

1 Carow Place, St. James, NY 11780 (631) 584-5454

August 24, 2025 Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time



The Cloisters Cross, Unknown, 12th century. The Cloisters Museum and Gardens, New York, United States.

Philip said to him, "Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us." - John 14:8

MASS TIMES		RECONCILIATION		EUCHARISTIC ADORATION		
Weekday	7:30 AM, 9:15 AM	Saturday	4 – 5 PM	Monday	1 – 7 PM	
Saturday	9:15 AM , 5 PM (Vigil)					
Sunday	8 AM (Live-streaming via Facebook), 10 AM, 12 NOON					

The Parish Directory

Parish Information

GENERAL INFORMATION

Phone Number (631) 584-5454
Parish Fax (631) 862-9675
Website www.sspj.org
Address 1 Carow Place

St. James, NY 11780

Office Hours Mon. & Thu. 9:30 AM - 5 PM

Tue. & Wed. 9:30 AM - 8 PM

Fri. 9:30 AM - 1 PM

CLERGY

Pastor Rev. Sean Magaldi Associate Pastor Rev. Dennis Gannon Associate Pastor Rev. Martin Adu Gyamfi

Deacon John Keenan

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Phone Number (631) 584-3204
GRADE LEVEL COORDINATORS

Grades 1-3 Charlotte Czujko

cczujko@sspj.org

Grades 4-6 Barbara Luna

bluna@sspj.org

Grades 7-8 Dominick Avento

davento@sspj.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Margaret Adams

COORDINATOR OF PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

Lynn Sisti



DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

Sandra Rago

DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES

John Cordes

SSPJ SCHOOL

Principal William Biangasso
Phone Number (631) 584-7896
School Fax (631) 584-3258

TRUSTEES

Brendan McGovern Jennine Cullen

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Michael Sharkey Lou Guerra
Cynthia Lombardi Paul Damato
Lisa Keane Maureen Burke
Nancy Sanders Matthew Carey

Sheila Cavooris

Thank you for your generosity

Financial Support Needed Weekly to Meet Parish Budget: \$16,700

Weekly Collection -Sunday, August 17, 2025:

Collections From Weekend Masses: \$12,009.00

Faith Direct

(126 Participants Weekly): \$3,374.00

Total Collection: \$15,383.00

Feast of the Assumption: \$3,254.00

Faith Direct:

Visit sspj.org and Click on the Faith Direct Icon. Use SSPJ Parish Code: NY232

Sacraments and Sacramentals

SACRAMENTAL RECORDS

To request a copy of your certificate of Baptism,
Marriage, First Holy
Communion, or Confirmation please call the rectory.

OCIA

For adults looking to become Catholic or receive Confirmation, please call the rectory to ask about our OCIA program.



BAPTISM

Celebrated twice per month. Parents are asked to contact the rectory for a Pre-Baptism Program.

RECONCILIATION

Available Saturdays from 4 - 5 pm in the Church or by contacting the rectory for an appointment.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

In case of serious, unexpected illness, please contact the rectory to arrange for a Priest to pray with the person who is ill.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

For First Holy Communion, second grade students are prepared to celebrate through Religious Ed or SSPJ School. For Confirmation, seventh and eighth grade students are prepared to celebrate through Religious Ed or SSPJ School. Adults prepare for both sacraments through OCIA.

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.

Please Remember Those Who Serve For Us In Your Prayers



LCDR Megan M. Shutka-Vik -USN | CAPT Wilson Marks -USN | CPT Michael T. Dolan Jr. -D.O, ARMY Sgt Cory O'hara -USMC | Lt Col John Kaires | SGM Michael P. Borrelli -ARMY CAPT John Tully -USN | LTC James Tully -ARMY | Joseph Saggio -USNC | Richard Sotomayer -USAF SSgt Michael Longhenry | Lt Col Paul T. Jackson | SSgt Alexander Parrella - USAF Christopher A. Hionidis -USAF | Sgt Connor F. Scott -USMC | PFC Charles Christopher Howell Hank Moloney -USAF | Steven Cava -USN | Emmett Moloney -USN | CW2 Natasha Wortman LT Kyle Melvin -USN | LT Jillian Melvin -USN | Cpl James T. Casey -USMC | Glen Crima -ARMY SGT Joshua Mahoney -ARMY | Spc Nicole A. Cannon | 2LT Dillon Reynolds -USAF Private Joshua Olsen - USARNG | Mario Catania - USMC | Cpl Larissa Dorrian - USMC Ryan Anthony Nascimento -USMC | Kyle Anthony Nascimento -ARMY | ENS Ryan M. Shows -USN SSgt. Ryan Rexrode -USMC | Dr. Kara Vandekieft, Col -USAF | Sgt Stephen D. Outcault -USMC Paul Mumolo -USN | Victoria Zeman -USCG | Kyle J. Gruner -ARMY | Mark Giordano -USCG Lt Kelli Mclaughlin - USANG | 1LT Michael J Bang - Military Intelligence ARMY | Richard Wulforst, III - USA ANG Captain Paul Willms Kevin Jones - USCG | Michael Hionidis - USMC | Elizabeth C. Oliver - QM 2ND Class SW USN CW2 Chris Munz | Carl Josephson - USAF | Daniel Josephson - USAF | Samantha Josephson - USAF MIDN Erin Nicastro - USNA | MLDN Kate Nicastro - USNA | Justene Patch - 2ND Class USN Matthew Patrick Gallagher -ARMY | LT Commander Christopher Shank MD | Eric Seelin -USMC 2LT James A Koester - ARMY | Maj Brendan Johnston - USAF | Lt Connor Toomey - USMC Dakota Barnett -2ND Class USN | Erin Morphey -2ND Class USN | Peter Fortunato -QM 2nd Class USN

The Pastoral Letter from Rev. Sean Magaldi

My Dear Friends in Jesus Christ and Our Blessed Mother,

The Catholic Church used to be the greatest patron of art. The Church commissioned countless pieces of art for chapels and church buildings all over the world. God created us in His image and likeness; therefore, when an artist creates, He imitates God, who created all things visible and invisible. Art is an integral part of the human condition and is a necessary aspect of our lives.

In 1999, John Paul II wrote a letter to artists. He writes, "I appeal especially to you, Christian artists: I wish to remind each of you that, beyond functional considerations, the close alliance that has always existed between the Gospel and art means that you are invited to use your creative intuition to enter into the heart of the mystery of the Incarnate God and at the same time into the mystery of man" (Paragraph 14). We need good Catholic artists.

Many of you know that when I was in college, I studied film. Film has always been something that interested me from as far back as I remember. A new film will be released about Saint Maximilian Kolbe called Triumph of the Heart. As a Catholic movie made independently, it won't have a wide release. I want to support this movie. To be released in theaters, they must sell 80 tickets to secure a release day and theater. As a result, I petitioned for a screening here on Long Island, particularly at AMC Stony Brook.

They cannot settle on a theater or release date until they sell the tickets. The date, time, and location of the screening on their

website is not official yet. If they don't secure a theater, they will refund your money. If you are interested in seeing the movie, please use this link to buy tickets or scan the QR code:

https://tinyurl.com/344ce7u6.

Please pray for the success of this film. Many will benefit from hearing the story of St. Kolbe, a remarkable saint.

In Christ, Fr. Sean





If you would like to serve as a weekly Adorer for Monday Exposition, you can sign up by scanning the QR code above, contacting an Adoration Coordinator or by visiting:

https://stsphilipjames.weadorehim.com/en/signup

Adoration Coordinator's

Bill Toscano – 631-312-2172 Sarolta Toscano – 646-287-0661

Email: stsphilipjames@sites.weadorehim.com

SS. Philip and James Catholic Parish One Carow Place St. James, New York 11780

Altar Memorials, Prayer Intentions, Mass Intentions and Schedule

Please contact the rectory at (631) 584-5454 to request a memorial.

THE BREAD AND WINE ARE OFFERED IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Tom Focone, on your anniversary in Heaven

WE PRAY FOR THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER

Please contact the Office of Parish Social Ministry, (631) 584-5454, to include the name of a brother or sister in need of prayer.

Louis Fabiano, Maria Lee, Margaret Remhild, Samya Salama, Barbara Hobbes, Michael Mattia, Michael Scorca, Grayson Danielski, Ann Marie, Amanda Rose Critella, Amanda Cacoperdo, Carmela Montesano, Donna Fabrizio, David Beleck, Brittany Lundberg, Ed Ceraso, Edward Luna, Jessie Lokai, John V Leone, Kathleen Martin, Kerry Larry, Mia Mednick, Patrice Henry, Rob Remhild, Ronnie Reichert, Stephanie Seban, Tonia Perdue, Joan Cooper, Tim Tippett, Madeline Kelley, Diane Toto, Phillip Giarrupeto, Judy Hanrahan, Patricia Schecher, Nora Danko, Joanna Szymanski, Luke Salvatore Montesano, Anthony D'Angelis, Katie Hobbes, Leon Donach, Paul Robertelli, Donna Belullovich, Theresa Quinn, Janet Ocasio, Stephanie Eagle, Baby Brooks, Anna Marie, Matthew Cooke, Brian Stewart, Sheila Eith, Samantha Misurda, John Vincent Leone, Roger, Thomas Brick, Mariella Rooney, Bella Rigogliosi, Rob Remhild

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Saturday, August 23rd	Reconciliation 4:00-5:00pm	9:15am	Maximo Collado
	Lector: Drechsler/Kollmer EMs: Rapp/Duffy/Taurassi/Mantia/Suski	5:00pm	Patti Rowland
Sunday, August 24th	Lector: Marino/Cavooris EMs: Dunn/Diaz/McGrath/Sica/Portanova	8:00am	For the People of the Parish
	Lector: Dobres/Kieran EMs: Lombardi/Licari/McKie/Rizzo/Mulhall/Amen	10:00am	Thomas Focone
	Lector: Geier/Latino EMs: Margaret/Consenz/Stack/Bleggi	12:00pm	<u>Collective Mass</u> Toni Lamberti, Michael Colletta, Michael Corey, Fran Settoducato, Irene Kreisher
Monday, August 25th	Adoration 1:00-7:00pm In the Church	7:30am	Michael Walsh Sr.
		9:15am	Thomas Focone
Tuesday, August 26th		7:30am	Joseph & Isabel O'Hara
		9:15am	Gaspare Joseph Messina
Wednesday, August 27th		7:30am	Michael & Cathy Gargiulo
		9:15am	Aurora Goglas
Thursday, August 28th		7:30am	Cynthia Evans
		9:15am	For the Pope
Friday, August 29th		7:30am	Dolores Perratto
		9:15am	Vincenza Morando
Saturday, August 30th	Reconciliation 4:00-5:00pm	9:15am	Alan Evans
	Lector: Hurlbert/Doran EMs: Byrne/Drechsler/Ruggieri/Toto/Duffy	5:00pm	Martin Caltabiano
Sunday, August 31st	Lector: Sehne/Farrell EMs: Dervan/Koke/Portanova/Sehne/Ramos	8:00am	For the People of the Parish
	Lector: Zahordny/Scott EMs: Napolitano/Conti/Parish/Consenz/Calderone/Rapp	10:00am	Michael & Denise Davis
	Lector: Rubano/Suski EMs: Latino/Rubano/Rubano/Chilton	12:00pm	<u>Collective Mass</u> Michael Colletta, Jennifer Zeman (Living), James B. Leary



The Sts Philip & James Knights of Columbus Council #12839 gratefully acknowledges the sponsors (listed below), volunteers and golfers who helped make our Annual Charity Golf Outing at Crab Meadow Golf Couse a resounding success. We also thank our Honoree, Pastor of SSPJ, the Rev. Sean Magaldi, and parish clergy, Rev. Dennis Gannon, Rev. Martin Adu Gyamfi and Rev. Sam Imhangbe, for their participation and support.

Alpine Bakery Ancient Ginger Restaurant AP Cleaners **Apple Bank for Savings** BB & GG Farms & Nursery Blue Star Products, Windshield Repair Lisa and Ken Buckheit Cabo Fresh Catholic Daughters, Anna Theresa #1074 Victor Cipulo, Community Mayors Alfonso Conti, Tax & Accounting Service John W. Cordes Costco Cotgreave Insurance Agency P. DeBlasio Builders **Decal Designs** Del Fuego Restaurant Rita and Anthony De Simone Dick's Golf Galaxy Eileen and Ron Doda Joe Dorrian Dowling Brothers, Autobody Eddie's Power Equipment Enspire Design Group Father Nature Garden Center Federal Law Enforcement, Chapter 1 Michael Fitzpatrick, NYS Assemblyman Friends of Sal Formica for Legislator Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 53 John P. Garvey, P.C. Gray's Jewelry Greenhouse Ántiques & Collectibles Joseph Grippo, Field Agent KoC Jim Harkins Marilyn Harris Highlander Investigative Hines & Zaffarese, Landscapers Inside-Out Kitchens, Baths and More International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 25 Councilwoman Lisa Inzerelo Andrew M Kaplan, Mtg. Consulting Inc. Kia of Smithtown

Andrew M Kaplan, Mtg. Consulting Inc.

Living Waters, Therapeutic Catholic Counsel

Kia of Smithtown

Laké Ave Floral, Kerry Maher Ron La Serra, Financial Advisor

Tom Lohmann, Councilman

Deacon Gerald Magaldi

Mannino's Pizzeria

Jerry E. Kotler

Friends of Mario Mattera Maureen's Kitchen Michael McAlvin Tom McCarthy, Smithtown Town Clerk Law Office of Stephen J. McGiff Mercedes Benz of Smithtown, Mark Hersh Mercep Bros, On-site Quality Meat Millennium Diner Charlie Modica, St. Patrick Men's Softball John Murphy Tom Murphy North Country Gas, Bait & Tackle North Shore Marine Service Olsen's Nursery Paces Steak House Party Hardy, Ragan Rago Patio Italian Kitchen Penney's North Country Car Care John Pinto Virginia Portanova John Primavera and Pamela Combs Vincent Puleo, Suffolk County Clerk Rappaport, Glass, Levine and Zullo, LLP Rocco's Pizza Frank E. Russell, Esq. Attorney at Law Joseph Saggese Sherwood Brothers, Am Leg Post 1152 Evelyn and Tom Sica St. James Funeral Home St James Pizza & Pasta Scientific Exterminating Scientific Pest Management St James Barber Shop St James Pasta and Pork Smithtown Family Dentistry, Paul Leary, DDS Spage's Pharmacy, Lisa and Mark Stephen Swezey Fuel Company, Inc Mike Talento Taylor, Eldridge and Endres, P.C. James M. Tierney NYPD William and Sarolta Toscano Tri-State Coaches, LLC Pat and Michael Tully Vazak Contracting Corp Villa Olivetti Villano, Ron [Counseling] Michael Walsh **W&M Fire Protection** Edward R. Wehrheim, Smithtown Supervisor Yeros of St James Peggy and Steve Yazulla

Parish Social Ministry

WE REMEMBER, ALL THOSE WHO ARE SAFELY HOME IN THE ARMS OF JESUS

Please contact the Office of Parish Social Ministry, (631) 584-5454, to include the name of a brother or sister.

LAUDATO SI

"The history of our friendship with God is always linked to particular places which take on an intensely personal meaning; we all remember places, and revisiting those memories does us much good. Anyone who has grown up in the hills or used to sit by the spring to drink, or played outdoors in the neighbourhood square; going back to these places is a chance to recover something of their true selves." (Laudato Si', 84).

THE RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

The Respect Life Committee invites all to join in praying the rosary at 8 AM, M-F, in the prayer room of the church. We pray to respect life in all stages from conception to death.



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**

OUR FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:

Fully stocked, thank you!

BOOK KIOSK NEWS

If you write a check for a book, please make sure you put the name of the book on the message line **of the check!** If you have already submitted a check, please place your name on a piece of paper (from the note pad) with the name of the book you purchased and slide it into the payment slot. Check out our books on the lives of the patron saints of mothers and grandmothers. More books are coming soon!



HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS: Y	You are never alone			
AA 24 Hour Hotline	(631) 669-1124			
Al-Anon	(631) 669-2827			
Birthright	(631) 821-9727			
Child Abuse	(800) 342-3720			
Dept.of Social Services	(631) 854-2300			
Domestic Violence				
-Brighter Tomorrow	(631) 395-1800			
-Vibes	(631) 360-3607			
-The Retreat	(631) 329-2200			
LI Against Domestic Violence	(631) 666-8833			
Elder Abuse	(631) 761-7470			
Food Stamps	(631) 789-9546			
Gamblers Ånonymous	(855) 222-5542			
Good Shepherd Hospice	(631) 376-3758			
Mental Health Emergency	(631) 952-3333			
Narcotics Anonymous	(631) 689-6262			
Nassau/Suffolk Law	(631) 232-2400			
Poison Control	(516) 542-2323			
Hope House	(631) 473-6030			
Office for the Aging	(631) 853-8200			
Overeaters Anonymous	(631) 260-6615			
Rachel's Hope-Post Abortion	(888) 456-4673			
-	(631) 751-7500			
Suicide Hotline (Services in English and Spanish)				
Catholic Charities Mental Health Clinics:				

Medford (631) 654-1919 **Bay Shore** (631) 665-6707

NYS Catholic Conference



Stop Physician-Assisted Suicide in New York

New York is on the brink of legalizing physician-assisted suicide. Bill A136 has already passed the Senate and Assembly. The only thing standing in its way is Governor Hochul's veto — and she needs to hear from you.

This bill would allow doctors to prescribe lethal medication with the sole purpose of ending a patient's life. It puts the most vulnerable among us — the elderly, people with disabilities, and those facing emotional or financial despair — at even greater risk. **Suicide is not healthcare.**

We must speak out to protect the dignity of every human life. Assisted suicide is a dangerous and deadly path — one we must not go down.

Take Action!



Contact the Governor's office now to oppose this deadly practice! Visit **bit.ly/veto-pas** or use the QR code.



The New York State Catholic Conference represents the Bishops of New York State in public policy matters. www.nyscatholic.org • 518-434-6195 • info@nyscatholic.org

TELL A NEIGHBOR - TELL A FRIEND

OCIA PROGRAM STARTS IN SEPTEMBER

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (formerly RCIA) is the process by which adults are gradually introduced to the Catholic faith and sacramental life.

This process is intended for:

- Unbaptized adults who seek to receive the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and the Holy Eucharist.
- Baptized non-Catholic Christians, who desire to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church.
- Baptized Catholics, who have not yet completed their sacraments of initiation (Confirmation and/or First Holy Communion).

Here at Saints Philip and James, the OCIA process begins in September and culminates at the Easter Vigil on April 4, 2026. If you know anyone —be it a neighbor, a friend, or a family member —who may be interested in this process, please share the program with them and ask them to **call the Parish Center at 631-584-5454** for more information. You may be doing them the greatest favor they have ever received.



FATHER SEAN BAPTIZING KATIE KIRK AT THE EASTER VIGIL 2025.



THE OCIA CANDIDATES AND THEIR SPONSORS AT THE EASTER VIGIL 2025



FATHER SEAN
ADMINISTERING
CONFIRMATION TO
SUSAN CORWIN
AT THE EASTER VIGIL 2025

Music Ministry

WEEKLY REFLECTION FROM MUSIC DIRECTOR MARGARET ADAMS

God's salvation is your gate to open. Walk through to feast on the other side. Time with God every day in prayer so we can go out and tell the good news.

Music: In "Morning Has Broken", we pray for the singing, God's recreation; "Prayer of St. Francis" our peace song, we pray for peace in a world that needs peace; and "Christ Be Our Light", God's light shows us the way.

This week I would like to focus on the Adult Choir. They rehearse Thursday nights from 7pm - 8:30pm in the Church, and sing on Sundays at the 10am Mass, starting September 11, 2025. Adults 18 and up are welcome to join!

Please call the Music Office at (631) 584-544, or email sspjmusicministry@gmail.com for further information.

Calling All Pilgrims!

Msgr. Brian McNamara, along with Fr. Louis Cona, is hosting a pilgrimage to Rome/Loreto/Cascia/Orvieto and Assisi from November 3 to November 12, 2025, during the Jubilee year. We will see Pope Leo XIV at the General Audience and visit the main shrines and basilicas, with daily Masses at the shrines and basilicas as well. For more information, check the St. Patrick (Smithtown) bulletin OR check the pilgrimage website: www.206tours.com/msgrmcnamara/jubilee.

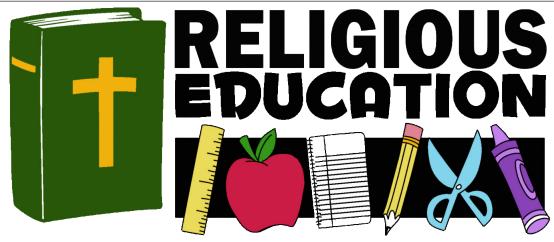
Parish50Ft

We're excited to share that Faith Direct will soon be upgrading to ParishSOFT Giving-our new, secure giving platform. This upgrade will happen automatically and securely. No action is required from you-your gift schedules and payment details will carry over seamlessly.

What's new about ParishSOFT Giving?

- Weekly Giving: If you selected weekly giving, your gifts will now be deducted each week instead of in one monthly batch.
- More Flexibility: Adjust your giving schedule to any date that works for you-not just the 4th or 15th.
- More Wáys to Give: Now you can donate using PayPal, Venmo, Apple Pay, or Google Pay.

We're committed to making this a smooth transition. You'll receive more information as we get closer to launch.



Registration is now open for the 2025-2026 Religious Education year!

In order to register please go to our website — www.sspj.org and look for Religious Education on the top bar. Click on that and "Registration" will be the first choice. Please read the "Registration Checklist" first as it lists all the forms that must be filled out. For payment, there is a direct link to Faith Direct.

Religious Education Parent Meetings for all grades will be held directly after all the masses (5pm, 8am, 10am, 12 pm) on the weekend of Sept. 13/14. The meetings will last approx. 30 minutes. Please plan to attend as we have some new items to share. See you then!

All returning 8th graders should already have their Decision Point books! Looking forward to seeing everyone!



PLEASE REGISTER EARLY!!



No One's Alone

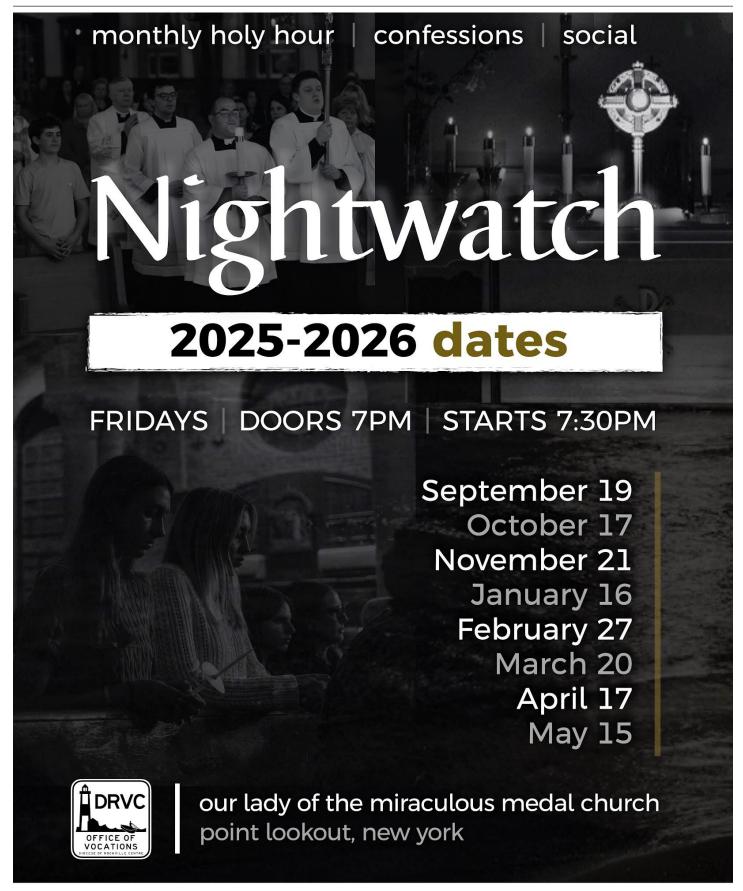
Our Community Commitment To You Is That No One Feels That They Are Alone

If you are an individual who lives alone without local family or friends to support your well being, we would like to hear from you!

Our New Ministry is all about sharing our Christian love by making a weekly phone call to reach out to you and check on your well-being. Life Alert Systems are greatly encouraged. However, loneliness, not feeling needed adds to accidents. A friendly weekly call will give you something to look forward to, and we want to do just that!

Sign up now by filling out the attached form, and place it in the collection basket, bring the completed form to our office, or call Parish Social Ministry. It's as simple as that, and you will receive a weekly call to brighten your day!

Release Form



drvcvocations.com

BLAISE NORTH SHORE YOUNG ADULT CATHOLICS

community, prayer, and education for young adults 21+

SCAN TO VIEW OUR UPCOMING EVENTS



CONTACT US:
BLAISECATHOLICS@GMAIL.COM

View our events: https://lu.ma/calendar/calu6nkDhatl2nwasb

Young adult Holy Hour

Ages 21-35

Every Second Saturday of the Month

March 8th

August 9th

April 12th

September 13th

May 10th

October 11th

June 14th

November 8th

July 12th

December 13th

Eucharistic Adoration, Reflection, Live Music, Confession Fellowship and a talk with pizza to follow



ST. BARNABAS THE APOSTLE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



2320 Bedford Ave, Bellmore NY Doors open at 6:45 PM, Begins at 7:00 PM

Instagram: southshoreli_catholicya | Email: southshorecatholicya@gmail.com





Experience the Catholic School Difference!







Now registering for the 2025-26 school year!

Discover the vibrant faith and academic excellence of our school communities on Long Island. Learn more about our programs and find the school closest to you by scanning the QR code below!



Take the next step!

www.drvcschools.org

Gospel Reflection

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C August 31, 2025

Gospel - Luke 14:1, 7-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

On a sabbath Jesus went to dine at the home of one of the leading Pharisees, and the people there were observing him carefully.

He told a parable to those who had been invited, noticing how they were choosing the places of honor at the table.

"When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet,

do not recline at table in the place of honor.

A more distinguished guest than you may have been invited by him, and the host who invited both of you may approach you and say, 'Give your place to this man' and then you would proceed with emba

'Give your place to this man,' and then you would proceed with embarrassment to take the lowest place.

Rather, when you are invited, go and take the lowest place so that when the host comes to you he may say, 'My friend, move up to a higher position.'

Then you will enjoy the esteem of your companions at the table.

For every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." Then he said to the host who invited him, "When you hold a lunch or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or your wealthy neighbors, in case they may invite you back and you have repayment.

Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you.

For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel Reflection Process

- Pray a simple prayer to the Holy Spirit: "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."
- Read the passage slowly. As you listen, ask in silence, "Lord, what are you saying to me in this passage?"
- Listen for a word or phrase that calls your attention or touches your heart.
- Share a brief story or experience of how the word or phrase connects to your life at this
 moment
- Ask in silence, "Lord, what do you want me to do?" Share what Jesus is inviting you to do.