!

Their dedication and endless hours of practice are truly commendable!



Thank you Ms. Hahl, Music teacher and Mr. Rienzi, Band teacher.



Talents are a gift from God!

*Sts. Philip and James School First Holy Communion
Saturday, May 14, 2022*

*May you always be as
excited to receive the
Eucharist,
as you were on your
First Holy Communion.*

God Bless Second Grade!



Sts. Philip and James School May Crowning Mass



*O Mary we crown thee
with blossoms today!
Queen of the Angels and
Queen of the May.*

*SSPJ Second graders
wore their communion
outfits to school on
Monday and crowned the
Blessed Mother Mary.*

*Students and families
celebrated after Mass
with cake, cookies and
ice cream.*



Parish Social Ministry



We Remember

**Robert Tinti
Yolanda Stellaccio**

Safely home in the arms of Jesus



Our Food Pantry Needs:

**CLEANING PRODUCTS
Chef Boyardee canned Ravioli**

Thank you for your generosity and support

Weekly Tip

When eating at a buffet restaurant, or even at coffee and doughnuts after Mass on Sunday, you can help conserve natural resources and reduce waste by taking just one plate, one napkin and only the utensils you need. Encourage others to do the same.



LAUDATO SI'



The next meeting of the Senior Group will be on **Monday May 23rd from 2-4 P.M** in the Philip & James room



The Spirit of Love and Prayer Group meets on Tuesdays from 1PM to 2:30 in the Prayer Room of the Church. Please consider joining them.



Lives of the unborn are at risk daily in our country. Please consider joining your fellow parishioners at the Clinic @ 70 Maple Ave. Smithtown. We pray to Mary Our Mother for all those who refuse to acknowledge that human life belongs only to God. Prayer warriors are at the clinic on Wed., Fri. and Sat mornings from 8:30 to 11AM.

Opportunities for Apostles of Hope

~**Telephone Ministry**~ Checking in and spreading cheer through a simple call of love and compassion

~**Occasional Transportation**~ to Church, Stores, and Medical appointments

~**Eucharistic Ministers**~ Sharing Holy Communion with those who are homebound.

Please contact Parish Social Ministry at 584-5454.

Helpful Phone Numbers~ YOU ARE NOT ALONE...

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
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
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
L.I. Women's Coalition (Domestic Violence): 631-666-8833
Memory Care in NY: www.memorycare.com
Narcotics Anonymous: 631-689-6262
National Aging in place-L.I. Chapter: 631-383-4341
National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-784-2433
Response Crisis Center: (Suicide Hotline): 631-751-7500
The Retreat (Domestic Violence Hotline): 631-329-2200



Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

Ascension Sunday

Acts 1:1-11
Ps 47:2-3,6-9
Ephesians 1:17-23 or
Heb 9:24-28;10:19-23
Luke 24:46-53

Monday May 30

Acts 19:1-8
Ps 68:2-7ab(33a)
John 16:29-33

Tuesday May 31

The Visitation of Mary

Zephaniah 3:14-18a
or Romans 12:9-16
Isaiah 12:2-6
Luke 1:39-56

Wednesday June 1

St. Justin

Acts 20:28-38
Ps 68:29-30,33-36ab
John 17:11b-19

Thursday June 2

Acts 22:30;23:6-11
Ps 16:1-2a,5,7-11
John 17:20-26

Friday June 3

St. Charles Lwanga & co.

Acts 25:13b-21
Ps 103:1-2,11-12,19-20
John 21:15-19

Saturday June 4

Acts 28:16-20,30-31
Ps 11:4,5,7
John 21:20-25

Why did Jesus ascend to heaven? Imagine how readily people would have converted if he had resumed his public ministry after his resurrection.

However, God's salvation plan for the world was much bigger than that. While Jesus walked the earth, he was but one man. Afterward, by giving himself in the Eucharist to his disciples, he became every human who takes this Sacrament seriously. When we receive Jesus in the Eucharist, we unite ourselves to his mission. In every eucharistic liturgy, we are "co-missioned" (i.e., placed into mission with Jesus) to continue the ministry he began.

Before Jesus ascended to heaven, he commissioned every disciple – including you – for this task. And it is renewed during every Mass.

It's a difficult mission. Humanly we are quite inadequate, so Jesus gave us his

Holy Spirit. By uniting our spirit to his Spirit and then relying on God in every situation, adequacy is not the question. It's willingness. Are we willing to put time, effort and spiritual growth into being Christ's hands and voice for the world?

Because Jesus ascended to heaven, he has no hands but our hands, and he has no voice but our voice.



Are you unhappy about the evils that exist in this world? God has great plans to bring his kingdom into these situations. Are you concerned about the abuses you see? Immorality on television? Injustices in your workplace? Divisions in your parish or hurtful behavior in your leaders? Jesus is far more disturbed by these evils than you are. However, he uses your hands, and he uses your voice.

Ever since Jesus ascended into heaven and gave his Holy Spirit to us, God ministers to the world through us: in our homes, in our parishes and work-places and play-places.

Lord Jesus, fill me with the presence of Your Holy Spirit and with the gifts You want me to use. Show me when and how to use these charisms. And help me to overcome my pride and fears and any other sins that are holding me back from the works that You are calling me to do. I want to be Your hands, Your feet, and Your voice, Lord Jesus. Amen!

Reflect & Discuss:

1. What thresholds or new beginnings are you facing?
2. How are these opportunities for the continuation of the ministry of Jesus?
3. In what ways are you doing the works of Jesus?
4. Which parish ministries could use your gifts and talents?
5. How do you rely on the Holy Spirit to get it done?

The excusable doesn't need to be excused and the inexcusable cannot be excused.

Michael Buckley wrote those words commenting on Peter's triple betrayal of Jesus. Here's the context. Peter had betrayed Jesus in his most needy hour, not out of malice, simply out of weakness. Now, facing Jesus for the first time since that betrayal, Peter is understandably uncomfortable. What do you say after betraying someone?

Well, he didn't need to say anything. Jesus took the initiative and, as Buckley highlights, he didn't excuse Peter. Jesus didn't say things like, *it's perfectly understandable to be afraid in a situation like that! You weren't really yourself! I understand how that can happen!* He didn't even tell Peter that he still loves him. None of that. He simply asked Peter, "Do you love me?" and when Peter said yes, everything moved forward. No excuses were needed. *The excusable doesn't need to be excused and the inexcusable cannot be excused.* Our humanity already explains why we are prone to betrayal; what needs to be spoken in its wake is a reaffirmation of love.

A couple I know had this happen in their marriage. They went to a party together one Friday night and the wife, partly through the influence of alcohol and drugs, left the party with another man. Her husband was unaware of this for a time but, upon finding out what had happened, was understandably very distraught. He went home alone and spent a sleepless night thinking, his thoughts moving through a series of vengeful fantasies to what (through grace) he eventually decided on.

He was sitting at the kitchen table midmorning the next day when his wife, sheepish and self-chastened, came home. She had her apologies rehearsed and was ready to face his justified anger and fury. She got something else. Her husband didn't let her voice any apologies or excuses, nor did he explode in anger. Rather, calm and sad, he simply said this to her: "I'm going to move out of the house for a week, so you can think this through. You need to decide. *Are you my wife or are you someone else?*" He came back a week later to her apologies, but more importantly to her renewed, more radical commitment to their relationship. Their marriage has been solid and grace-filled since. She is now committed to a marriage in a way she never quite was before.

No doubt upon his return, this man's wife did offer some tearful apologies and excuses. His refusal to let her voice them earlier may well have served a purpose long-term, but was admittedly somewhat cruel short-term. Even when something can't be excused, we still need the opportunity to say we are sorry. Apologies are important, both for the person offering them and for the one receiving them. Until an explicit apology is made, there is always unfinished business. However, explicit contrition is not ultimately what moves things forward when a relationship has been wounded or fractured. What moves things forward is a renewed commitment to love, to a deeper fidelity.

The inexcusable cannot be excused. Strictly speaking, that's true, though sometimes a deeper understanding of things somewhat excuses the inexcusable. Here's an example.

Several years ago, this incident occurred in Australia. A Catholic School Board had just finished building a new multi-million dollar school. Not long after it's opening, one of its students, a boy in high school, started a fire in his locker, unaware that the gas valves for the school's heating system were right behind his locker. A huge fire started and the whole school burned down. To his credit, the boy summoned his courage and owned up to what had happened. Then, of course, a never-ending series of questions ensued: Why would he ever do that? Why would anyone start a fire in his locker? What accounts for that kind of reckless stupidity? What can excuse the inexcusable?

I very much appreciated an answer given to these questions by one of the Australian bishops. Speaking to a questioning group of teachers and school administrators, his short answer said it all. Why would this young student do something like that? *Because he is a boy!* Young boys have been (for no explicable reason) starting fires long before gas valves ever appeared on the planet. Moreover, there's no excuse for it, save human nature itself.

Often times, that's the excuse for the inexcusable: *Because we're human!* Indeed, this was the real excuse for the woman who under the influence of alcohol and drugs betrayed her husband, just as it was the real excuse for Peter when he betrayed Jesus.

But, this must be read correctly. This doesn't give us permission to appeal to our morally inept human nature as an excuse for betrayal or stupidity. We're human! Boys will be boys! The lesson rather is that whenever our moral ineptness has us fall into betrayal or stupidity, what ultimately moves things forward is not an apology or an