



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

631-584-5454

January 14th, 2024  
The Second Sunday  
In Ordinary Time



*Behold, the Lamb of God*

*John 1:29*

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, January 7th, 2024:**

Collections from Weekend masses: \$8,222.

Mail Collections: \$1,130.

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

**Total Collection: \$12,726.04**

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

**We are blessed by your continued generosity and  
support!**

### Sacraments

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVE FOR US IN YOUR PRAYERS



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

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,

Here we are again in "ordinary time". We have packed away the Christmas decorations for another year. But hopefully we haven't packed away the spirit and promise and reality of Christmas. We celebrated the coming of Emmanuel - of God with us. Now we strive to live the Christmas miracle throughout the year, for Jesus remains with us - encouraging us, guiding us, and inviting us to keep the light of Christmas burning in our hearts and in our actions.

An interesting question is raised in today's gospel as we begin ordinary time: "what are you looking for?" Many of us are looking to grow in our faith, to deepen our relationship with Jesus. Fr. Jude Siciliano, OP, notes:

*The Gospel tells us about seekers who discovering a deeper call. The people in today's story already are people looking for God. John the Baptist is a mentor to his disciples, and he points them to another who will be their teacher ("Rabbi"). John uses a favorite image for Jesus, "Lamb of God." It is rich in many biblical meanings, and the commentators warn us not to settle on just one.*

*But we too have had our titles, our names for Jesus. How do we know these titles are still valid for us? Haven't we changed, haven't our lives grown? Who is Jesus for us now and how do we call upon him? We, like the disciples of John, are being invited to follow Jesus at this time in our lives, to spend time with him and to discover who he is for us now. Like the two disciples we are seekers who want to "stay" with Jesus.*

As today's seekers, still looking to stay with Jesus, how do we proceed? Perhaps we might take a clue from today's first reading, for as Eli instructed Samuel, we too make time to say, *Speak, Lord, your servant is listening*. This does mean that we will actually allow God to speak to our hearts - that we will make some time to be still and listen. It's a challenge in today's hectic world. Are you and I up for the challenge? As Apostles of Hope, we support one another in service, in prayer, and *in listening*.

To the 8th grade Confirmation Candidates who made retreat last Saturday – two pieces of good news: first, you were considered exceptional by those who conducted the retreat – respectful, engaged, and ready! Please use these remaining months before Confirmation to listen to the Lord who calls you as Samuel was called in today's first reading. Like him, be open and say, "speak Lord, I'm listening".

Second, we have a **new Youth Minister** who is looking forward to meeting you, listening to you and deepening with you a response to our God who desires to help you "become the best version of yourself". Her name is **Ms. Sandy Rago**. She's also a teacher in SSPJ School, has a background in school social work as well as her ministry as teacher and faith-filled disciple. I am delighted to welcome her and grateful for her "yes". All of us will have the opportunity to meet her as she introduces herself to us at Mass very soon.

The Pastoral Council is very excited about our upcoming Dine Around set for February 5<sup>th</sup>. Ticket sales begin this weekend. Many of our local eateries have joined in. Check out the flier and be sure to thank them. Tickets are \$25 and are limited to the first 200 purchasers. No tickets will be sold at the door. Plan on a delightful, delicious, downright great evening! I look forward to seeing you there.

This week we remember the birthday of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., a powerful advocate for racial justice and non-violence. Unfortunately, racism and violence are still powerful forces of evil in our world. We each have the responsibility to pray for and to work for an end to racism and violence. We ask our loving Savior, brother to all and guide to non-violence, to open minds and hearts - including our own - to live as He taught and teaches us.

Next weekend is Word of God Sunday. All are invited to bring their Bible to Mass as we ask God's blessing, that God's Word in Scripture will touch our hearts and guide our lives.

And finally,

*Our dog accidentally swallowed a whole set of Scrabble tiles. We took him to the vet to get him checked out. No word yet...*

Peace,

*Father Tom*

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



# Mass Intentions, For the week of January 14th, 2024

## Eucharistic Adoration Monday

1:30-7pm  
In the church



We Pray for those who are ill...

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  
Betty DiSimone  
Bob DelCielo  
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  
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 Domizzio  
Kaitlyn Remhild  
Kathleen Draper  
Kathleen N.  
Kerry  
Karl Walz  
Kitty Cronin  
Kristin Galetta  
Laura Kennedy  
Lauretta Prague  
Laura Bode  
Leon Donach  
Lola Santangelo  
Lori Cearney  
Marjorie Fox  
Mary Monte  
Marty Rizzo  
Margaret Remhild  
Mark Wagner  
Mary Ryan  
Marie Feicco  
Maria Clark  
Maria Collaro  
Marie del Cielo  
Maureen Litten  
Mary Pinnatta  
Mary Ann Cesarski  
Mary Beth McGovern  
Matthew Parrrella  
Michael Fisher  
Mike Lofaro  
Michael  
Nick Lella  
Patricia Acker  
Patricia Tripptree  
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 Matterna  
Tina Cafaro  
Tiffany Lochan  
Thomas Lfrieri  
Tom Ryan  
Tom Focone  
Vivien & John  
Cordes  
Wayne Smith Sr.

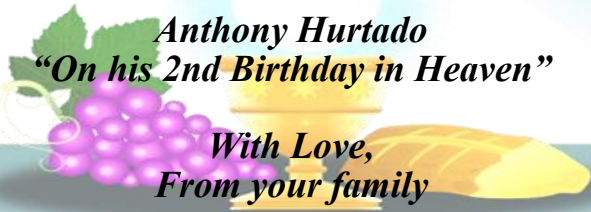
Saturday January 13th Cantor: LoCastro	Presider: Father Tom Lector: Ryan/Student EM: Damato/Drechsler/ Duffy/Toto/D. Napolitano	9:15am  5:00pm	LeRoy Amato  Wendy Beiner
Sunday January 14th Cantor: . Stefanowski	Presider: Father Tom Lector: Dervan/Marino EM: Dunn/Ramos/Sica/M&P Tully	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
Cantor: Lohmann	Presider: Father Tom Lector: Tomasino/Piliero EM: Suski/Clarke/Luna/ Mulhall/Sotomayer/Keane	10:00am	Carol Walz
Cantor: Lupinacci	<b>Collective Mass</b> Presider: Father Tom Lector: Just/Latino EM: Samson/Latino/ Bleggi/Orlando	12:00pm	Sherry Alessandro Joan Tumbleson Otto Schindlar Angela Signorelli Thomas J. Ficht Carol Napolitano
Monday January 15th	<b>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</b>	7:30am  9:15am	Living~LCDR Megan Shutka & Capt, Wilson Marks
Tuesday January 16th		7:30am  9:15am	Richard Donald Sieglen  Margaret Hargreaves
Wednesday January 17th	<b>St. Anthony Abbot</b>	7:30am  9:15am	Vera & Vincent Mulvehill & Frances Sexton Living~Capt Michael T. Dolan, Jr. Lt. Col John Kaires
Thursday January 18th		7:30am  9:15am	Anthony Hurtado <b>Collective Mass:</b> Margaret Olsen
Friday January 19th		7:30am  9:15am	Ralph Marciante  Margaret Castiglie Anderson
Saturday January 20th Cantor: Feeney	Presider: Father Tom Lector: Merlino/Student EM: Calderone/Mantia/ Anderson/Duffy/Urce <b>St. Fabian</b>	9:15am  5:00pm	Andrew Dunn  Sarah Wilder
Sunday January 21st Cantor: Meringolo	Presider: Father Tom Lector: Halluska/Luna EM: Dunn/Dervan/Diaz/ Sica/M. Tully	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
Cantor: Meringolo	Presider: Father Tom Lector: Lombardi/Regan EM: Rizzo/Parish/Keane/ Czujko/Amen/McKie	10:00am	Louis Sicurella
Cantor: Hill	<b>Collective Mass</b> Presider: Father Tom Lector: O'Leary/Rubano EM: Margaret/C. Rubano/V. Rubano/ Settineri	12:00pm	Clara Schwartz Claudia Chandler Patricia Daly Sheila Ferguson Carol Napolitano

*Altar Memorial for the Week of January 14th, 2024*

*Our Bread & Wine  
Is Offered for,*

*Anthony Hurtado  
"On his 2nd Birthday in Heaven"*

*With Love,  
From your family*



*The Altar Candles Are Burning  
In Memory of,*

*Carol Walz  
"Happy 78th Birthday to Our Mom In  
Heaven"*

*With love from,  
Karl, Karl Jr. and Tim Walz*



*The Sanctuary Lamp*

*Illuminates to each of us the loving  
heart of Jesus In Memory of,*

*Anthony Hurtado*

*On his 2nd Birthday in Heaven"*

*With Love,  
From your family*



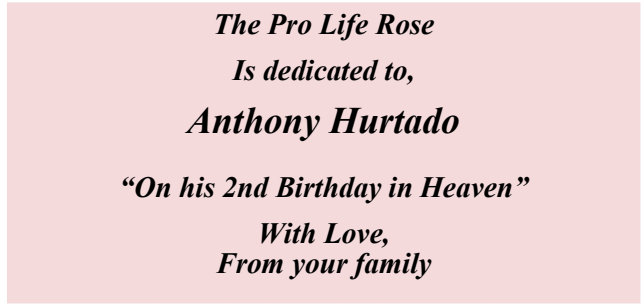
*The Pro Life Rose*

*Is dedicated to,*

*Anthony Hurtado*

*"On his 2nd Birthday in Heaven"*

*With Love,  
From your family*



**Second Collection Today  
January 13th and 14th, 2024  
For Snow Removal**

**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR DAY ~  
MONDAY, JANUARY 15TH, 2024**

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



January 10th, 2024

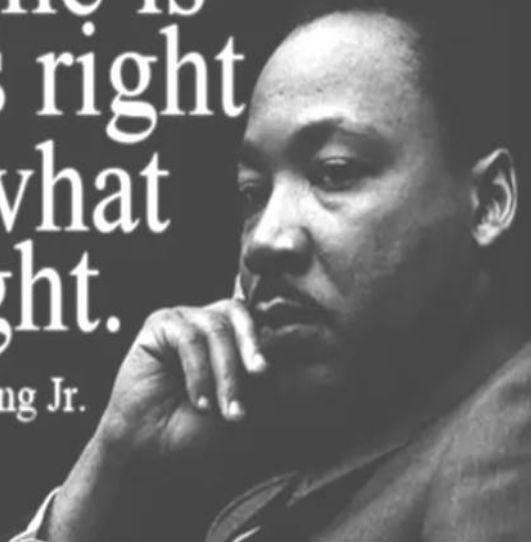
*"And let us also find the time to watch children, like the Magi watch Jesus: the little ones who also speak to us of Jesus, with their trust, their immediacy, their wonder, their healthy curiosity, their ability to cry and laugh spontaneously, to dream. God is made like this: a Child, trusting, simple, a lover of life*

*(cf. Wis 11:26), with our children; patiently, as grandparents know how to do! If we stay before the child Jesus and in the company of children, we will learn to be amazed and we will start out simpler and better, like the Magi. And we will know how to have new outlooks, creative outlooks on the problems of the world."*

*Pope Francis*

**The time is  
always right  
to do what  
is right.**

*~ Martin Luther King Jr.*





**Second Collection January 28th, 2024 ~  
The Church in Need**

On January 28, 2024 a collection will be taken for "The Church in Need." The monies collected at this time will be shared among three areas of the world where there is particular need for help:

**Church in Central and Eastern Europe** - this collection supports the Church in more than 25 countries that struggle to recover from former communist rule. It also aids communities throughout the region that are affected by the war in Ukraine. Funds support pastoral care, catechesis, renovations, and seminary formation. Your support restores the Church and builds the future in this region.

**The Church in Latin America** For many in Latin America and the Caribbean, a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers all present obstacles to practicing the faith. Your support for the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, and other programs to share our Catholic faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ.

**The Church in Africa** – The Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa supports pastoral projects to build the capacity of the Church and foster lasting peace and reconciliation across a continent often marked by division and tension. Although the Church in Africa is growing, many still lack access to basic resources and pastoral care.

Thank you for your generosity.



**WORD OF GOD SUNDAY  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 21ST, 2024**

*"I am the light of the world, says the Lord; the man who follows me will have the light of life"*

*All are encouraged to bring their bible to mass as we ask God's blessing*

*Let us hear the word and become beacons of light to each other and those walking beside us.*

*God Bless  
Kennedy Margaret Kannry  
and her beautiful family!  
On the  
Celebration of her Baptism  
Sunday, January 7th, 2023*

**MUSIC MINISTRY**

*We are back in ordinary time. The sounds of Christmas fade and the future awaits Lent and Easter.*

*Have you made your New Years resolutions yet?*

*How about joining the music ministry? Just think how much fun you will have while praising God through music. There are so many ways to help. Some only bite size pieces of time. Stop by the choir loft or see me by the baby grand piano and find out how you can help.*

*God respects us when we work but loves us when we sing.*

*Please think about joining the Music Ministry.*



# Save the date!



## Dine Around Dinner

SSPJ Auditorium

6:00 - 8:00 PM

Tickets \$25 each

No tickets available at the door

Adults Only--BYOB

*Sample dishes from many local restaurants!*



...and more to come!



**"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**



**CONFIRMATION I AND II GRADES 7 & 8  
FAMILY MASS  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2024  
AT 5:00PM**

**CONFIRMATION II 8TH GRADE NICENE CREED MASS  
MONDAY JANUARY 22ND AT 7**

**FAMILY MASS FOR  
GRADES 3 AND 4:  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 21ST, 2024 AT 8AM**



*FOLLOWED BY A RECEPTION HOSTED BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS*

**GRADES 1 & 2 FAMILY MASS ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 21ST AT 10:00AM**

*FOLLOWED BY A RECEPTION BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS*

**GOD BLESS CHILDRENS LITURGY GROUP AND THEIR TEACHERS!  
THANK YOU FOR PERFORMING A WONDERFUL FEAST OF THE NATIVITY  
PLAY FOR ALL AT THE 10AM MASS!**



**CHILDRENS LITURGY OF THE WORD  
GATHERS  
TOGETHER AT THE 5PM MASS ON  
SATURDAY EVENING AND AT THE 10  
AM MASS ON SUNDAY**





SSPJ Guild Presents 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Family Night Out  
at Rinx Harborfront Port Jefferson



Please join us for a fun evening of Ice Skating and Hot Chocolate  
with SSPJ !!!

Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 6:00pm-7:45pm

Where- The Rinx Harborfront

101 E Broadway, Port Jefferson, NY 11777

\$20 Per Person Includes Admission, Skate Rental and Hot  
Chocolate

Any questions, please contact Andrea Bodon 631-739-3224 or  
Meghan Matera 631-291-3044

---

Please RSVP no later than Monday 2/5/2024

Family Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number of People Attending \_\_\_\_\_

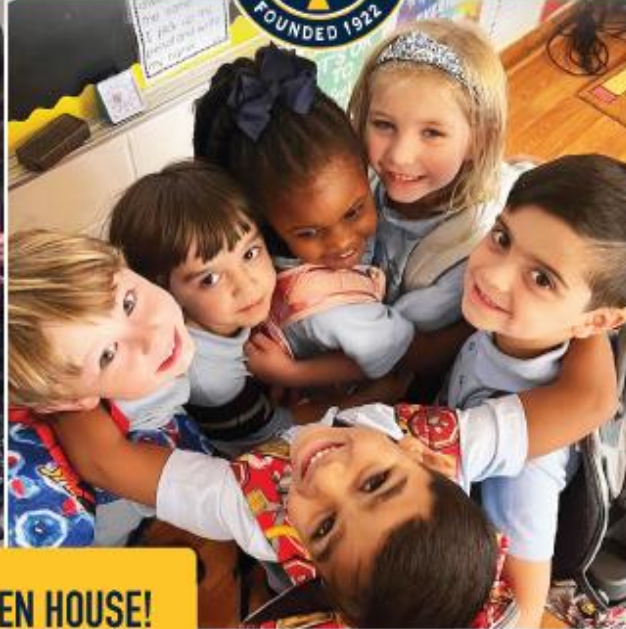
Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Please make Checks Payable to SSPJ School.

NURSERY-8TH GRADE



ST. JAMES, NEW YORK



JOIN US FOR OUR OPEN HOUSE!

**SUNDAY • 1/28/24**

**11:00AM - 1:30PM**

Join us for our Open House and experience our community! Meet our students, parents, and staff! Teachers will invite you into their classrooms and speak with you about academics, extracurricular activities, and faith formation, and will be present to answer any questions you may have.


ALL ARE WELCOME!

### WHY STS. PHILIP & JAMES SCHOOL & ACADEMY?

- For over 100 years, SSPJ has offered academic excellence, which fosters individual growth and development according to time-tested, Catholic faith-based models of teaching and learning.
- SSPJ's primary commitment is to integrate the Gospel message with the spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social, and physical development of students, enabling them to become the leaders of tomorrow.
- SSPJ cultivates a robustly Catholic culture centered on the spiritual, intellectual, sacramental, and liturgical life of the Church.
- SSPJ provides a safe and supportive community that recognizes the dignity of every person and promotes human flourishing in a familial atmosphere.



 [sspjschool.net](http://sspjschool.net)

 (631) 584-7896

 359 CLINTON AVENUE, ST. JAMES, NY 11780

 @SSPJAcademyandSchool

 @SSPJSchool





## A Reflection from Sister Theresita

Dear Friends,

This past weekend I am sure we have all heard the story of the Three Wise Men told in a variety of ways with a variety of messages for the New Year. The message I kept hearing was the need to travel home by another route. There is a lot to unpack in that thought. Where is home, how do I get there, I won't know the way?

These questions suggest moving from the known to the unknown. For us human beings that is one of the hardest things to do. BUT if we don't go home another way we will be stuck in a slump or apathy. Nature is constantly changing and growing, we need to follow that great example.

As I was thinking about this, I received a text that goes as follows. There is no credit given, even though people have tried hard to find its origin. It made me chuckle and think at the same time, here goes:

**Good morning and Welcome to Flight 2024.**

**We are getting prepared to take off into the New Year.**

**Please make sure your Positive Attitude and Gratitude are secured and locked in the upright position.**

**All self-destructive devices: pity, anger, selfishness, pride, and resentment should be turned off at this time. All negativity, hurt and discouragement should be put away. Should you lose your Positive Attitude under pressure during this flight, reach up and pull down a prayer. Prayers will automatically be activated by Faith. Once your Faith is activated, you can assist other passengers who are of little Faith.**

***There will be no baggage allowed on this flight.***

**God, our Captain, has cleared us for take-off. Destination – GREATNESS!**

**Wishing you a New Year filled with new Hope, new Joy, and new Beginnings! Stay Blessed!**

You have to admit it is a great way to travel home by a different route. You might want to copy the little piece and place somewhere you can see it every morning to give you the courage to move on by way of another route and to grow and change during that journey. God is your pilot and the Holy Spirit your co-pilot, FEAR NOT! The way will become clear.

Till next week,  
Sister Theresita



**SSPJ RCIA MINISTRY WELCOMES ALL TO ATTEND RCIA SESSIONS**

**SUNDAYS 9AM-10AM IN THE SSPJ ROOM**

14-Jan	2nd Sunday	Divine Revelation
21-Jan	3rd Sunday	Morality/Ten commandments
28-Jan	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Jesus





## June 2023— July 2024

### Our Year of the Eucharistic Revival

#### *Becoming Spiritual Food*

*Living communion with Christ is anything but being passive and detached from daily life; instead, we grow closer to everyone around us.*

Understanding the Eucharistic sacrifice and our role in it goes beyond just thinking about what Jesus did, Pope Francis says. As we grow into "communion" with Jesus and with others, we ourselves become spiritual food for the world. If we take this call seriously, every encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist opens us up ever more to being of service to others. Jesus wants to be everywhere - and he can be, through us, his disciples. He uses us, as he used the loaves and fishes, to feed the multitudes who surround us every day. We are called to be part of the miracle.

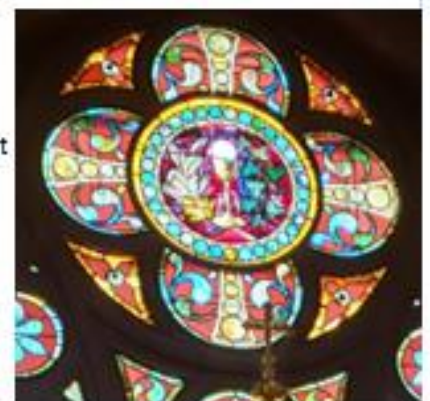
#### **Ponder:**

Am I ready to accept my call to be of service?

#### **Pray:**

God of mystery and wonder, help me to grasp both the enormity and the simplicity of your call, and help me to do it well!

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



# Parish Social Ministry

## Our Food Pantry Needs:

Dinty Moore Stew  
Canned Chicken  
Creamy Peanut Butter  
Chef Boyardee Ravioli

*Thank you for your generosity*



*We remember the family and friends of,*

*Ruth M. Davila*

*Safely Home in the arms of our Lord*

Our world today has become deeply disordered through the exploitation of the resources of nature. Examples of that disorder are climate change, loss of biodiversity, pollution of marine life, and more recently the advent of the deadly coronavirus and its variants. As individuals and as a Christian community, we are called to work together to mitigate this deep disorder through actions that will support the well-being of our common home.



## RESPECT LIFE:

The Respect Life Committee wishes all of you a most Blessed New Year. You have an opportunity to show Our Lord what you can do for Him, thanking Him for all His blessings and for bringing His grace to your family. In the words of Pope Pius XII "There is no surer means of calling down God's blessings upon you and your family than the daily recitation of the rosary!" Won't you join us in reciting the Rosary, Mon thru Fri. 8AM to 8:30AM in Prayer Room?

## 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



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**



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

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Sunday, January 14th, 2024

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

Saturday, January 20th or Sunday, January 21st, 2024



### **The Gospel Message: John 1: 35-42**

Today's reading from the Gospel according to John immediately follows John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus and his identification of Jesus as the Lamb of God.

Having been baptized by John, Jesus begins to gather followers. The first followers sought out Jesus because of the testimony and witness of John the Baptist.

*Dear Jesus,*

*Thank you for this beautiful day.*

*For all the people*

*That love me and care for me.*

*Please help me to*

*Thank YOU MORE.*

*I forget that all my blessings come from you!*

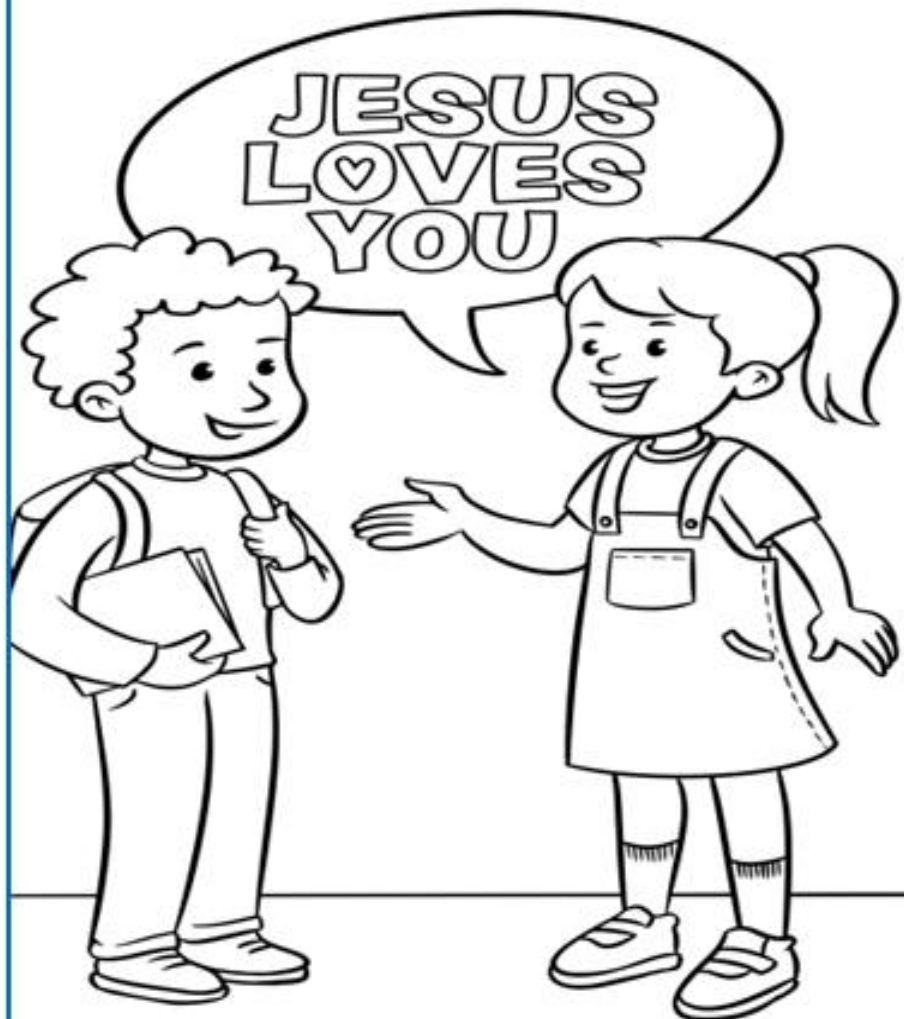
*Help me to look for you and hear your voice.*

*When I go outside help me stop, look and listen.*

*Amen*



I Can Tell My Friends About Jesus  
Coloring Page



Copyright ©Sermons4Kids | All Rights Reserved | [www.sermons4kids.com](http://www.sermons4kids.com)



## My Weekly Sunday Gospel Reflection For Grades 4-6

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Sunday, January 14th, 2024

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

Saturday, January 20th or Sunday, January 21st, 2024



## The Gospel Message: John 1: 35-42

Today's reading from the Gospel according to John immediately follows John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus and his identification of Jesus as the Lamb of God.

Having been baptized by John, Jesus begins to gather followers. The first followers sought out Jesus because of the testimony and witness of John the Baptist.

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for this beautiful day.

For all the people

That love me and care for me.

Please help me to

Thank YOU MORE.

I forget that all my blessings come from you!

Help me to look for you and hear your voice.

When I go outside help me stop, look and listen.

Amen



## Eye Witness Word Search

### God's Eyewitness News

"I have seen and I testify that this is the Son of God."  
John 1:34 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on John 1:29-34 (NIV).



B X Z U N N I T U W J I A N K  
W Z C M E J M X L T T Z R Z N  
N P L V C D W N O Z B C P T O  
I V A D G N S C S E N T U J W  
M E R Z E E E N R L P X Z J L  
H Q G N K L B J E S U S S H Y  
O C Y A V W X A T X E P D R I  
Q L T D O V E O P Q I S I N R  
W S L O O K D K W T C D U P I  
G A P D T Q I E J D I L J W S  
G T T I W O R L D O R Z A R R  
Z V Y E R O H A B N H U E M T  
Q R V G R I K Z K H F N W D B  
N P X T E S T I M O N Y X U F  
B R Y W A H S Q Q B A F T A F

WORLD	BAPTIZE	LAMB	WATER	JOHN
SENT	JESUS	KNOW	SIN	HEAVEN
TESTIMONY	LOOK	SPIRIT	DOVE	TAKES

## My Weekly Sunday Gospel Reflection For Grades 7-8

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Sunday, January 14th, 2024

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

Saturday, January 20th or Sunday, January 21st, 2024



## The Gospel Message: John 1: 35-42

Today's reading from the Gospel according to John immediately follows John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus and his identification of Jesus as the Lamb of God.

Having been baptized by John, Jesus begins to gather followers. The first followers sought out Jesus because of the testimony and witness of John the Baptist.

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for this beautiful day.

For all the people

That love me and care for me.

Please help me to

Thank YOU MORE.

I forget that all my blessings come from you!

Help me to look for you and hear your voice.

When I go outside help me stop, look and listen.

Amen

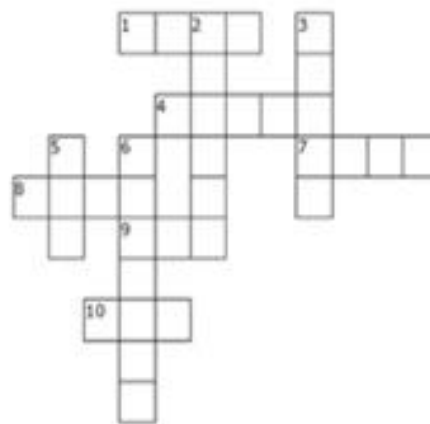


### Eyewitness Crossword

## God's Eyewitness News

Then John gave this testimony: "I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. I have seen and I testify that this is the Son of God." John 1:32,34 (NIV1984)

Based on John 1:29-42



#### ACROSS

1. The man who baptized Jesus
4. A clear, colorless, odorless, and tasteless liquid; H<sub>2</sub>O
7. A young sheep
8. A bird that is a symbol of peace
9. A male descendant
10. To break one of God's commands

#### DOWN

2. The place where God is
3. The earth and everything on it
5. The creator of heaven and earth
6. To make a statement based on personal knowledge

SIN	HEAVEN	LAMB	JOHN	WATER
GOD	DOVE	TESTIFY	WORLD	SON



Reflecting and Preparing for Next Sunday January 21st, 2024  
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Good News**  
INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**Sunday, January 21**

Jon 3:1-5,10  
Ps 25:4-9  
1 Cor 7:29-31  
Mk 1:14-20

Today's Gospel reading is a call to surrender ourselves fully to God. "Now is the time of fulfillment" – not just 2,000 years ago, not at the Second Coming of Christ, but right now in your life when and where you need Jesus the most.

**Monday, January 22**

**Pray for the Legal  
Protection of the Unborn**  
2 Sm 5:1-7,10  
Ps 89:20-22,25-26  
Mk 3:22-30

"The kingdom of God is at hand" – what you need from the Lord is right here, at hand, ready for you.

**Tuesday, January 23**

2 Sm 6:12b-15,17-19  
Ps 24:7-10  
Mk 3:31-35

"Repent, and believe in the gospel" means "Come follow Me and learn from Me to become like Me." For the first disciples, it meant dropping whatever they were doing to spend so much time with Jesus that their whole lives were forever affected.

**Wednesday, January 24**

**St. Francis de Sales**  
2 Sm 7:4-17  
Ps 89:4-5,27-30  
Mk 4:1-20

And this is what it means for you and for me: We have to put aside our own agendas and overly busy schedules to spend more time following Jesus wherever he leads us.

**Thursday, January 25**

**Conversion of St. Paul**  
Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22  
Ps 117:1bc,2  
Mk 16:15-18

In the modern world, we have become more dependent on our technological devices than on Jesus. Many of us cannot even go on vacation without remaining accessible to their employers via the cell phone. Somehow, we need to find a way to take a stand against this.

**Friday, January 26**

**Sts. Timothy and Titus**  
2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5  
Ps 96:1-3,7-8a,10  
Mk 4:26-34

**Saturday, January 27**

2 Sm 12:1-7a,10-17  
Ps 51:12-17  
Mk 4:35-41

It's one of the social justice teachings of the Church: We are actually called by God to rebel against working on Sundays and other days of rest. Why? Because we need to spend that time with Jesus quietly being restored and re-energized.



Unfortunately, Jesus doesn't walk through the door and circle dates on our calendar and write "Rest with Jesus" on it so that we can plan ahead. We have to follow his lead at a moment's notice – every moment. To experience the kingdom of God on the earthly side of heaven, we have to be willing to drop everything to follow Jesus into unfamiliar places at unexpected times. We have to learn to follow his lead even in situations where his way is the surprising way.

**Reflect & Discuss:**

- † What's on your to-do list? What keeps you busy? What are your goals for the future? What are you dreaming of?
- † If Jesus has a different plan for your day or for your life, how easily could you switch over to new ideas and plans?
- † What are some of the nets you've abandoned in the past in order to follow Jesus? How difficult was that to do?
- † Are you happy about it now? Why? How was this an experience of the kingdom of God on earth?



PIETY AND HUMOR

Piety is the enemy of humor, at least whenever something less than piety is masquerading as piety. Here's an example: I once lived in community with an overly serious man who, after someone would tell a colorful joke, would bring us back to earth with the question, "Would you tell a joke like that in front of the Blessed Sacrament?" That not only deflated the joke and its teller, but it also took the oxygen out of the room.

There's a response I would have liked to have given to his question, namely, a joke my Oblate Novice Master used to tell, one whose irony exposes false piety. The joke runs this way: A young woman was getting married and her family could not afford a venue for a reception for the wedding. The parish priest generously offered them the foyer at the entrance of the church, telling them they could bring in a cake and have a reception there. The father of the bride asked whether they might also bring in some liquor. "Absolutely not," the priest replied, "you can't drink liquor in a church!" "But," protested the bride's father, "Jesus drank wine at the wedding feast of Cana." "*But not in front of the Blessed Sacrament!*" replied the priest.

Admittedly, humor can be impious, crass, offensive, dirty, but whenever that's the case the fault normally lies more in the aesthetics than in the content of the joke. A joke isn't offensive because it is about sex or religion or any other area we surround with sacredness. Humor is offensive when it crosses a line in terms of respect, taste, and aesthetics. Humor is offensive when it is bad art. Bad art crosses a line in terms of respect, either vis-à-vis its audience or its subject matter. What can make a joke offensive or dirty is when it is told, or how it is told, or to whom it is told, or the tone in which it is told, or lack of sensitivity to what is being told, or the color of the language as it is being told. Whether or not it can be told before the blessed sacrament isn't a criterion. If a joke shouldn't be told in front of the blessed sacrament it shouldn't be told in front of anyone. There aren't two standards of offensiveness.

Still, bad piety is the enemy of humor. It's also the enemy of robust, earthy living. But that is only the case for bad piety, not genuine piety. Genuine piety is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit and is a healthy reverence before all of life. But it's a reverence that, while healthily respectful, is not offended by humor (even robust, earthy humor) providing the humor isn't aesthetically offensive – akin to nudity which is healthy in art but offensive in pornography.

False sensitivity that masks itself as piety also strips all spirituality of humor, save for the most pious kind. In doing that, in effect, it makes Jesus, Mary, and the saints humorless, and thus less than fully human and healthy. One of our mentors at our Oblate novitiate told us, young novices, that there is not a single incident reported in scripture of Jesus ever laughing. He told us this to dampen our natural, youthful, rambunctious energy, as if this was somehow a hinderance to being religious.

Humorous energy is not a hindrance to being religious. To the contrary. Jesus is the paragon of all that is healthily human, and he, no doubt, was a fully healthy, robust, delightful human person, and none of those words (healthy, robust, delightful) would apply to him if he hadn't had a healthy, indeed earthy, sense of humor.

For fifteen years I taught a course entitled *The Theology of God* to seminarians and others preparing for ministry. I would try to cover all the required basis asked for in the curriculum – biblical revelation, patristic insights, normative church teachings, and speculative views from contemporary theologians. But, inside all of this, like a recurring theme in an opera, I would tell the students this: In all your preaching and teaching and pastoral practices, whatever else, *try not to make God look stupid*. Try not to make God look unintelligent, tribal, petty, rigid, nationalistic, angry, or fearful. Every homily, every theological teaching, every ecclesial practice, and every pastoral practice ultimately reflects an image of God whether we want it to or not. And if there is something less than healthy in our preaching or pastoral practices, the God who underwrites it will also appear as unhealthy. A healthy God does not undergird an unhealthy theology, ecclesiology, or anthropology.

Hence, if we teach a Jesus who is humorless, who takes offense at the earthiness of life, who is uncomfortable hearing the word sex, who flinches at colorful language, and who is afraid to smile and chuckle at irony, wit, and humor, we make Jesus appear as rigid and uptight, a prude, and not the person you want to be beside at table.