

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

April 6, 2025 Fifth Sunday of Lent



Munich: Loreto Chapel at the Gasteig. 1926, Zentralinstitut für Kunstgeschichte, München, Germany.

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	1:30 – 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. Joe Lobo

Associate Pastor Rev. Dennis Gannon

Deacon John Keenan

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Sr. Theresita Donach, CSFN

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 Diane M. Anderson
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, March 29-30, 2025:

Collections from Weekend masses: \$11,742.15

Faith Direct

(126 Participants Weekly): \$3,374.00

Total Collection: \$15,116.,15

Collection for

Catholic Relief Services: \$ 2,687.05

FAITH DIRECT:

VISIT SSPJ.ORG CLICK ON FAITH DIRECT ICON USING 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, email Sister Theresita at srtheresita@sspj.org to ask about our OCIA program.



BAPTISM

Celebrated twice per month. Parents are asked to contact Sister Theresita at srtheresita@sspj.org 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 | Spc Nicole A. Cannon | 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 Cpl James T. Casey - USMC | SGT Joshua Mahoney - ARMY | Glen Crima - ARMY 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 | 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 | Justene Patch - 2ND Class USN MIDN Erin Nicastro - USNA | MLDN Kate Nicastro - USNA | Samantha Josephson - USAF 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 | Richard Wulforst, III -USA ANG

The Pastoral Letter from Rev. Sean Magaldi

My Dear Friends in Jesus Christ and Our Blessed Mother,

The Fifth Sorrowful Mystery is the Crucifixion and the Death of Jesus. More than likely, a person dies from asphyxiation when they are crucified. The way the Romans nailed people to the cross puts significant strain on his chest muscles, making it difficult to take deep breaths. Over time, the person struggles to lift himself to breathe, inevitably decreasing the oxygen in the blood. Slowly, the body's organs and tissues become damaged, which eventually leads to organ failure and, therefore, death. Did Jesus need to be crucified for us to be saved?

We know that nothing is impossible for God, so it would make sense that another way is possible (Lk 1:37). St. Thomas Aquinas writes, "It was possible for God to deliver mankind otherwise than by the passion of Christ" (Summa Theologiae III:46:2). Why then did God the Father allow Jesus to die on the cross if we could have been saved another way?

God is an infinite being, and our sin against Him is infinite. We, as finite beings, cannot close an infinite gap. As a result, Jesus' death on the cross paid the debt that we as humans cannot pay for ourselves (Summa Theologiae III:46:1). God desires us to be with Him so much that He was willing to make up for our sins with the blood of His son. His mercy is directly connected to His justice. St. Thomas tells us that "man of himself could not satisfy for the sin of all human nature" (ST III:46:3). As a result, God's justice and mercy work together to show the depth of His love for us.

Jesus' death displays God's love extraordinarily. Jesus tells us that there is no greater love than to lay down our lives for our friends (Jn 15:13). Karlo Broussard, in an article for Catholic Answers, writes, "Jesus speaks a language that we all understand - sacrificial death equals love." As Paul writes, "God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8). Jesus' death displays the love of God in a way that goes deeper than just words.

As we come near the end of Lent and move closer to Holy Week, we want to remember God's love for us and the depths He went to to show us His love and redeem us. During the last few days of Lent, I encourage you to meditate on the love of Christ for us from the cross. Think of His face of mercy and forgiveness from the cross and allow that to permeate intoyour prayer.

In Christ, Fr. Sean

Altar Memorials, Prayer Intentions, Mass Intentions and Schedule

THE BREAD AND WINE ARE OFFERED IN JOYFUL CELEBRATION OF

Peter O'Hara's Special Birthday! With Love From His Whole Family.

THE PRO-LIFE ROSE IS DEDICATED TO

The joyful Celebration of Peter O'Hara's Special Birthday! With Love From His Whole Family.

THE ALTAR CANDLES ARE BURNING IN IN JOYFUL CELEBRATION OF

Peter O'Hara's Special Birthday! With Love From His Whole Family.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP IS LIT IN JOYFUL CELEBRATION OF

Peter O'Hara's Special Birthday! With Love From His Whole Family.

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, Alan Piscak, Ann Marie, Amanda Rose Critella, Amanda Cacoperdo, Benito Fernandez, 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, Rose Bruno, Rob Remhild, Ronnie Reichert, Stephanie Seban, Tonia Perdue, Joan Cooper, Tim Tippett, Madeline Kelley, Diane Toto, Phillip Giarrupeto, Judy Hanrahan, Mary Di Carlo, Patricia Schecher, Nora Danko, Joanna Szymanski, Luke Salvatore Montesano, Anthony D'Angelis, Katie Hobbes, Leon Donach

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Saturday, April 5th	Reconciliation 4:00-5:00pm	9:15am	Gregoria Diaz
	Cantor: LoCastro Lector: Thompson/Hoffman EMs: Licari/Sisti/Anderson/Ruggieri/Drechsler	5:00pm	Frances Francica
Sunday, April 6th	Cantor: Stefanowski Lector: White/Czujko EMs: Kenney/Czujko/Sehne/Tully/Tully	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
	Cantor: Hill Lector: Lombardi/Tomasino	10:00am	Barbara Morgan
	EMs: Napolitano/Conti/Parish/Mulhall/Orlando/Consenz Cantor: Hill Lector: Geier/Latino EMs: Stack/Samson/Margaret/Chilton	12:00pm	<u>Collective Mass</u> Joey Morda, Anna & Edward Ceraso, Jack Steele, Peter O'Hara (Living), Tina Cafaro, Michael Colletta
Monday, April 7th	Adoration 1:30-7:00pm In the Church	7:30am	Stephen Krimsley
		9:15am	Irene Macdonald
Tuesday, April 8th		7:30am	Anthony & John Hurtado
		9:15am	Antonina Griffo
Wednesday, April 9th		7:30am	Carol Ann Boller
		9:15am	Gregory Mattia
Thursday, April 10th		7:30am	Michael Andrew Geiger III
		9:15am	Henry Schiefer
Friday, April 11th		7:30am	For the Pope
		9:15am	William Garthe
Saturday, April 12th	Reconciliation 4:00-5:00pm	9:15am	Antoinette Lamberti
	Cantor: Murtha Lector: Burke/Dias EMs: Damato/Mantia/Sisti/Drechsler/Ruggieri	5:00pm	Joseph Caltabiano
Sunday, April 13th	Cantor: Meringolo Lector: Merlino/Carey EMs: Koke/Portanova/Ramos/Sehne/Tully	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
	Cantor: Lohmann Lector: Franco/Doran	10:00am	Maria Fazio
	EMs: Calderone/Luna/Suski/Mulhall/Orlando/Sotomayer		Collective Mass
	Cantor: Hill Lector: Gebbia/O'Connor	12:00pm	George A. Fabian, Antoinette Lamberti, Tina Cafaro, Michael Colletta,
	EMs: Rubano/Bleggi/Chilton/Rubano	STURBERS OF STREET, AND PROST	Michael Hubbard & Alva Hubbard



Dear Friends,

Several years ago, Fr. Adam MacDonald SVD (Divine Word Missionary) conducted a retreat at SSPJ Parish. I thought I would remind you of a few things he shared with us, even though we are deep into the Lenten season.

We learned that **LENT** meant **Let**'s **End N**egative **T**hinking. Wow, now I have another thought to add to my course on becoming a Complaint-Free Person. It is interesting how Lent can be a time to concentrate on being a more positive person. It fits in with some of what Pope Francis has suggested to abstain from during Lent. Having done a little work in this area, I know that if



the mouth does not speak what the mind is thinking, eventually the mind retools and starts thinking positive thoughts that the mouth is happy to proclaim.

Fr. Adam also shared that lent is time for **AAA**, which is not the roadside assistance group. It is time for your **ANNUAL ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT**. It is during the time of Lent and Advent that we get a chance to slow down and have more time for prayer and reflection, and we can check in to see where we are on our journey with God. What needs to change? What needs to improve? What needs to be let go of? There is still time to adjust our attitudes.

So where do you and I go from here? How have your resolutions been going? Is there a need for your **ANNUAL ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT** to take hold, or could you need **L**et's **E**nd **N**egative **T**hinking? We each know ourselves well and know what needs to be done with what is happening on our journey. Take that silent time to reflect on where you want to be going and who you want to travel with. Discipline might be the hardest thing to accomplish, but together we can do it. Offer yourself words of encouragement and plan to finish lent strongly as you prepare to celebrate the holiest of our Church's weeks. We can do it.

Happy Lent,

Till next week, Sister Theresita

Masses/Services During Holy Week

The Parish Office will be closed from 12 Noon on Holy Thursday until 9 AM Tuesday, April 22nd.

Confessions - Monday, April 14th

2:00-4:00 PM, 7:00-9:00 PM

Holy Thursday - April 17th

9:15 AM Morning Prayer

7:00 PM Mass of Our Lord's Last Supper

Good Friday - April 18th

9:15 AM Morning Prayer

3:00 PM Passion of Our Lord

7:00 PM Stations of the Cross Holy Saturday - April 19th

9:15 AM Morning Prayer

9:30 AM Blessing of the Easter Bread

7:00 PM Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday - April 20th

8:00 AM Mass

10:00 AM Mass

12:00 NOON Mass













Parish Social Ministry

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

Evelyn M. Stoehr

OUR FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:

We are fully stocked – Thank you!

S:

PRAYER BLANKETS

The next Senior meeting will be held on April 28, 2025. From 1:30-3:30 PM in the Sts. Philip & James room. Please join us for an afternoon of faith, friendship, and fun.

THE RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE The Respect Life Committee invites all to join us in praying the Rosary at 8 AM, M-F, in the prayer room of the Church.

We are a little more than halfway through Lent. Perhaps you are continuing to look for an opportunity to bolster your Lenten journey. There are still books available in the lobby kiosk as well as the opportunity to pray the rosary at 8AM in the prayer room, Monday through Friday. We gather to pray to Mary for all life and especially for the unborn. Please join us.



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

LENTEN OPPORTUNITY

During the days of the Holy Week Triduum, Morning Prayer will be held at 9:15 AM in the Church. It is a wonderful way in which to prepare yourself for the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

LENT

Loving God, during the sacred season of Lent, bring me closer to You. Prepare a place in my home and heart for silence and solitude, so that I may re-discover the grace of a prayer-full life.

LAUDATO SI

All is interdependent, all is interconnected. We cannot say we love God if we do not love our neighbor. We cannot say we love our neighbor if we do not care for the air, the water, the land, the ecological systems, the intricate web of life upon which we all depend for life itself. Nor can we say that we love God if we do not care for God's gift of Creation in all its wonders and richness.

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS 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 Anonymous	(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
Suicide Hotline	(631) 751-7500

Music Ministry

WEEKLY REFLECTION FROM MUSIC DIRECTOR MARGARET ADAMS

Easter is on the horizon and I have been preparing music for Holy Week and Easter. An exciting time in the church. Gloria returns, Alleluia's are back, Christ is risen. But...we still have a couple of weeks to go. How is your Lent going?

All of us are sinners and need God's merciful love. Jesus doesn't condemn us so we shouldn't cast stones.

SSPJ Faith Sharing Group

We'll be meeting each Wednesday of Lent, from 10-11am starting March 12th.

There are still books available for this Lenten journey,

"Walking with Mary to Jerusalem". All are welcome to join!

The signup sheet for EMs for the Services/Masses for Holy Week and Easter will be posted in the Prayer Room on April 7th.

Keeping the pews bright and shiny. REO students were hard at work!



PARISHIONERS WANTED!!!



S.S. P.J. VS St. Pat's

The First Inaugural Elite 8



Which parish will take home "The Sir Stanley Frost Cup"?

The first 16 parishioners to sign up from each parish will entered into the Curling Tournament. No experience is necessary for lessons will be provided.

- 1. Each parish will be split into 4 teams of 4 = 8 teams in total. (32 people)
- 2. The 4 SSPJ teams will compete against each other, while the 4 St. Pat's teams are squaring off.
- 3. The 2 winning squads will play for the Lord Stanly Frost Cup, while the losing teams continue to play each other throughout the event.

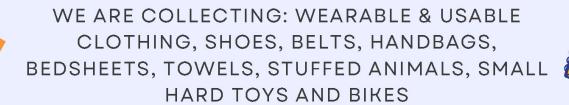
The Curling Tournament is Saturday, May 17th at 9:00 -11:30 am. Location is the Sports Hub / 165 Eileen Way / Syosset, NY 11791 The event will cost \$65/ athlete: Checks made to St. Patrick's Church and sent to Brooke Bonomi/ 11Evon Lane / St. James, NY /11780 The events will last 2.5 hours. This will include lessons and rules instruction.

For more information contact Brooke Bonomi at (631) 560-8693



CLOTHING DRIVE





OUR SCHOOL WILL RECEIVE MONEY FOR EVERY POUND WE COLLECT



TIME: 9:00AM - 12:00PM

LOCATION: Sts. Philip and James School SIDE Parking Lot!

CONTACT: Call/Text Faye Saladino 646-573-9014



NOTE:

Please put all that you are donating into tightly tied plastic bags





Save The Date July 9th, 2025



The Annual KofC Charity Golf Outing at Crab Meadow Golf Course in Northport.

Our Pastor, Father Sean Magaldi is this year's Honoree. Father Sean, from Albertson, Nassau County, graduated from Chaminade HS and Adelphi University. He entered the Seminary in 2010 and was ordained in June 2015. He was first assigned to St Patrick's Parish in Smithtown. Fr Sean was later appointed Vocations Director for the Diocese of Rockville Center. In 2021, he was appointed Chaplain at Stony Brook University and Director of Campus Ministry, while continuing as Vocations Director. Fr Sean was appointed as the 12th pastor of Sts Philip and James Parish in 2024 and remains Chaplain at SBU and Director of SBU Campus Ministry. Our Council welcomes Fr Sean as this year's Golf Outing Honoree.



All proceeds support local charities: Food Pantries, Food For Families, Coats For Kids, The Light House Mission, SSPJ Parish Outreach, Veterans, and more.

1:30 PM Shot Gun Start - \$225 per golfer. Come out and play a round for charity.

Golf, Cart, Driving Range, Lunch, Dinner, Beer, Wine, Soda, Dessert, Great Prizes, Raffles

T Sign Sponsors - \$100, Lunch Sponsors - \$1000, Dinner Sponsor - \$2000, Sponsors for Beverages on the Course - \$1000.

Sponsor the Welcome Bags - promote your business with a donation to purchase or provide a bag, sleeve of golf balls, hat, towel, tees, etc., with your name/logo on them, given to each golfer. Sponsor Golfing Prizes - closest to the pin, etc.; Sponsor Prizes for the Silent Raffle.

All Sponsors will be recognized by a sign on the Course, listed in the SSPJ Bulletin after the outing, and on our web site. *Sponsor donations are tax-deductible as advertising.*Members and participants are strongly encouraged to patronize our business sponsors.

Amount of donation: Business Name:	
Name of Contact:	
Address:	
Telephone number / Email	
Type of sponsorship	
Content on sign:	
For us to use your logo or business card, please enclose or send it to me as a pdf.	
lf you plan to play golf, please provide: Name – Phone – Email	
	1

Contact: Stephen Yazulla to discuss Outing and Sponsorship details. 631-806-5534; syazulla@gmail.com.

Please copy Stephen by email, send Checks and the completed Form to: SSPJ KofC #12839 [Golf Outing]
P.O. Box 201,
St James, NY 11780



SSPJ Author Visit and Book Signing

SS. Philip and James Catholic Church parishioner, Joseph L. Licari came to visit our students in grades K-4 and shared his latest released book - "Mia's Marvelous Farm Adventure" along with his previous book "Mia's Mouses". Students were attentive, engaged, and enjoyed listening to the stories. Students also received personally signed copies of his book.



My Weekly Gospel Reflection for Grades 1-3

MY NAME IS _____SSPJ SCHOOL____

Please bring this to mass with you next weekend.



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My Weekly Gospel Reflection for Grades 4-6

MY NAME IS _____SSPJ SCHOOL____

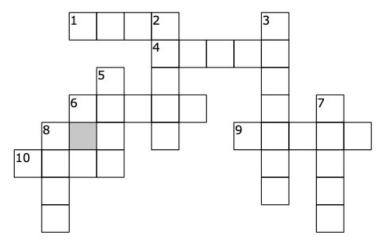
Please bring this to mass with you next weekend.

A Most Precious Gift

Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. John 12:3a (NIV)

Based on John 12:1-8





ACROSS

- The part of the body on which a person stands
- The building in which a family lives
- 6. What we use to buy things
- The disciple who betrayed Jesus
- What grows on the head of a person

DOWN

- A person who steals
- A liquid produced and sold for its pleasant smell
- 5. The opposite of rich
- Pay received for the labor of a worker
- The woman who poured perfume on the feet of Jesus

JUDAS	HOUSE	FEET	MARY	MONEY
POOR	THIEF	PERFUME	WAGES	HAIR

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My Weekly Gospel Reflection for Grades 7-8

MY NAME IS ______MY GRADE IS ____SSPJ SCHOOL____

Please bring this to mass with you next weekend.

A Most Precious Gift

Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. John 12:3a (NIV)

Based on John 12:1-8



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MARTHA	PERFUME	FILLED	DEAD	POURED	Π
POOR	HOUSE	MARY	WIPED	LAZARUS	
RAISED	FEET	MONEY	EXPENSIVE	JESUS	
JUDAS	PASSOVER	FRAGRANCE	BETRAYED	HAIR	

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Gospel Reflection

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion - Year C April 13, 2025

Gospel - Luke 23: 1-49

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The elders of the people, chief priests and scribes, arose and brought Jesus before Pilate. They brought charges against him, saying, "We found this man misleading our people; he opposes the payment of taxes to Caesar and maintains that he is the Christ, a king." Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

He said to him in reply, "You say so."

Pilate then addressed the chief priests and the crowds, "I find this man not guilty."
But they were adamant and said, "He is inciting the people with his teaching throughout all Judea,

from Galilee where he began even to here."

On hearing this Pilate asked if the man was a Galilean; and upon learning that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod who was in Jerusalem at that time.

Herod was very glad to see Jesus; he had been wanting to see him for a long time,

for he had heard about him and had been hoping to see him perform some sign.

He questioned him at length, but he gave him no answer.

The chief priests and scribes, meanwhile, stood by accusing him harshly.

Herod and his soldiers treated him contemptuously and mocked him,

and after clothing him in resplendent garb, he sent him back to Pilate.

Herod and Pilate became friends that very day, even though they had been enemies formerly.

Pilate then summoned the chief priests, the rulers, and the people

and said to them, "You brought this man to me and accused him of inciting the people to revolt.

I have conducted my investigation in your presence and have not found this man guilty

of the charges you have brought against him, nor did Herod, for he sent him back to us.

So no capital crime has been committed by him.

Therefore I shall have him flogged and then release him."

But all together they shouted out, "Away with this man!

Release Barabbas to us."

— Now Barabbas had been imprisoned for a rebellion that had taken place

in the city and for murder. —

Again Pilate addressed them, still wishing to release Jesus, but they continued their shouting, "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

Pilate addressed them a third time, "What evil has this man done?

I found him guilty of no capital crime.

Therefore I shall have him flogged and then release him."

With loud shouts, however, they persisted in calling for his crucifixion, and their voices prevailed.

The verdict of Pilate was that their demand should be granted.

So he released the man who had been imprisoned for rebellion and murder, for whom they asked, and he handed Jesus over to them to deal with as they wished.

Page 1

As they led him away they took hold of a certain Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming in from the country; and after laying the cross on him, they made him carry it behind Jesus.

A large crowd of people followed Jesus, including many women who mourned and lamented him. Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me;

weep instead for yourselves and for your children for indeed, the days are coming when people will say, 'Blessed are the barren, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed.'

At that time people will say to the mountains,

'Fall upon us!' and to the hills, 'Cover us!'

for if these things are done when the wood is green what will happen when it is dry?" Now two others, both criminals, were led away with him to be executed.

When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him and the criminals there, one on his right, the other on his left. Then Jesus said,

"Father, forgive them, they know not what they do." They divided his garments by casting lots.

The people stood by and watched; the rulers, meanwhile, sneered at him and said,

"He saved others, let him save himself if he is the chosen one, the Christ of God."

Even the soldiers jeered at him. As they approached to offer him wine they called out, "If you are King of the Jews, save yourself." Above him there was an inscription that read, "This is the King of the Jews."

Now one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us." The other, however, rebuking him, said in reply,

"Have you no fear of God, for you are subject to the same condemnation?

And indeed, we have been condemned justly, for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes, but this man has done nothing criminal." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied to him,

"Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle. Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit"; and when he had said this he breathed his last.

Here all kneel and pause for a short time.

The centurion who witnessed what had happened glorified God and said,

"This man was innocent beyond doubt." When all the people who had gathered for this spectacle saw what had happened, they returned home beating their breasts; but all his acquaintances stood at a distance, including the women who had followed him from Galilee and saw these events.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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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.