



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

631-584-5454

October 1st, 2023

The Twenty Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time



"Amen, I say to you,
Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of
God before you." Matthew 21:32

"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, September 24th, 2023:

Collections from Weekend masses: \$8,033.

Collections from mail: \$ 955.

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

Total Collections: \$12,362.04

Collection for Retired Priests sent directly to DRVC

**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

CAPT. MICHAEL T. DOLAN- JR. -D.O, US ARMY

LT. COL. JOHN KAIRE

SPC. NICOLE A. CANNON

SGM. MICHAEL P. BORRELLI-US ARMY

CAPT. JOHN TULLY- USN

LT. COL. JAMES TULLY-US ARMY

JOSEPH SAGGIO- USNC

CAPTAIN PAUL WILLMS

STAFF SGT. MICHAEL LONGHENRY

LT. COL. PAUL T. JACKSON-

STAFF SGT ALEXANDER PARRELLA-USAF

RICHARD SOTOMAYER- USAF

SGT. CONNOR F. SCOTT- USMC

SGT. CORY O'HARA -USMC

CDR. ROBERT J. MARSH-USN

PFC. CHARLES CHRISTOPHER HOWELL

STEVEN CAVA-USN

ERIC SEELIN- USMC

CW2 CHRIS MUNZ

CW2 NATASHA WORTMAN

CORPORAL JAMES T. CASEY-USMC

SGT. JOSHUA MAHONEY- US ARMY

KEVIN JONES-USCG

PRIVATE JOSHUA OLSEN-USARNG

GLEN CRIMA-US ARMY

MARIO CATANIA-USMC

RYAN ANTHONY NASCIMENTO-USMC

KYLE ANTHONY NASCIMENTO-US ARMY

ENS. RYAN M. SHOWS -USN

STAFF SGT. RYAN REXRODE-USMC

DR. KARA VANDEKIEFT, COL.-USAF

SGT. STEPHEN D. OUTCAULT-USMC

PAUL MUMOLO-USN

VICTORIA ZEMAN, USCG

KYLE J. GRUNER -US ARMY

MARK GIORDANO—US COASTGUARD

KELLI MCLAUGHLIN- LT. US ARMY NATL.GUARD

1 LT MICHAEL J BANG—MILITARY INTELLIGENCE US ARMY

MATTHEW PATRICK GALLAGHER US ARMY

LT. COMMANDER CHRISTOPHER SHANK MD

MIDN ERIN NICASTRO, USN.

MAJ. BRENDAN JOHNSTON-USAF

CHRISTOPHER A. HIONIDIS-USAF

EMMETT MOLONEY -USN

HANK MOLONEY—USAF

LIVE-STREAMING THE 8:00AM SUNDAY MASS

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

Father Tom's Letter

Dear Friends,

Jesus' simple story today of the two sons takes the gospel out of the realm of the "theoretical", and places the mercy of God into the midst of our messy, complicated every day lives. Compassion, forgiveness and mercy are only words until our actions give full expression to those values in our relationships with others; our calling ourselves Christians, and disciples of Jesus means nothing until our lives express that identity in the values we uphold and the beliefs we live. Discipleship requires us to embrace the gospel not as a set of idealistic assumptions or abstract concepts, but as the rule by which we struggle to live our imperfect lives.

October is Respect Life month and we will pray in the prayer of the faithful during the month in thanksgiving for the gift of our lives, and the lives of all we encounter. We pray for an end to abortion, the death penalty and euthanasia in our country and in the world. We pray for an end to war. We pray for those who hold public office, that they enact laws to respect, and uphold the dignity of every person.

The diocese has announced training dates for those who would like to become readers and extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist. Hopefully you'll consider the invitation and send me a short note describing your interest and I will be in contact with you.

We have many exciting things coming up in the month of October:

Why not come down and join some friends as we celebrate our annual Oktoberfest on October 15 from 4 to 7 PM. Details can be found in the bulletin.

As we continue our Eucharistic revival, we have a wonderful opportunity: Dr. Tom Petriano, the chair of the religious studies department at St. John's University, an excellent presenter will be here on October 16th, 23rd and 30th at 7 PM in the Bethany center. Further details can be found in the flyer in today's bulletin.

On October 18th we're offering a special evening for those involved in liturgical ministry, members of the school board, members of the pastoral council, and the finance committee. The evening actually is open to everyone. Bishop Andrzej will give a presentation on the Eucharistic Revival.

That weekend, there will be a recommissioning of all those involved in liturgical ministries at each of the masses.

On October 21, the Knights of Columbus will join us at the 5 PM mass after which they will install their new officers.

On October 29 at the 12 PM mass we will have the opportunity for married couples to gather and renew their wedding vows. A reception will follow in the school auditorium. Those wishing to join are asked to leave their names and what number anniversary you are celebrating at the rectory.

And finally:

I just don't know how a cemetery can raise burial prices, and blame it on cost of living.

Did you know? You can distinguish an alligator from a crocodile by paying attention to whether the animal sees you later or in a while.

They say we can have gatherings with up to eight people without issues. I don't even know eight people without issues.

Peace,

Father Tom

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

Mass Intentions, For the week of October 1st, 2023

**Eucharistic
Adoration**
New Time Schedule
Effective Monday,
October 2nd:

From 3:00-5:00PM
In the Church



We Pray for those who are ill...

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

Judy Rampola
Joe Dorrian
Joseph Costa
Joseph Domizzio
Kaitlyn Remhild
Kathleen Draper
Kathleen N.
Kerry
Kitty Cronin
Kristin Galetta
Laura Bode
Leon Donach
Lola Santangelo
Lori Cearney
Mary Monte
Marty Rizzo
Margaret Remhild
Mark Wagner
Mary Ryan
Maria Clark
Maria Collaro
Marie del Ciello
Maureen Litten
Mary Ann Cesarski
Mary Beth McGovern
Matthew Parrella
Michael Fisher
Mike Lofaro
Michael
Nick Lella
Patricia Acker
Patricia Trippertree
Pasquale Savarese
Pat McCumber
Peter Donach
Peter Portanova
P.I.
Phil Giaraputo
Ricardo Buffit
Rob Remhild
Riordan Cavooris
Rogelio Martinez
Rose
Ronnie Paciella
Ryan Duffy
Sara Jean Andersen
Stanley Stura
Stephen Dolce
Susanne Smith
Tonia Perdue
Tara Cesarski
Teresa Mattera
Tina Cafaro
Tiffany Lochan
Tom Devaney
Thomas Lfrieri
Tom Ficht
Tom Ryan
Tom Focone
Vivien & John
Cordes
Wayne Smith Sr.

| | | | |
|--|---|-------------------------------|--|
| Saturday September 30th Cantor: K. Feeney | Presider: Father Joe Lector: Dreschler/ Thompson EM: Mantia/Duffy/ Taurassi/Toto/Urce | 9:15am 5:00pm | Robert P. Carti |
| Sunday October 1st Cantor: B. Meringolo | Presider: Father Joe Lector: Luna/Halluska EM: Portanova/ D. Napolitano/Ramos/ Kenney/LaSerra/ | 8:00am | For the People of SSPJ Parish |
| Cantor: J. Lohmann | Presider: Father Tom Lector: Piliero/Venturi EM: Amen/Luna/McKie/ Mulhall/Orlando/Parish | 10:00am | Living~ Michele & Michael Maldony |
| Cantor: L. Lupinocci <u>Respect Life Sunday</u> | <u>Collective Mass</u> Presider: Father Tom Lector: Nicastro/Rubano EM: Napolitano/ Bleggi/Kaleita | 12:00pm | Michael E. Kaleita Dominick DeFilippis Claudia Chandler Dee Dee Sprague Josephine Capillino Living~Kaitlyn & Robert Remhild |
| Monday October 2nd | <i>The Holy Guardian Angels</i> | 7:30am 9:15am | Patricia McNeely Madeline Haggerty |
| Tuesday October 3rd | | 7:30am 9:15am | Marianne Blazich Vincent Finnegan |
| Wednesday October 4th | <i>St. Francis of Assisi</i> | 7:30am 9:15am | Thomas J. Spellman |
| Thursday October 5th | <i>St. Faustina Kowalska</i> | 7:30am 9:15am | <u>Collective Mass</u> Theresa Keane |
| Friday October 6th | <i>St. Bruno</i> | 7:30am 9:15am | Guy Thomas Gulotta-Gold |
| Saturday October 7th Cantor: M. Mc Cullo <i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i> | Presider: Father Joe Lector: Merlino/Student EM: Licari/Calderone/ Anderson/Drechsler/ Kanuka | 9:15am 5:00pm | James Hanrahan Sal Stracquaddaini |
| Sunday October 8th Cantor: J. Hill | Presider: Father Joe Lector: Sehne/Marino EM: Rapp/Sisti/Czujko/ Sehne/Tully | 8:00am | For the People of SSPJ Parish |
| Cantor: J. Lohmann | Presider: Father Tom Lector: Dobres/Healy EM: Sisti/Parish/ Mulhall/Conti/Reichert/ Sotomayer | 10:00am | Wayne Tutrani |
| Cantor: L. Stefanowski | <u>Collective Mass</u> Presider: Father Tom Lector: Wagner/Latino EM: Consenz/ Samson/Stack | 12:00pm | Nelzi Kucich Tom Spellman Ram Williams Ram Williams |

Altar Memorials for the Week of October 1st, 2023

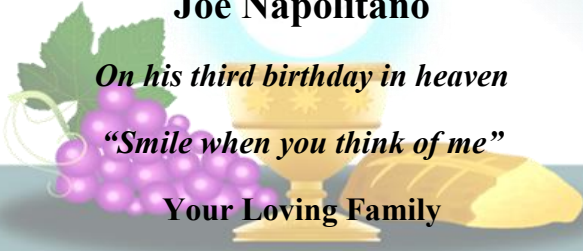
Our Bread & Wine
Are Offered In loving memory of,

Joe Napolitano

On his third birthday in heaven

"Smile when you think of me"

Your Loving Family



The Pro Life Rose

Is dedicated to

Robert P. Curti

*Always and forever in our hearts and
memories*

Love,

The Curti Family



RESPECT LIFE MONTH



*The Sanctuary Lamp
Is burning in memory of,*

Michael E. Kaleita

*"You are always in our hearts and in
our memories"*

Love you forever,

Mom, Dad & Family



Every October the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month, and the first Sunday of October is observed as Respect Life Sunday. As Catholics, we are called to cherish, defend, and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning to the end of their lives, and at every point in between. During the month of October, the Church asks us to reflect more deeply on the dignity of every human LIFE.

BLESSING OF MAN'S BEST FRIEND!



Blessing of Pets



SSPJ will celebrate the Blessing of Animals on
TODAY, SUNDAY OCTOBER 1ST AT 1:00PM

If you bark, purr, fly, gallop, slither, swim, hop, etc...
You are invited to bring your owner and join us as we
remember

St. Francis' great love for all of God's creation and ask
God's blessing
upon those creatures with whom WE share our world and
our lives.

Offering of animal treats for Smithtown Animal Shelter
is always welcome.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MINISTRY
"LET THE LITTLE ONES COME TO ME"



Learning Knows No Bounds

God Bless Our Religious Ed Students and their Families as we begin a new year of faith sharing and service!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES BEGIN THIS WEEK!
IF YOU SHOULD HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE RELIGIOUS ED OFFICE AT 631-584-3204

UPCOMING MASSES CELEBRATING OUR RELIGIOUS ED STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

SATURDAY OCTOBER 14TH ~CONFIRMATION I & II MASS

WE CELEBRATE CONFIRMATION I ~RITE OF ENROLLMENT MASS :
Confirmation I Students must bring their Confirmation Covenant and will sign the Rite of Enrollment Book

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15TH: GRADE 3 & 4 MASS AT 10AM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22ND: GRADE 5 & 6 MASS AT 10AM



Calling all Who wish to become: Altar Servers!

Training for Altar Servers will Begin on 9/29/23 From 4:00pm to 5:00pm

**In the Church
4th Grade and up
Altar Server Training Dates**

9/29/2023

10/13/2023

10/20/2023

10/27/2023

**Please call Parish Center to give your contact information
631-584-5454**



FUNDRAISING IS ONE OF OUR FRESHEST INGREDIENTS.

Sts. Philip and James School

Tuesday October 3, 2023

11:00 AM - 9:00 PM

VALID AT ANY OF THESE PARTICIPATING MOE'S LOCATIONS:

586 Veterans Memorial Hwy, Hauppauge, NY 11788

PRESENT THIS AD AND

35%

OF THE SALE* WILL GO TO SUPPORT YOUR ORGANIZATION.

*PRE-SALES TAX. MUST PRESENT THIS AD AT INTENDED TIME OF USE. VALID ONLY AT LOCATIONS LISTED ON DATE OF EVENT. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER, ONE COUPON PER PURCHASE. EXCLUSIVE OF ALCOHOL, TAX AND GRATUITY. NOT FOR SALE OR RESALE. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. CASH VALUE 1/1000. NO CASH BACK. ADDITIONAL EXCLUSIONS MAY APPLY.

#WELCOMETOMOE'S
MOES.COM





Love Beyond All Telling
The Meaning of the Eucharist in Our Lives

As part of our parish observance of the ***Eucharistic Revival***, you are invited to join us for three evenings of prayerful reflection on the mystery of the Eucharist in our lives.

October 16, 23, and 30, from 7:00-8:30PM.

In The Bethany Center

During these three evenings we will explore why The Second Vatican Council referred to the Eucharist as "the source and summit of the Christian life," looking at the biblical, theological, and liturgical dimensions of the Eucharist along with its portrayal in music and art.

Some themes that will be discussed include the ***Eucharist as food for the journey***, the ***Eucharist as sacrifice***, the ***Eucharist as the great prayer of thanksgiving***, and the ***Eucharist as the real presence of Christ***.

Please join us for any or all three of these evenings
presented by Tom Petriano, Professor of Religious Studies at St. Joseph's University.



SSPJ THIRD ANNUAL OKTOBERFEST

SUNDAY – OCTOBER 15TH

4 – 7 PM. SSPJ TOWNE SQUARE (AUDITORIUM)

Sponsor Opportunities to help defray the cost!

Donations of German Beers, Beverages!

I / We would love to SPONSOR OKTOBERFEST 2023

lass den Spaß beginnen

Genutlichkeit Sponsor

\$500.

Prost Sponsor

\$250.

Bierhallen Sponsor

\$100.

Wurst Sponsor

\$50.

Name: _____ (for program and advertising)

Address: _____

Phone / e-mail _____

I / We would love to volunteer our help for this event!

Please contact me at: _____ e-mail

_____ phone

_____ NAME

Forms / sponsorship may be dropped into the collection baskets at Mass, mailed to 1 Carow Pl, St. James,
or dropped off at the rectory office.

SAVE THE DATE!

SSPJ THIRD ANNUAL OKTOBERFEST

SUNDAY – OCTOBER 15TH
4 – 7 PM. SSPJ TOWNE SQUARE (AUDITORIUM)

COST: \$25 PER PERSON. CHILDREN 10 AND UNDER \$10.

FAMILY PACK (2 ADULTS/2 CHILDREN = \$60)



Live Band, Dancing,
entertainment,
games for the
kids...and of course
Food glorious
FOOD!!!!

Follow our bulletins for Sponsor Opportunities to help defray the cost!

Donations of German Beers, Beverages!

Volunteer opportunities to help set up, serve and so much more....

LET THE FUN BEGIN! lass den Spaß beginnen

Music Ministry



A PRAYER FOR DREAMERS

We pray for the dreamers of this life, O God,
for those persons who imagine new possibilities,
who long for what others cannot perceive,
who spin dreams of wonder and majesty in their minds.
Defend them from ridicule and harsh criticism,
from self-doubt and lack of faith in their dreams,
and from abandonment of this call to make things new.
Grant that from their dreams
may come forth blessings for humankind
to enrich the quality of life
and the wonderment of us all.

Amen. —[Vienna Cobb Anderson](#)

Today's focus is trying. God seeks out those who try, and if they fail, they will keep trying to do his will.

Doesn't that want to make you try the Music Ministry? You don't need special training. Come see what we do. All you need is a love of music and God. Be a liturgical Minister in music. You never know.

I read this in one of my Music Ministry articles and now one of my favorite quotes (along with St. Augustine of course)

"God respects those who work but he loves those who sing."

I have to say there is a lot more singing at Mass. It sounds wonderful. Keep it up!

October 4th is the Feast of St. Francis. Our presentation this week is Prayer of St. Francis.

Next week the Gathering is All Creatures of our God and King also attributes to St. Francis.

On their first day of rehearsals, I asked both the Chords of Faith and the Adult choir to answer this question. What is it about the Music Ministry that led you to become a member?

During the course of the month I will print their answers.

Please
Help

Can
You
Share
A
Pair
Of
Shoes?



Shoe Us the Love!



Donate your gently worn, used and new shoes today!

Help us raise funds just by donating gently worn, used and new shoes! Be sure to ask, friends, family, neighbors and co-workers to donate too!

Collected shoes not only help support us, but they will be reused and given a second life by those in need through #microenterprise. It's a WIN-WIN!

| Location | Dates | Contact |
|---|---|--|
| Sts. Philip and James School 359 Clinton Ave. St. James, NY 11780 | September 11th 2023 thru November 10th 2023 | Mrs. Jessica Leahy 631-413-9455 Jessicaguest@ymail.com |

YES!

- Gently worn, used and new shoes
- ALL SHOES in wearable condition
- EVERY PAIR bound by tying the laces or rubber bands

NO!

- Extremely worn: tears, holes, broken heels
- Single shoes or mismatched
- Dirty, moldy, generally gross

TRAINING IS BEING OFFERED FOR LECTORS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION~

If you feel that spark of light within your soul, calling you to share in these wonderful ministries, we ask that you write a letter of interest to Father Tom. Father Tom will invite you to meet with him to discuss participation in these ministries.

Please drop your letter off to the Parish Center Office no later than: October 3rd, 2023

Updated Sept. 14, 2023

Liturgical Minister Training- Fall 2023

The Diocese of Rockville Center will offer training in Spanish and English for those who wish to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Lectors. No walk-ins permitted, all participants must be registered in advance with a letter from their pastor.

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion: Part A - This training is required for all those who are beginning as Ministers. This "BASIC" training is required for all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Those who wish to minister in hospitals, nursing homes and to the homebound are required to attend Part B training in addition to BASIC training. One must attend Part A training prior to Part B training.

A Lector Workshop is available for both new and experienced lectors.

Dates and Locations for Liturgical Minister Training

Training in SPANISH:

- **Lector Workshop:** Sat., Sept. 23 – Our Lady of Loretto / Hempstead – Divine Mercy Chapel 9:00 – 1:00 pm
- **Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion – Part A:**
Sat., Sept. 30 - Our Lady of Loretto/ Hempstead – Divine Mercy Chapel 9:00 – 1:00 pm
(Please arrive by 8:30 am for either training)

Training in ENGLISH:

- **Lector Workshop and Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion – Part A:**
Suffolk: Tuesday, Oct. 10 - St. Elizabeth / Melville - Msgr. Kane Hall; 7 pm - 10 pm.
Nassau: Wednesday, Nov. 29 – St. Paul the Apostle/Brookville – Lower Hall; 7 – 10 pm
You may register for only one training each evening.

You may register for EITHER Lector OR Extraordinary Minister training at each session.
Doors open at 6:30 pm

- **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Part B**
Presented in conjunction with Catholic Health:
Tuesday, Oct. 24 - St. Elizabeth / Melville - Msgr. Kane Hall; 6:30 – 9:30 pm.

A letter from your pastor will be required to reserve your space at any of these trainings and must be received at least five days prior to the session you wish to attend. To request registration for any of these sessions, please contact your rectory. Do not call the host parishes with questions. For questions relating to the Spanish training, call Ingrid Oliva at 516-678-5800, ext. 560. For questions regarding the English training, call Suzanne Lynn at 516-744-6850. Thank you for your interest.

THIS WEEKS REFLECTION FROM SISTER T~

Dear Friends,

I am asking that you indulge me for one more time and read something that I recently heard. Saturday I was able to attend a presentation by Bishop Andrzej from our diocese on the Eucharistic Revival. He shared many points that were engaging but I only have space for one that really struck me.

Do you realize that so many of the stories and actions of Jesus revolve around food? I never did. But as the Bishop went on to explain examples, the one that intrigued me the most was his question “Where was Jesus born?” We all know that right, in a stable in Bethlehem. Well, he went a little further and said where was he placed? Again, we know, in a manger. What is a manger used for? That’s right, to feed animals.

So, Jesus was born in an object that was used to feed others, animals. From the very beginning Jesus’ life spoke of feeding others with himself. The bishop reminded us the animals would ‘feed’ then go away, then they would come back, feed and go away. That continued for their lifetime. For us this is where the Eucharist and Mass come in. We come to be fed at Mass then go out and become ‘other’ Christs. Are we hungry enough to keep coming back to the Mass? In real life we need to eat more than once to stay alive. What about eating at the table of the Lord?

Do I consider going to Mass and **obligation**? Church law says it is. I was thinking what if we considered it an **opportunity** to be fed. Fed by the Word of God and the Eucharist. In the early Church, celebrating the Eucharist was commonly understood to be a great privilege and an essential part of being a Christian. Where do you stand on this concept? I can’t answer it for you, for me I want to see it as an opportunity.

The next time you go to Mass stop and answer the question why am I going? Do you consider it an **obligation** or an **opportunity**? Do I want to continue coming back to be fed.

Till next week,
Sister Theresita



Congratulations to SSPJ School's September Apostles of Hope!

Apostles of Hope September 2023



Grade 1

Tommasina Scott is an Apostle of Hope. Tommasina is a great leader and shows her classmates how to follow the rules by following them herself. During religion class, she drew a beautiful picture of herself giving the gift of God's love to others. Tommasina says her prayers loud and proud and always shows love & kindness to others. Tommasina is a wonderful follower of Jesus.

Grade 3

Gabriella Bodon is an Apostle of Hope. Gabriella is off to a great start in third grade. She always has a kind word or a compliment to offer her teacher and classmates. Gabriella shares her faith with others by singing during our weekly grade-level Masses and acts as a servant of Jesus by bringing the gifts up during Mass. Gabriella also enjoys attending Mass with her family on the weekends. As we have been learning in Religion, she is truly in communion with God, living a life of good character, happiness, and virtue.

Grade 5

Olivia Matera is an Apostle of Hope. Olivia participates actively in religion class and shares her faith experience with others. She also participates in Mass by bringing up the gifts, praying for others and volunteering to become an altar server. Olivia encouraged her peers to attend the altar server training and is a proud servant of Jesus. Olivia is a wonderful example of what it means to follow Jesus.

Grade 6

Nico Ciaravino is an Apostle of Hope. Nico participates enthusiastically in Mass and in religion class by bringing up the gifts, asking wonderful questions, and sharing his faith. Nico is especially helpful to his Nursery buddy during Mass. Nico is a member of the Senior Choir and can always be counted on to sing during class and school Masses. Nico is a wonderful example of what it means to follow Jesus.

Grade 7

Julianna Carey is an Apostle of Hope. Julianna regularly is an altar server at both class and weekend Masses, and takes such good care of her brother/buddy Benjamin at school Masses. Julianna can always be counted on to volunteer, whether it's answering a question in religion class or by helping to paint the science lab over the summer. Julianna's kindness, empathy, and sense of humor brighten her classmates and her teachers day. Thank you Julianna for your example of following Jesus.

Grade 8

Colin Beam is an Apostle of Hope. Colin is kind and thoughtful. As a dedicated follower of Jesus' teachings, he always helps others around him. Colin attends Mass with his family, and is an altar server. In school, Colin is a lunch monitor for the Kindergarten class. In addition, Colin is consistent with his effort towards his academics. He does his best work every day. Colin comes to school with a great attitude and is ready to learn.

Congratulations & God Bless Sister T
on celebrating 60 years in Religious Life!





HIS WORDS.
YOUR JOURNEY.
TOGETHER.

“And He seeks us at all hours of the day, which, as Saint Gregory the Great states, represent the different stages and seasons of our life up to old age. For His heart, it is never too late; He is always looking for us and waiting for us. Let us not forget this: the Lord always seeks us and awaits us, always!” 9/28/23

“First, God is He who goes out at all hours to call us. The parable says that the master “went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard”, but then continues to go out at various times of the day until sunset, to look for those whom no one had yet taken to work. We thus understand that in the parable the workers are not only men, but above all God, who goes out all day without tiring.” 9/26/23

Pope Francis

SSPJ Early Childhood Open House

Nursery, Pre-K & Kindergarten

Sunday, October 29, 2023

11 am - 12:30 pm



Come see all the good things SSPJ has to offer!

EUCCHARISITIC REVIVAL~ JESUS IS CALLING EACH OF US BY NAME



Scandal, division, disease, doubt. The Church has withstood each of these throughout our very human history. But today we confront all of them, all at once. Our response in this moment is pivotal.

*In the midst of these roaring waves, **Jesus is present**, reminding us that he is more powerful than the storm. He desires to heal, renew, and unify the Church and the world.*

How will he do it? By uniting us once again around the source and summit of our faith in the celebration of the Eucharist. The National Eucharistic Revival is the joyful, expectant, grassroots response of the entire Catholic Church in the U.S. to this divine invitation.



June 2023— July 2024

Our Year of the Eucharistic Revival

All My Brothers and Sisters

“At Mass we find ourselves with all sorts of men and women: young and old, poor and well off, locals and strangers. Are these people my brothers and sisters?”

Pope Francis asks to consider our actions at Mass carefully. It is so important to him that we realize at Mass we—all together—are being transformed into the one body of Christ, and that we are being called to give ourselves as Jesus gave himself. Take a look around the next time you are at Mass—who’s there you’ve never seen before? Who’s there every week? Where do people sit? Do people make room for others? Do you? When this call to unity and service seems overwhelming, remember that God doesn’t call the qualified, God qualifies the Called.

Ponder:

How welcoming am I to newcomers and strangers?

Pray:

God of Mystery and wonder, help me to see your face reflected in everyone around me.

(Taken from What Pope Francis Says About Eucharist)

Sister T

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



JESUS IS CALLING

US DEEPER

**HE PROMISES TO
RESTORE AND
RENEW HIS PEOPLE**

Our world is hurting. We all need healing, yet many of us are separated from the very source of our strength. Jesus Christ invites us to return to the source and summit of our faith in the celebration of the Eucharist. The National Eucharistic Revival is a movement to restore understanding and devotion to this great mystery here in the United States by helping us renew our worship of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

We are at 77% of GOAL which mean we are \$23,800 away!

Can we reach our goal by Thanksgiving???

WE ARE AT 77% OF OUR GOAL as of September 26th, 2023

Our Pledges are \$78,215.

Our Payments are \$71,293.

Together we can reach our goal!

Updated figures at print date

GOAL: \$102,000

PAYMENTS AT

9/26/23

\$71,293

PLEDGES AT

9/26/23

\$78,215.

We are on our Way~

**GOAL
\$102,000
PAYMENTS**



"Each one will be like a shelter from the wind and a refuge from the storm, like streams of water in the desert and the shadow of a great rock in a thirsty land." (Isaiah 4:6)

October 2023

As we enter the beautiful season of autumn, it is a wonderful time to reflect on the spiritual growth and expansion of our faith, especially as we approach the culmination of our liturgical year. I pray that you and your loved ones are well and that you have a blessed holiday season with them. I would like to express my gratitude to you and your fellow parishioners for the prayers and support that have been offered on behalf of our parish.

It is evident that when we come together as a parish, we can reap the benefits of many ministries and services that one person cannot do alone. This holds true for our diocese as well; when our Parishes come together as *One Family* we sow the seeds of the love of our faith with others and journey with those in need.

Long Island is known for its quality of life; it is hard to believe that there are many people who must make difficult decisions on basic living expenses. Although inflation has eased a bit, the rising prices of food, gas at the pump, utilities, and of course housing continue to negatively impact a family's budget.

Support for those in need is crucial for many families, especially our senior community. Our Long Island community has had a 25% to 30% increase in the senior demographic, leading to an increase of 65% of these seniors living in poverty. Your donation allows Catholic Charities to provide affordable safe housing to senior citizens, operating 16 housing facilities in Nassau and Suffolk counties, totaling more than 1,329 units.

Additionally, it ensures the physical, social, and spiritual well-being of residents. Housing programs are also available for those with developmental disabilities and our veterans in need. Through our Parish Social Ministry programs, we bring food and hope during these challenging times. I would like to share a comment from a senior and resident of Bishop Ryan Village, Hampton Bays with you:

"My neighbors and I often say that we are tremendously relieved to have dignified, affordable housing and are very grateful to this ministry of the Church assisting us in our time need."

Your gift to the CMA also provides funding to educate our seminarians and provide faith formation to our young people and lay leaders, more than 600,000 are served each year. If you have not had an opportunity to make a gift to the Catholic Ministries Appeal, I ask you to prayerfully consider a gift. Please know that 100% of every dollar raised is restricted to fund the objectives, programs, and mission supported by the Catholic Ministries Appeal and every gift makes a difference in the lives of others no matter the amount.

May God bless you and your loved ones.

**GOAL
\$102,000
PLEDGES**

\$60,000

\$10,000

Parish Social Ministry

Our Food Pantry Needs:
Please check expiration dates



Canned Chickent
Thank you for your kindness and compassion

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY



Mark your calendars and take your family.

One day only, Oct 5, local theaters will be showing "MOTHER TERESA AND ME". The Life Center, 91 Maple Ave., Smithtown is in need of baby boy clothes.

Sizes 3-4 Boys Fall clothes, new or gently used.

This includes shoes and Diapers size 3-4

Any questions please call 631-862-9370

Saints Philip & James Consolation Ministry

We are gathering names of anyone grieving the loss of a loved one and may be interested in joining our Bereavement Program.

The program will be held for six weeks beginning Tuesday, October 10th at 1pm.

This gathering is held in the Bethany Center.

To register, please call the Parish Center Office At 631-584-5454.



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 remember the family and friends of,
Helen M. Gaus
Barbara Riley
Safely Home in the arms of our Lord



PRAYER
SHAWL
MINISTRY

PRAYER SHAWLS WILL BE BLESSED ON OCTOBER 1ST AT THE 10AM MASS

These shawls of comfort are crafted by hands of love from each of the Prayer Shawl ministry hearts.

Please share this special gift with a loved one who might need comfort.

Blessed Creator, you have breathed your Spirit upon this land and entrusted to us a responsibility to care for it. Teach us to always use the things of this earth with care, not negligence, with gratitude, not arrogance, with simplicity, not excess. Guide us in the ways of Christian simplicity. Amen.



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
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
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
Rachel's Hope (Post Abortion): 888-456-4673
Response Crisis Center: (Suicide Hotline): 631-751-7500
The Retreat (Domestic Violence Hotline): 631-329-2200

My Weekly Sunday Gospel Reflection For Grades 1-3

For the: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Sunday, October 1st, 2023

My Name Is: _____ My Grade IS: _____ SSPJ SCHOOL _____

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

Saturday, October 7th or Sunday, October 8th, 2023

Hands For Prayer



The Gospel Message:

In today's gospel reading Jesus teaches us a parable (a story) about a Father asking his two sons to help him in their vineyard. One Son refused to help his Father, but he realized that his words hurt his Father and he went to help him. The other Son said, yes of course I'll help you, but, he lied and never helped. This is a lesson on love and obedience.

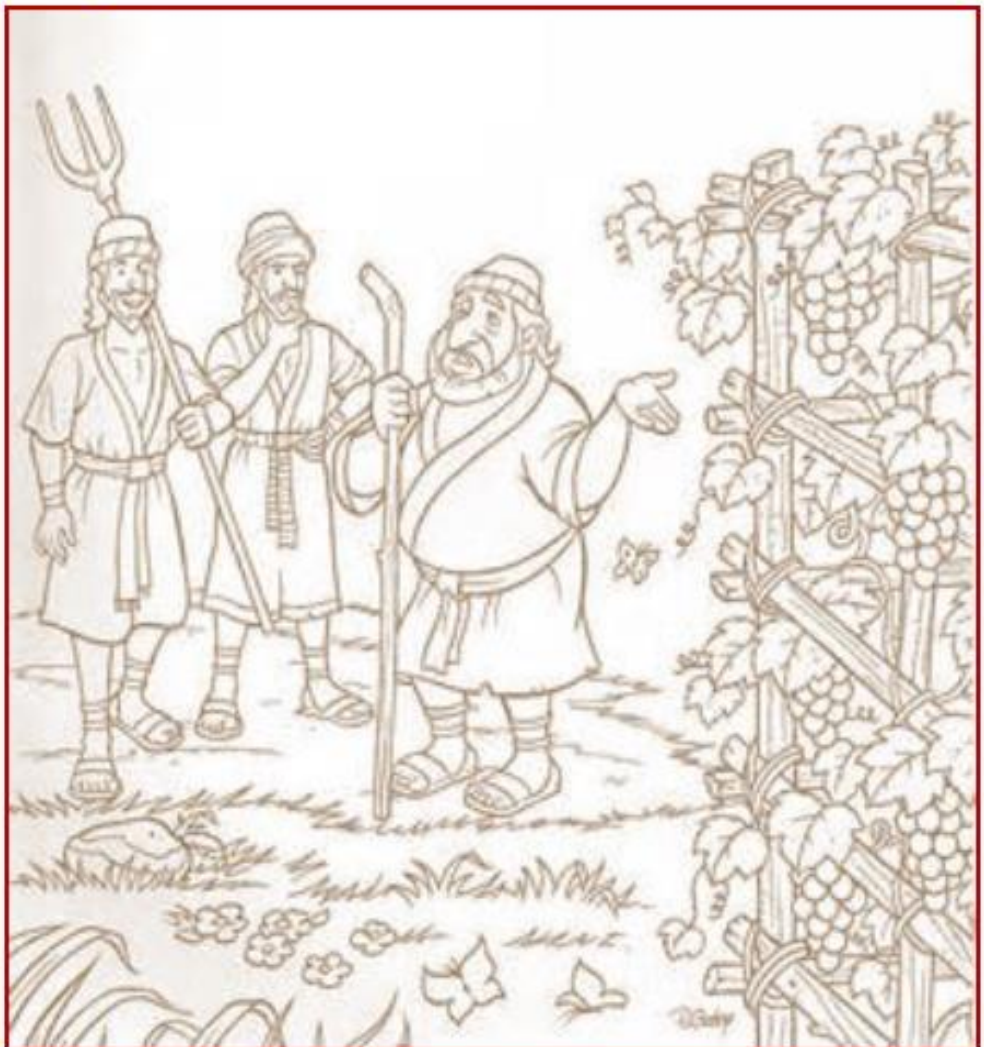
Which of the two Sons above are you most like? And why?

Dear Jesus,

I love you and I
thank you for all
the lessons you
share with me.

Jesus, sometimes I
too react like the
two Sons you
describe in this
week's parable.

I'm sorry for that.
Please help me to
follow my heart
with kindness and
with love.



Weekly Sunday Gospel Reflection For Grades 4-6

For the: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Sunday, October 1st, 2023

My Full Name: _____ My Grade IS: _____ SSPJ SCHOOL _____

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

Saturday, October 7th or Sunday, October 8th, 2023



The Gospel Message:

In today's gospel reading Jesus teaches us a parable (a story) about a Father asking his two sons to help him in their vineyard. One Son refused to help his Father, but he realized that his words hurt his Father and he went to help him. The other Son said, yes of course I'll help you, but, he lied and never helped.

This is a lesson on love and obedience.

*Dear Jesus,
I love you and
I thank you
for all the
lessons you
share with me.*

*Jesus,
sometimes I
too react
like the two
Sons you
describe in
this week's
parable.*

*I'm sorry for
that. Please
help me to
follow my
heart with
kindness and
with love.*

Amen

Hard question: Have you ever been asked to help someone and decided to answer like the second son in today's gospel parable (story)? Please share an example.

What do you think about the reaction shared by first Son in today's gospel reading to his Father's request for help?

*Remember sometimes we respond in a way not pleasing to God,
but he is always beside us cheering us on to apologize and make
a better decision!*

Weekly Sunday Gospel Reflection For Grades 7-8

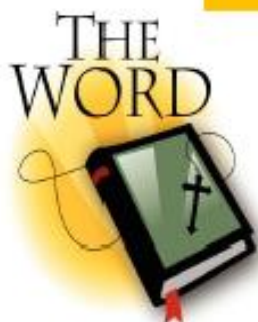
For the: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Sunday, October 1st, 2023

Name: _____ Grade: _____ SSPJ SCHOOL _____

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

Saturday, October 7th or Sunday, October 8th, 2023

The Gospel Message:



In today's gospel reading Jesus teaches us a parable (a story) about a Father asking his two sons to help him in their vineyard. One Son refused to help his Father, but he realized that his words hurt his Father and he went to help him. The other Son said, yes of course I'll help you, but, he lied and never helped.

This is a lesson on love and obedience.

Today's gospel causes us to think about being obedient to ourselves and especially others.

Can you share why you think that the first Son was so hesitant to help his Father? Please share.

Putting yourself in this gospel story, when you read the reaction of the second son to his Father's request, and then immediately disobeyed him, did it surprise you? Please share.

Who do you most relate to in this Parable of the Two Sons?

Let Us Pray,

Dear Jesus,

I love you and
I thank you for
all the lessons
you share with
me.

Jesus,
sometimes I
too react
like the two
Sons you
describe in this
week's parable.

I'm sorry for
that. Please
help me to
follow my
heart with
kindness and
with love.

Amen

Obedience
our gift to GOD



Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

27th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday October 8

Isaiah 5:1-7
Ps 80:9,12-16,19-20
Philippians 4:6-9
Matthew 21:33-43

Monday October 9

Jonah 1:1 – 2:1-2,11
Jonah 2:3-5,8
Luke 10:25-37

Tuesday October 10

Jonah 3:1-10
Ps 130:1b-4b,7-8
Luke 10:38-42

Wednesday October 11

Jonah 4:1-11
Ps 86:3-6,9-10
Luke 11:1-4

Thursday October 12

Malachi 3:13-20b
Ps 1:1-4,6
Luke 11:5-13

Friday October 13

Joel 1:13-15;2:1-2
Ps 9:2-3,6,8-9,16
Luke 11:15-26

Saturday October 14

Joel 4:12-21
Ps 97:1-2,5-6,11-12
Luke 11:27-28

"The kingdom of God is given to those who produce its fruit." That's the moral of the story that Jesus gives us in this Sunday's Gospel reading.

And what is this kingdom of God, given to us while we're still on earth? What are its fruits, which we produce during our earthly lives?

Anything we do in imitation of Christ is a fruit that has grown while we're following Christ on our journey toward Heaven. If we love as he loves, forgive as he forgives, minister to others, teach the truth, and heal the hurting, we are living in the kingdom of God now.

When I ask Catholics if they believe they're going to Heaven, most feel very uncertain, either because they're afraid they might lose their salvation

through some future grave sin, or because they're afraid it's not humble enough to answer with a firm "yes."

Granted, we do not imitate Christ perfectly. Most of us will need to spend time in Purgatory being purged of whatever is unheavenly about us, but when the purging is finished, we'll be fully alive in the wonderfulness of God.

If we make it to Purgatory, of course we'll reach the glories of Heaven. And if our desire to be Christ-like is genuine, Jesus



will help make sure that our sins will never be so "grave" that we turn completely away from Heaven. We'll gladly embrace him when he comes for us at the moment of our death.

Whatever you do because of Christ and out of love for Christ, this is evidence that you are living in and will eternally live in God's kingdom.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † What good fruits are you producing in your life now? List them; get out a pen and start writing them down. During the week, as you think of more good fruits, add those to the list.
- † Look at the list you produced for the above question. How do these fruits give evidence of God's goodness within you?
- † How do they provide the kingdom of God for the benefit of others?
- † How do they assure you that you are truly a Heaven-bound follower of Christ?

SURRENDERING TO LOVE

Perhaps all of Jesus' invitations to us can be summarized in one word, *surrender*. We need to surrender to love.

But why is that difficult? Shouldn't it be the most natural thing in the world? Isn't our deepest desire a longing to find love and surrender to it?

True, our deepest longing is to surrender to love, but we have some deep innate resistances to give ourselves over in surrender. Here are a couple of examples:

At the Last Supper in John's Gospel when Jesus tries to wash Peter's feet, he meets a stiff resistance from Peter – *Never! I will never let you wash my feet!* What's ironic here is that, perhaps more than anything else, Peter yearned precisely for that kind of intimacy with Jesus. Yet, when it's offered, he resists.

Another example might be seen in the struggles of Henri Nouwen. Nouwen, one of the most gifted spiritual writers of our generation, enjoyed immense popularity. He published more than 50 books, was a much sought-after professor (tenured at both Harvard and Yale), received invitations daily to give talks and lectures around the world, and had many close friends.

And yet, inside all that popularity and adulation, surrounded by many friends who loved him, he was unable to let that love give him any real sense of being loved or of being lovable. Instead, through most of his life he labored inside a deep anxiety which had him believe that he wasn't lovable. On occasion this even landed him in clinical depression. And so, through most of his adult life, surrounded by so much love, he was haunted by a sense that he wasn't loved, nor worthy of being loved. Moreover, he was a deeply sensitive person who more than anything else wanted to surrender to love. What held him back?

In his own words, he was crippled by a deep wound he couldn't quite name and whose grip he couldn't shake. This was true for most of his adult life. Eventually, he was able to free himself from his deep wound and surrender to love. However, it took a traumatic death experience for that to happen. Standing too close to the highway at a bus-stop one morning, he was struck by the mirror of a passing van which sent him flying. Rushed to a hospital, for some hours he hovered between life and death. While in that state, he had a very deep experience of God's love for him. He returned to full consciousness and normal life as a profoundly changed man. Now, after experiencing God's love for him, he could finally also surrender to human love in a way he had been incapable of previous to his "death" experience. All his subsequent books are marked by this conversion in love.

Why do we fight love? Why don't we surrender more easily? The reasons are unique to each of us. Sometimes we are dealing with a deep wound that leaves us feeling unlovable. But sometimes our resistance has less to do with any wound than it has to do with how we are unconsciously fighting the very love we so painfully seek. Sometimes, like Jacob in the Bible, we are unconsciously wrestling with God (who is Love) and consequently unconsciously fighting love.

In the Bible story where Jacob wrestles all night with a man, we see that in this struggle he has no idea that he is wrestling with God and with love. In his mind, he is wrestling with a foe he needs to conquer. Eventually, when the darkness of the night gives way to more light, he sees what he is wrestling with – and it is a surprise and shock to him. He realizes he is fighting love itself. With that realization, he gives up struggling and instead clings to the very force he had been previously fighting, with the plea: "I will not let you go, until you bless me!"

This is the final lesson we need to learn in love: We wrestle for love with every talent, cunning, and strength inside us. Eventually, if we are fortunate, we have an awakening. Some light, often a crippling defeat, shows us the true face of what we have been wrestling with and we realize that it's not something to be conquered, but it's the very love to which we have been longing to surrender.

For many of us, this will be the great awakening in our lives, a waking up to the fact that in all our ambitions and schemes to show the world how worthwhile and lovable we are, we are in unconscious ways fighting the very love to which we ultimately want to surrender. And, usually, as with Jacob in the biblical story, it will take the defeat of our own strength and a permanent limp before we realize what we are fighting against is really that to which we most want to surrender.

And this is surrender, not resignation, something we give ourselves over to rather than something that defeats us.