



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

631-584-5454

# April 28th, 2024

## The Fifth Sunday of Easter

*"I am the true  
vine and my  
Father is the  
vine grower.  
He takes  
away every  
branch in me  
that does  
not bear  
fruit,  
And  
everyone  
that does he  
prunes so  
that it bears  
more fruit. ."*  
*John 15:1-7*



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

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

## STS. PHILIP & JAMES PASTORAL STAFF

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

Website—[www.sspj.org](http://www.sspj.org)

### PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

Open Monday, Tuesday Wednesday 9am-6pm

Open Thursday 9am-6pm

Closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday

### CLERGY

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

### PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Sister Theresita Donach, CSFN

### BUSINESS MANAGER

Virginia Portanova

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: 631-584-3204

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 1-3

Charlotte Czujko~[cczujko@sspj.org](mailto:cczujko@sspj.org)

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 4-6

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

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 7-8

Dominick Avento~[davento@sspj.org](mailto:davento@sspj.org)

### MUSIC DIRECTOR

Margaret Adams

### COORDINATOR OF PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

Lynn Sisti

### DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

Dominick Avento

### DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES

John Cordes

### SSPJ SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Diane M. Anderson

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

### TRUSTEES

Brendan McGovern ~ Tina Cafaro

### PASTORAL COUNCIL

Michael Sharkey, Lou Guerra, Cynthia Lombardi, Paul Damato  
Lisa Keane, Maureen Burke, Nancy Sanders, Peter Suski, Sheila Cavooris

### Collections: ~

*Thanking you for your generosity*

*Financial Support Needed weekly to meet Parish budget:*

**\$16,700**

### Weekly Collection: Sunday, April 21st, 2024:

Collections from Weekend masses: \$7,637.

Mail Collections: \$1,097.

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

**Total Collection: \$12,108.04**

### BUILDING MAINTENANCE COLLECTION:

**\$3,910.00**

FAITH DIRECT: VISIT [SSPJ.ORG](http://SSPJ.ORG) CLICK ON FAITH DIRECT ICON: USING  
SSPJ PARISH CODE: NY232

### Sacraments

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



LCDR. MEGAN M. SHUTKA-VIK, USN  
CAPT. WILSON MARKS- USN  
CAPT. MICHAEL T. DOLAN- JR. -D.O, US ARMY  
LT. COL. JOHN 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  
CARL JOSEPHSON-USAF  
DANIEL JOSEPHSON-USAF  
SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON-USAF

### LIVE-STREAMING THE 8:00AM SUNDAY MASS

The Sunday mass at 8:am is available to view on our SSPJ Church Facebook page, while it is live at the 8am mass, it can be recalled at any time.

# Father Tom's Letter

Dear Friends,

From shepherd to gardener! In today's gospel Jesus says, "I am the vine; you are the branches." He reminds us that healthy plants need pruning, and that this pruning process brings forth more abundant and stronger blooms. He also says, "Remain in me". That phrase is both very comforting and very challenging, for as Fr. Larry Gillick, SJ, says, *Jesus asks his disciples to "remain" which is different from "stay stuck". Jesus is preparing them for their going out as he himself moves on.* Jesus prepares us to go out as Apostles of Hope, to be active, engaged participants in worship, in service and in community. While the pathway may differ for each of us, we are all called and we are all chosen to be vital branches, witnessing to the hope of our vine, Jesus. Remember, as St. Augustine said hundreds of years ago, *"It is beyond dispute that a vine and its branches are of one and the same stock."*

A happy feast day to all as we celebrate our patrons, Philip and James, on their feast day, this Friday, May 3rd. Like them, we too as Apostles of Hope in our own day are called to bring light into the darkness. During these days of Easter we often hear readings from the Acts of the Apostles. These early disciples, including Philip and James, met the challenges of their days, bringing the Light of Christ to those around them, dispelling darkness and fear, building community and hope. We also live in challenging times, and are also called to dispel darkness and fear and build community and hope. As Apostles of Hope (and branches rooted in the Vine) perhaps this Friday we might pray this prayer written by Anne Osdieck:

*The branches move and live and have their being—in the vine.  
The prayer of the spindly branches is one with the prayer of the anchor vine.  
Abba hears and listens to the beseeching of the vine.*

*Lord, you tell us to ask for whatever we want and it will be done for us.  
We want: no wars, no hunger, no violence, no prejudice, no pandemics,  
no global warming, never suffering children, never suffering immigrants  
We want to learn to love.  
Lord, please hear our prayers. Amen.*

Just a reminder that as the Easter season continues, each Sunday we are blessed with the holy waters of life. This Sprinkling Rite, known as an Asperges, connects us with our baptism as the holy water "rains down" God's love. As we are sprinkled, making the Sign of the Cross is a sign of our commitment to follow Jesus' example of love and service.

And supposedly spring is here, though the temperature doesn't always agree. Have you begun your spring cleaning? Some shared "wisdom":

*Do you know which chore sucks the most? Vacuuming.  
I worked on unclogging the tub for nearly an hour. Now I feel so drained.  
I'm not a fan of spring cleaning. Let's be honest, I'm not into summer, fall, or winter cleaning either.  
You never know what you have until you clean out your closet.  
My house was clean before we sprang forward. Guess you'll have to come back when we fall back.  
If spring is all about cleaning, what season is dedicated to making a mess?*

Peace,

*Father Tom*

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

# Mass Intentions, For the week of April 28th, 2024

*All are invited  
To spend quiet moments  
With our Lord and Savior, Jesus  
Christ  
Eucharistic Adoration is held  
Monday's from 1:30-7pm  
In church*



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

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

Joseph Domizzio  
Judy Rampola  
Joe Dorrian  
Joseph Costa  
Joseph Domizzio  
Kaitlyn Remhild  
Kathleen Draper  
Kathleen N.  
Kerry  
Karl Walz  
Kitty Cronin  
Kristin Galetta  
Larry Baldwin  
Lauretta Prague  
Laura Bode  
Leon Donach  
Lola Santangelo  
Lori Cearney  
Marjorie Fox  
Mary Monte  
Margaret Remhild  
Mark Hildreth  
Mark Wagner  
Mary Ryan  
Marie Feicco  
Maria Clark  
Maria Collaro  
Marie del Ciello  
Maureen Litten  
Mary Ann Cesarski  
Mary Beth McGovern  
Matthew Parrella  
Michael Fisher  
Mike Lofaro  
Michael  
Nick Lella  
Patrice Henry  
Patricia Acker  
Pasquale Savarese  
Pat McCumber  
Peter Donach  
Peter Portanova  
Ricardo Buffit  
Rob Remhild & Family  
Riordan Cavooris  
Rogelio Martinez  
Ronnie Paciella  
Rose  
Ryan Duffy  
Sara Jean Andersen  
Stanley Stura  
Stephen Dolce  
Susanne Smith  
Tonia Perdue  
Tara Cesarski  
Teresa Matterna  
Tina Cafaro  
Tiffany Lochan  
Thomas Liffrieri  
Tom Ryan  
Tom Focone  
Vivien & John  
Cordes  
Wayne Smith Sr.

<b>Saturday April 27th Cantor: LoCastro</b>	<i>Presider: Father Tom Lector: Tomasino/Healy EM: Licari/Rapp/Anderson/ Byrne/Damato</i>	9:15am  5:00pm	<i>James Hanrahan  Stephen &amp; Dolores Cea</i>
<b>Sunday April 28th Cantor: Lupinacci</b>	<i>Presider: Father Tom Lector: Czujko/Halluska EM: Czujko/Dervan/Diaz/ Dunn/Kenney</i>	8:00am	<i>For the People of SSPJ Parish</i>
<b>Cantor: Lupinacci</b>	<i>Presider: Father Joe Lector: Cavooris/Koke EM: Conti/Napolitano/ Amen/McKie/Kaleita/ Consenz</i>	10:00am	<i>Sarah Wilder</i>
<b>Cantor: Hill</b>	<b><u>Collective Mass</u></b> <i>Presider: Father Joe Lector: Rubano/Geier EM: Chilton/Latino/ C &amp; V Rubano</i>	12:00pm	<i>Rev. Richard Hendel Tom Collins Mary Kay Awalt Geraldine Szymanski</i>
<b>Monday April 29th St Catherine of Sienna</b>		7:30am  9:15am	<i>Mary D. Vanek  Margaret Olsen</i>
<b>Tuesday April 30th</b>	<b>St. Pius V</b>	7:30am  9:15am	<i>Maureen Scheibe  Robert Miller</i>
<b>Wednesday May 1st</b>	<b>St. Joseph the Worker</b>	7:30am  9:15am	<i>Denise Hervey  Guiliana Ortiz</i>
<b>Thursday May 2nd</b>	<b>St. Athanasius</b>	7:30am  9:15am	<i>Francisco Loquere <u>Collective Mass:</u></i>
<b>Friday May 3rd</b>	<b>Sts. Philip &amp; James</b>	7:30am  9:15am	<i>Russell Armstrong  Maria Fazio</i>
<b>Saturday May 4th Cantor: LoCastro</b>	<i>Presider: Father Joe Lector: DeRosa/Thompson EM: Duffy/Sisti/Anderson/ Byrne/Taurassi</i>	9:15am  5:00pm	<i>Mary Catherine Jensen  Lauren Csorny</i>
<b>Sunday May 5th Cantor: Meringolo</b>	<i>Presider: Father Joe Lector: Sehne/Cavooris EM: Clarke/Dervan/Diaz/ Koke/LaSerra</i>	8:00am	<i>For the People of SSPJ Parish</i>
<b>Cantor: Hill</b>	<i>Presider: Father Jude Lector: Contrino/Baker EM: Licari/Calderone/ Consenz/Amen/Luna/ Sotomayer</i>	10:00am	<i>Harry Schrader and Sharon Dorsathe Schrader and family</i>
<b>Cantor: Hill</b>	<b><u>Collective Mass</u></b> <i>Presider: Father Jude Lector: Franco/Geier EM: Chilton/Napolitano/ Settineri/Stack</i>	12:00pm	<i>Msgr. Charles Guarino Msgr. Clarence Murphy Thomas O'Brien Maria Fazio</i>



*Our Bread & Wine are offered  
For this blessed week of April 28th, 2024  
In thanksgiving for,  
Virginia Portanova  
For the faith, dedication, compassion,  
and encouragement your heart extends  
to each and every heart  
that "comes to the table..."  
You are loved~  
A humble Servant*

## A VINEYARD CALL TO WORSHIP

(For John 15:1-8)

**God is the True Vine,  
And we are the branches.  
Connected to God.  
Connected to bear fruit!  
Connected to God.  
Or we wither away.  
Connected to God.  
Or useless!  
We come to worship God, who is the True  
Vine.  
God, teach us how to remain connected  
so that we might bear good fruit!**

Safiyah Fosua, <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/god-is-the-true-vine-21st-century-worship-resources-for-the-fifth-sunday-of>

## SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND ~ MAY 4TH AND MAY 5TH FOR CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS



## Invest in the Future of Our Church!

Support Catholic education  
on Long Island!

100% of your donation supports Catholic school students. Half goes directly to your local Catholic school, and half supports scholarships for students throughout Long Island attending our Catholic schools.



Give to the Second Collection during Mass:  
Saturday, May 4th | Sunday, May 5th



**THURSDAY, MAY 9TH, 2024  
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD  
CELEBRATED AT 5:00PM ON WEDNESDAY MAY 8TH  
AND ON  
THURSDAY, MAY 9TH  
AT 7:30AM/ 9:15AM/ AND 7:00PM**

## A BOUQUET OF PEOPLE

Let us give thanks for a bouquet of people.  
We give thanks for children. Like tulips and iris, they multiply around us, making the world ever more filled with color, beauty, and new life. May we bless them as they replant themselves ever further from us, knowing that they need their own space to grow into.

We give thanks for generous friends, as constant in bloom as echinacea and whose gifts lift up our body and spirit.

We give thanks for feisty friends as indomitable as geraniums, and for continuous friends, who, like bittersweet and ivy, hold on and never let go...and can never be gotten rid of.

For crotchety friends, as prickly as rosebushes; their beauty a secret that is only discovered through careful gardening.

For surprising friends, who at first glance seem dour and then blossom into joy as quickly as forsythia.

For funny friends, silly as snapdragons,  
And serious friends, complex as chrysanthemums.

For comfortable friends, their gentle presence as soothing as the sweet smell of lilacs.

For stormy weather friends, who stand by us in hard times, like lily of the valley that cannot be deterred by shade or shadow.

For old friends, nodding like sunflowers in the evening-time  
And young friends coming on fast as phlox.

For friends as unpretentious as dogwood,  
as persistent as pachysandra,  
as steadfast as azalea,  
and who, like snowdrops, can be counted on to see you through the winter and remind you that spring always comes.

For loving friends, who wind around us like wisteria and embrace us, despite our blights, wilts, and witherings,  
And, finally, for forget-me-not friends, gone but never forgotten. Their beauty lives on in our memories and hearts.

For this bouquet of people, who brighten our lives each in their own way, we give thanks.

Amen.



HIS WORDS.  
YOUR JOURNEY.  
TOGETHER.

**Jesus invites us to come out of the tomb of our fears. Listen closely: come out of the tombs of our fears, since our fears are like tombs, they bury us. He knows that fear is always lurking at the door of our heart, and we need to hear repeated "do not be afraid, fear not, do not be afraid."**

April 18th, 2024

## Music Notes...

**Wow the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter already.**

**We Need You!!!**

**Baptism Music needs guitar, flute, and singers. It's a bite sized piece of your time and greatly needed.**

**Please consider helping. The music is the same so it's simple and easy Cantors for Mass are also needed. Teens and Adults.**

**Contact Margaret Adams at the Music Office for more info or stop by and see me at church.**

**Looking forward to meeting you.**

**Sing a Hymn to Him!!**



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

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

## MID-SUMMER GOLF CLASSIC

JULY 17, 2024

CRAB MEADOW GOLF COURSE. NORTHPORT

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

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



### Honorees Arthur Dunn & Jack Steele



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



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

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

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

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

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

(includes Driving Range, Cart, Lunch, Dinner)

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

#### SPONSORSHIPS

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

#### Sponsor Information

Please Make Checks Out To:  
 Sts. Philip & James K of C Council #12839  
 PO Box 201 St. James, NY 11780  
 Credit Card & More Info: Scan QR Code



#### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CONTACT : TOM SICA (631)521-4771  
 SIKACHU45@HOTMAIL.COM



## *The Sacrament of Baptism Celebrated*



*God's Abundance of blessings upon*

*The Cortazar Family!*

*James, a second grader at SSPJ School*

*Jayden, in kindergarten at SSPJ School*

*And, Isabella who is in nursery school at SSPJ!*

*Congratulations on your blessed Baptism Day!*



**The SSPJ Parking Lot Gardens have Come To Life~  
Thanks to SSPJ Youth Group**

*SSPJ Youth Group planted bulbs around the SSPJ grounds and added some decorative rocks to the prayer garden last Saturday. Our next meeting will be on Saturday, May 18th. All seventh and eighth graders are welcome!*





# Parish Social Ministry

## Our Food Pantry Needs:

FULLY STOCKED  
AT THE MOMENT

Thank you so very much!



*Prayer Blankets will be blessed at the 8AM Mass on Sunday, May 5.*

*If a family member or friend could use the love and prayers of the SSPJ family, please take one for them.*

*Volunteers are needed to make additional prayer blankets for the sick and infirm.*

*If you can help, please call Parish Social Ministry to leave your name and phone number.*



## *Caring for Our Creation*

*Earth's natural resources include air, water, soil, minerals, plants, and animals.*

*Conservation is the practice of caring for these resources so all living things can benefit from them now and in the future.*

# RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

*It's not too late in this beautiful Easter Season to help us with donations! Please check your closets,*

*garage, and other storage areas. Home for mothers*

*could use your unused strollers, car seats, booster seats,*

*cribs and strollers.*

*Please drop donations off at 57 Tilotson Ave, St. James.*

## 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



## 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**

# We are at 55% of Goal! TOGETHER, WE WILL REACH IT!

## TOTALS RECEIVED AS OF

April 24th, 2024

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

**PLEDGES: \$56,405. PAYMENTS: \$39,905.**



*"By being with Jesus, we discover that his pastoral heart always beats for the person who is confused, lost, far away,"*

- Pope Francis

**Your donation to the Catholic Ministries Appeal helps Catholic Charities and Parish Outreach provide love, care, and spiritual nourishment to those in need.**

When Amanda's mom passed away in 2019, her mom's ex-husband left, leaving her three stepsisters alone with the threat that they would be put in foster care. Without any hesitation she took the children in to care for them. *"It's been a hard battle. We were homeless and in bad situations, but I know that God will not give you something you can't handle. You must keep the faith and push forward. With the help of the Parish Social Ministry program at St. John the Evangelist, Center Moriches, I was able to get through this hardship. In addition to food, the PSM has helped me to renew my lapsed insurance license and assisted in paying bills. If I need to talk to anyone, I can call or email to make an appointment. They have been there for me through everything. I really appreciate all they do for me and for everyone else. It is a blessing. They are angels on earth."*

- Amanda, Client of St. John the Evangelist's Parish Outreach



The Director of the Parish Outreach, Katie Spellman, shared how her work allows her to grow in her faith. *"Working in Parish Social Ministry has taken my faith outside of the Church. It's an opportunity for me to dig deeper into faith and think of the humble servant. It's a gift for me to work here - it feeds my soul."*

Please make check payable to the **Catholic Ministries Appeal**

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

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

City, State and Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

To make a donation, you can also visit <https://www.drvc.org/CMA/> or call us at 516-678-5800 ext. 296.

THANK YOU

**2024**

**CATHOLIC  
MINISTRIES  
APPEAL**

DIocese of Rockville Centre

*Revitalizing our Faith -  
Renewed by the Eucharist*



Dear Friends:

A Blessed and Happy Easter! We entered this season of Easter seeing the many difficulties facing our world and community. Through it all, the People of God on Long Island continue to be inspired by the Word of God and devoted to being instruments of Eucharistic Revival.

Pope Francis reminds us that *"The Eucharist impels us to a strong and committed love of neighbor, for we cannot truly understand or live the meaning of the Eucharist if our hearts are closed to our brothers and sisters, especially those who are poor, suffering, weary or may have gone astray in life."*

So crucial to our work as instruments of Eucharistic Revival are the funds raised by the Catholic Ministries Appeal. Those funds help us to strengthen our mission and be present in ministry to so many people throughout our beloved Diocese. We can provide programs and services to our parishes, offer hope to those in need, nurture the faith of our youth, college students, and young adults, and support formation for our deacons, lay leaders, and seminarians.

Ordained in 2023, Rev. Stephen McClernon shared why the Appeal was so important to his formation. *"The CMA has been influential in my life. One of the ministries it supports is the Holy Hours for Vocations at the Seminary. We gather young people from across the Island to hold Eucharistic Adoration. During my college years, this experience was a big part of my faith and my decision to become a priest. The Catholic Ministries Appeal has helped foster my vocation to the priesthood."*

Thank you for prayerfully considering a gift to the 2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal. Please pray for the success of this year's Appeal and for those who are supported by it.

You and your loved ones are remembered in my prayers and Masses. May the Risen Lord guide and strengthen you in this Easter season.

Sincerely in Christ

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John O. Barres". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Most Reverend John O. Barres  
Bishop of Rockville Centre

# ALWAYS GREAT NEW AT SSPJ SCHOOL!!

The graduating class of 2024 continues to shine and answer the call to be Apostles of Hope.

We have 4 new members of the Lector Ministry, making that a total of 9 so far this year!

Congratulations and God bless Erin for being the 6th member!

Congratulations and God bless Ryan for being the 7th member!

Congratulations and God bless Fiona for being the 8th member!

Congratulations and God bless Isabella for being the 9th member!

A great big THANK YOU to Miss Rita for preparing our students so well!



Happy  
Administrative  
Professionals Day to  
two of the best.

Thank you  
Mrs. Hensen and  
Mrs. Long for all that  
you do for our  
students, families,  
faculty and staff each  
and every day!

You are blessings to  
SSPJ School.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS  
A FUN WAY TO CELEBRATE GRATITUDE! A SIGN MAKING EVENT!

## CDA celebrates Mother's Day



A



B



C



D



E



F

### St. Phillip & St. James Roman Catholic Church

1 Carow Place Saint James, NY

Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm

\$45.00 per person

Includes all art materials to create one of the beautiful wood signs above.

.....  
**Choose 1 Design:** A      B      C      D      E      F

**Choose 1 Background Color:** \*White    \*Off White (Sheep Skin)    \*Light Gray

**Choose 2 Letter Colors:** \*White \*Medium Gray \* Light Blue \*Black \*Tuscan Red

Please RSVP by Saturday, 4/27 with your name, 1 design choice,  
1 background color and 2 letter colors. Please make checks payable to  
CDA Court Anna Theresa #1074 and drop off at SSPJ rectory/school.

Please contact Jeanine Cullen at 631-871-9973  
or [jenninecullen@me.com](mailto:jenninecullen@me.com) with any questions.



# CONGRATULATIONS TO SSPJ SCHOOL'S APRIL APOSTLES OF HOPE! WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!

## SSPJ Apostles of Hope April 2024

### Nursery

**James Boyle** is an Apostle of Hope. James walks in our classroom with a big smile, ready to learn. He loves to participate in songs to praise God and has learned all the Nursery prayers. He greets his friends with kindness and loves to share at playtime. James is always ready to tell his family about his great day at school and how much he loves SSPJ.

### Pre-K

**Edward Stefanowski** is an Apostle of Hope. Eddie arrives at school and greets his classmates with happiness. He always has a story to share and is a good storyteller. Eddie knows his prayers and bible stories and often shares this knowledge with his friends during religion lessons. He has great pride in his mother who cantors during our school Masses. Eddie is a good student who takes his time with his work and he is happy to lend a helping hand to others when needed.

### Kindergarten

**Christiana Gregory** is an Apostle of Hope. Christiana is an active participant in religion. She loves to learn about Jesus! Christiana says her prayers loud and proud! Christiana attends Mass with her family and participates in children's liturgy. She is exceptionally kind to everyone around her. Christiana has prayed to Jesus to help her with her school work. She put her trust in Him and she is doing so well in school! She knows that all she needs is faith and she can do anything! Christiana's actions show that she is a true follower of Jesus!

### Grade 2

**Juliette Pantke** is an Apostle of Hope. Juliette always listens and participates during religion lessons. She loves learning about Jesus and how we can be like Him. Juliette always sits peacefully and listens during Mass, setting a great example for her classmates. Juliette has worked so hard to learn her prayers, to say them loudly and confidently during Mass. She is so excited to receive communion next month!

### Grade 3

**Daniel Wille** is an Apostle of Hope. Daniel comes in each day ready to begin his day of learning and put his best foot forward. Daniel is reverent during prayers and our weekly Masses with fourth grade. Daniel attends Mass with his family and completes his reflections. Daniel understands the importance of the liturgy and the sacraments. He is continuing to grow in his faith and is a true disciple of Jesus.

### Grade 4

**Aaron Frezza** is an Apostle of Hope. Aaron is a good friend to his peers and is always ready to lend a helping hand. He shows respect to all of the SSPJ staff and his friends. Aaron attends Mass with his family, knows all of his prayers and hands in his weekly reflections. He is an altar server and takes this responsibility very seriously. Aaron is a true Apostle of Hope.

### Grade 5

**Akira Sharma** is an Apostle of Hope. Akira is always reverent during the morning and afternoon prayer. She actively participates in the grade level Mass and reflects on the weekly gospel readings. During religion, Akira is always eager to learn and enjoys learning about the Saints. Akira displays daily acts of kindness to her teachers and classmates. She is always willing to help her classmates and is an excellent peer role model. Akira is doing an outstanding job answering the call to be an Apostle of Hope.



### Grade 6

**Ariella Charles** is an Apostle of Hope. Ariella regularly volunteers to be an altar server during class Masses, as well as at Sunday Mass. Ariella is an excellent student in all subject areas, and she especially shines in religion class, where her deep faith is evident. Ariella is a fantastic role model for her Nursery Buddy. Ariella's friendliness, kindness, and generosity towards her classmates and teachers offer a beautiful example of how to follow Jesus.

### Grade 7

**Calvin Gaspard** is an Apostle of Hope. Calvin's commitment to becoming a better academic student is evident through his resilience and determination. He realizes that with effort and perseverance anything is achievable. Additionally, Calvin's service as an altar server exemplifies his role as a source of inspiration and possibility. Calvin is a follower of Jesus.

### Grade 8

**Monica Rocco** is an Apostle of Hope. Monica attends Mass with her family on Sundays and submits her weekly reflections. Academically, Monica is motivated and works hard towards her studies. In addition, Monica treats others the way Jesus would. She is kind to her peers and respectful to the SSPJ staff. During lunch duty, she is attentive and caring to the younger students, always looking to help. Monica shows us every day through her actions what an Apostle of Hope is meant to be.

### Faculty

**Mrs. Lamattina** is an Apostle of Hope. Mrs. Lamattina is finishing up her second leave replacement since retiring from SSPJ. Her dedication, cooperation, hard work and love of teaching are evident. She has been a welcome member of the faculty, bringing her sharp wit and kindness. She is a follower of Jesus, giving up her free time, showing her love of Catholic education.

**Mrs. Falco** is an Apostle of Hope. Mrs. Falco is our technology and art teacher. In addition to these positions, she spearheads the technology in the building as well as moderates two clubs: art and drama, and is overseeing the creation of a school Yearbook. Her creativity, dedication and kindness to her students are apparent. She has committed to the task of producing our school play, overseeing the set, and creating a playbill. Her rapport with the students, faculty and staff is commendable. Mrs. Falco is a follower of Jesus.

## Sister T's Weekly Reflection...

Dear Friends,

If you remember last week I shared with you **The Stations of the Resurrection**. Virginia our Business Manager who introduced me to these stations, took some time this last week and reflected on them. I wish to share with you some of her musings. Hopefully they will touch your heart and fill you for the week. Be blessed.

*“The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the central event in Christianity, signifying victory over sin and death. It is the “cornerstone” of our belief. The resurrection of Christ represents the fulfillment of God’s promise of salvation and eternal life. Jesus’ resurrection proves that he IS the Son of God and the savior of humanity.*

*Praising the resurrection of Christ causes us, his believers, to acknowledge the profound impact it has on our lives. In praising we express gratitude for God’s grace and mercy inviting the forgiveness of sins and the promise of new life with Christ. The resurrection offers hope and assurance that death is not the end but a passage to eternal life in communion with God.*

*The resurrection reminds us of God’s faithfulness and promise to those who believe in him and inspires us to live with faith and hope. We are encouraged to embrace the transformative power of the resurrection in our lives allowing it to model our values, attitude, and actions. We are called to celebrate the victory over darkness and evil signifying the restoration of humanity’s relationship with God.*

*Marking the triumph of light over darkness and life over death it is a reason to joyfully celebrate. Christ’s resurrection is an invitation to deepen our understanding of God’s love and salvation. We know that through Christ’s resurrection we are reconciled with God, and we look forward to the hope and promise of life beyond the earthly realm with God in heaven.*

*As Christians, we are called to die to our old selves and to be born anew in Christ, living a life guided by righteousness, compassion, and love. We believe that Jesus is present with us through the Holy Spirit, whom he promised to send after his resurrection. The Holy Spirit serves as a comforter, a guide, an advocate, fostering our relationship with God encouraging us to live according to the teachings of Jesus.*

*While Jesus physically ascended into heaven, we believe he remains present with us through the gift of the Holy Spirit.”*

During this week I pray that Virginia’s words will stir in your heart and help you to continue celebrating this beautiful Resurrection Season.

Till next week  
Sister Theresita

PLEASE SUPPORT SSPJ TROOP 7  
ON MAY 4TH OR IF IT RAINS, MAY 5TH!

# TROOP 7 SCOUT CAR WASH AND PLANT SALE



WHERE: St James Firehouse (25A / Lake Ave)

Date: Saturday 5/4/2024 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

RainDate: Sunday 5/5/2024 10:00 am - 4:00 pm)



**CARWASH**





# Reflecting and Preparing for Next Sunday, May 5th, 2024 The Sixth Sunday of Easter

## Good News INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

### 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024: Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48 | Ps  
98:1-4 | 1 Jn 4:7-10 | Jn 15:9-17

**Pray:** My Lord and my God, abide in me, dwell in me, work with me, and love others through me so my joy will be complete. Amen.

#### Know Christ, Love Christ, and Love Christ in Others.

“Love one another as I have loved you,” says Jesus. At the heart of all Christian faith are the words of the apostle John, who says that God’s very being is love. “God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him.” In today’s Gospel, Jesus says, “You are to love one another....it is I who chose you.”

Has God chosen us to love everyone? Some people are easy to love, especially those who act and think like us. At times, though, it can be difficult to show love towards family and friends we generally like, let alone those outside our circle of friendship. Why is this? The main reason we have trouble loving others is sin, both ours and the sin of those we are trying to love. Without the power and grace of God, we can be very selfish. Without God’s grace, it’s easier for us to love ourselves and prioritize our own time, wants, needs, and narrow-minded wills than to love others through the eyes of God, whose holy will is always in our best interest.

Jesus never promised that love would be easy. He showed love and compassion to everyone, even those who mocked and hated Him. He embodied love in all His words and deeds, showing love back to those who hurt Him and those nobody else seemed to care about. He especially loved the poor, vulnerable, marginalized, and excluded. Jesus was unafraid to show love by setting



healthy boundaries, sharing hard truths with the lost, and giving correction and forgiveness to those who repented to direct them on the right path.

God’s love is divine, and we are mere humans with too much reliance on our feelings and selfish

attitudes, so how can we possibly love everyone as God commands? God demonstrated His love for us through the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus, His only Son, who suffered, died, and rose again to save us. He showed us that love is a sacrifice of ourselves for others. The more we know Jesus, the more we love Him, and we will want to love Christ as reflected in the faces of others. Every time we receive Christ’s Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist and we trust in the Holy Spirit to guide us, Jesus strengthens us to love as He loves.

#### Reflect & Discuss:

- † How have you experienced God’s love for you? How have you seen God’s love revealed in the lives of others?
- † How can you give the love of Christ to someone this week? How can we love others by sharing Christ’s truth and hope?
- † How does loving others fulfill our joy in the Lord?
- † How does receiving the Eucharist help us to love others better?

## CIVILITY HAS LEFT THE BUILDING

Why do we no longer get along with each other? Why is there such bitter polarization inside of our countries, our neighborhoods, our churches, and even in our families? Why do we feel so unsafe in many of our conversations where we are perpetually on guard so as not to step on some political, social, or moral landmine?

We all have our own theories on why this is, and mostly we choose our news channels and friends to bolster our own views. Why? Why this bitter polarization and nastiness among us?

Well, let me suggest an answer from an ancient source, scripture. In the Hebrew scriptures (our Old Testament), the prophet Malachi offers us this insight on the origins of polarization, division, and hatred. Echoing the voice of God, he writes: "Therefore, I have made you contemptible and base before all the people, since you do not keep my ways, *but show partiality in your decisions*. Have we not all the one Father? Has not the one God created us? *Why do we break faith with one another?*"

Isn't this particularly apropos for us today, given all the polarization and hatred in our houses of government, our churches, our communities, and our families, where for the most part we no longer respect each other and struggle even to be civil with each other? We have broken faith with each other. Civility has left the building.

Moreover, this afflicts both sides of the ideological, political, social, and ecclesial spectrums. Both sides have their particular ideological wings which are scornfully unsympathetic to those who don't share their view, paranoid about hidden conspiracies, rigidly uncompromising, and disrespectful and belittling of anyone who does not share their perspective. And, for the most part, they preach, advocate, and practice hatred – believing that all this is done in service of God, truth, moral cause, enlightenment, freedom, or nationalism.

Someone once said, not everything can be fixed or cured, but it should be named properly. That's the case here. We need to name this. We need to say out loud, this is wrong. We need to say out loud that none of this can be done in the name of love. And we need to say out loud that we may never rationalize hatred and disrespect in the name of God, the Bible, truth, moral cause, freedom, enlightenment, or anything else.

This needs to be named, irrespective of wherever we find ourselves amid all the divisive and hate-filled debates that dominate public discourse today. Each of us needs to examine himself or herself vis-a-vis our partiality, namely, how little we even want to understand the other side, how much disrespect we have for some people, how civility is often absent from our speech, and how much hatred has unconsciously crept into our lives.

After this, we need a second self-scrutiny. The word "sincere" comes from two Latin words (*sine – without* and *cere – wax*). To be sincere is to be "without wax", to be your real self, outside of others' influence. But that's not easy. How we picture ourselves, what we believe, and our view on most anything at a given moment is heavily colored by our personal history, our wounds, who we live with, what work we do, who our colleagues and friends are, the country we live in, and the political, social, and religious ideologies we inhale with the air we breathe. It's not easy to know what we really think or feel about a given issue. Am I sincere or is my reaction predicated more on who my friends and colleagues are and where I get my news? At the core of my being, who am I really, without wax?

Given our struggle for sincerity, particularly in our present climate of division, disrespect, and hatred, we might ask ourselves, how much of what I am passionate about enough to generate hatred inside me, is really rooted in sincerity as opposed to ideology or my instinctual emotional or intellectual reaction toward something I dislike?

This is not easy to answer, understandably so. We are pathologically complex as human persons, and the quest for sincerity is the quest of a lifetime. However, while on that journey towards sincerity there are some non-negotiable human and spiritual rules. The biblical prophet Malachi names one of them: "Do not show partiality in your decisions and do not break faith with each other". When we parse that out, what is it saying?

Among other things, this: You have a right to struggle, to disagree with others, to be passionate for truth, to be angry sometimes, and (yes) even to feel hateful occasionally (since hate is not the opposite of love, indifference is). But you may never preach hatred and division or advocate for them in the name of goodness; instead, in that place inside you where sincerity resides, you need to nurse a congenital distrust of anyone who does proactively advocate for hatred and division.

Civility has left the building.