

The Parish of Saints Philip and James

1 Carow Place, St. James, NY 11780

631-584-5454

January 12, 2025 The Baptism of the Lord



The Altar of St. John
Rogier van der Weyden around 1455,
Gemäldegalerie, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Berlin.

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

MASS TIMES

Weekday 7:30 AM, 9:15 AM
Saturday 9:15 AM, 5 PM (Vigil)
Sunday 8 AM (Live-streaming via Facebook), 10:00 AM, 12 NOON

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4 – 5 PM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday 1:30 – 7 PM

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 Monday, Tuesday &
 Wednesday **9 AM-6 PM**
 Thursday **9 AM - 6 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
 Parish 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

Thanking you for your generosity
Financial Support Needed weekly to meet Parish budget: \$16,700

Collection: Christmas Contributions 2024:
 Collections from Christmas masses: \$46,149.50
 Faith Direct
 (126 Participants Weekly): \$ 4,015.00
Total Collection: \$50,164.50

Weekly Collection: Sunday, January 5th, 2025:
 Collections from Weekend masses: \$17,852.05
 Faith Direct
 (126 Participants Weekly): \$ 3,374.00
Total Collection: \$21,226.05

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.

RCIA

For adults looking to become Catholic or receive Confirmation, email rcia@svsc.info to ask about our RCIA program. Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (non-Catholic adults desiring to become Catholic) are asked to contact the Parish Center Office.



BAPTISM

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

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.

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 RCIA.

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 CAPT. MICHAEL T. DOLAN- JR. -D.O, US ARMY
 LT. COL. JOHN KAIREs 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. CORY O'HARA -USMC
 SGT. CONNOR F. SCOTT- USMC 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 LARISSA DORRIAN, US MARINE CPL
 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 MARIO CATANIA-USMC
 MIDN ERIN NICASTRO, USNA MLDN KATE NICASTRO, USNA MAJ. BRENDAN JOHNSTON-USAF
 CHRISTOPHER A. HIONIDIS-USAF MICHAEL HIONIDIS, USM EMMETT MOLONEY -USN
 HANK MOLONEY—USAF CARL JOSEPHSON-USAF DANIEL JOSEPHSON-USAF CONNOR TOOMEY, USM LT.
 SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON-USAF RICHARD WULFORST, III USA ANG JAMES A KOESTER, USA 2ND LT

The Pastoral Letter from Rev. Sean Magaldi

My Dear Friends in Jesus Christ and Our Blessed Mother,

This weekend, we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. I want everyone to take a moment this upcoming week and meditate on the fact that we are adopted sons and daughters of God the Father. In Sunday's Gospel, we heard the Father say that Jesus is His beloved Son in whom He is well pleased. Those words are directed to us as well. I challenge all of you to take time and think about how the Father looks at you. You are His son or daughter, and He delights in you.

I wrote about similar ideas when I first arrived, but it bears repeating. If we believe God is our Father, we can trust Him as Jesus did. In His ministry, Jesus experiences rejection and abandonment, but His gaze never leaves the Father. When we are rejected and abandoned, do we turn to the Father? The reality of being a son or daughter of God is the fundamental identity that the enemy often attacks. The enemy tempts us to rely on ourselves rather than depend on the Father.

We don't want to just think about God and His characteristics or attributes but rather encounter the love of the Father, which is a pure gift. We don't generate this independently, but it is a gift that is freely given. The love that comes to us from God can heal us from the lies that come from the enemy and diminish our joy. Even the sonship of Jesus gets attacked by the enemy when He is in the desert.

Jesus finds Himself in the desert after His baptism. In the desert, the devil says, "If you are the Son of God..." and then tempts Him. If the devil says that to Jesus, think about what he'll say to us. Jesus can resist temptation because He truly knows the Father. We learn about the Father through Jesus. Jesus shows us how we can remain in the love of the Father. When we remain in His love, we are safe to be who He created us to be. Let us take some time this week to allow the Father to love us and to know that we are His beloved sons and daughters.

**In Christ,
Fr. Sean**

Altar Memorials, Prayer Intentions, Mass Intentions and Schedule

THE BREAD AND WINE ARE OFFERED IN MEMORY OF

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

THE PRO-LIFE ROSE IS DEDICATED TO

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

THE ALTAR CANDLES ARE LIT IN MEMORY OF

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

THE SANCTURARY LAMP IS LIT IN MEMORY OF

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

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, Ann Bayard Michael Mattia, Michael Scorca Grayson Danielski, Alan Piscak, Ann Marie, Amanda Rose Critella, Amanda Cacoperdo Benito Fernandez, Brenden Toomey Carmela Montesano, Donna Fabrizio David Beleck, Brittany Lundberg Ed Ceraso, Edward Luna, Jessie Lokai John V Leone, Kathleen Martin, Kerry Larry Baldwin, Mia Mednick Patrice Henry Rose Bruno, Rob Remhild Ronnie Reichert, Raymond Grayson Stephanie Seban, Tina Cafaro, Tonia Perdue, Joan Cooper, Tim Tippet, Baby Luca, Madeline Kelley

<i>Saturday, January 11th</i>	Reconciliation 4:00-5:00pm	9:15am	Kathleen Rومان
	Cantor: McCulloh Lector: Burke/Student Lector EMs: Taurassi/Drechsler/Duffy/Toto/Ruggieri	5:00pm	Patricia Casey
<i>Sunday, January 12th</i>	Cantor: Meringolo Lector: Waldmann/Tomasino EMs: Rizzo/Ramos/Sica/Tully/Tully	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
	Cantor: Lupinacci Lector: Sehne/DeRosa EMs: Suski/Keane/Luna/Conti/Napolitano/Mulhall	10:00am	Carol Walz
	Cantor: Hill Lector: Doran/Farrell EMs: Samson/Latino/Bleggi/Orlando	12:00pm	<u>Collective Mass</u> Geraldine May Mueller Robert & William Somerville Kenneth Maher Jr.
<i>Monday, January 13th</i>	Adoration 1:30-7:00pm In the Church	7:30am	Ellen Quackenbush
<i>Tuesday, January 14th</i>		9:15pm	Angie Martinez
		7:30am	Dennis P. Ahern
		9:15pm	Christopher Hurtado (Living)
<i>Wednesday, January 15th</i>		7:30am	Thomas Drechsler
		9:15pm	Gregory Mattia
<i>Thursday, January 16th</i>		7:30am	Marie Compagno
		9:15pm	For the Souls in Purgatory
<i>Friday, January 17th</i>		7:30am	Patrick J. Kelly
		9:15pm	Kenneth Maher Jr.
<i>Saturday, January 18th</i>	Reconciliation 4:00-5:00pm	9:15am	Anthony Hurtado
	Cantor: Feeney Lector: Healy/Student Lector EMs: Taurassi/Mantia/Anderson/Damato/Urci	5:00pm	Patrick Jameson Kelly
<i>Sunday, January 19th</i>	Cantor: Lohmann Lector: Czujko/O'Connor EMs: Dervan/Diaz/Licari/Sica/Tully	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
	Cantor: Meringolo Lector: Zahorodny/Franco EMs: Amen/Parish/Clarke/Czujko/Licari/McKie	10:00am	Geraldine Szymanski
	Cantor: Cazzaniga Lector: Kollmer/Dias EMs: Kaleita Jr./Rubano/Rubano/Margaret	12:00pm	<u>Collective Mass</u> Mary Castiglie Anderson, Margaret Olsen, Otto Schindlar, Debra Santiago, Robert Gallagher

Sr. Theresita just returned to the U.S. and is excited to share all the joy and hope experienced in Rome, but in the meantime please take time to pray and ponder The Jubilee Prayer:

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both humanity
and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.
Amen

Franciscus





STS. PHILIP AND JAMES SCHOOL & ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025
11AM – 1:30PM

WHY SSPJ?

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



(631) 584-7896

www.sspjschool.net

danderson@sspjschool.net

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

BEHOLD 2025

**PENTECOST
SUNDAY**

LOCATION

ST. ANTHONY'S HIGH SCHOOL
SOUTH HUNTINGTON, NY

JUNE 8



WWW.DRVC.ORG/CONGRESS



Scout Sunday

Scout Sunday is being celebrated
Feb 9th
at the 10am Mass at SSPJ.

This will be for local BSA cub scout
packs and troops.

Scouts should come dressed in
class A uniform.



5 STEPS SAFE ADULTS CAN TAKE TO PROTECT YOUTH ONLINE



1 Maintain open and ongoing
communication about social media
and online interactions

2 Monitor technology use
(trust but verify)

3 Set and enforce
boundaries for utilization
of social media and tech

4 Educate yourself on the
latest trends and potential
risks

5 Inform children and youth they
can always tell you if someone
makes them feel scared,
uncomfortable or unsafe online



www.virtus.org

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 request a memorial.

John H. Haug, Kenneth Maher, Jr.

Patricia A. McNiff, Dominick Lo Castro



CARE FOR CREATION

Earth now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God Has endowed her. We have come to see ourselves as her lords and masters, entitled to plunder her at will. We have forgotten that we ourselves are dust of the earth; our bodies are made up of her elements, we breathe her air, and we receive life and refreshment from her waters.



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

SENIORS

The next meeting of the SSPJ Seniors is on Monday, January 13 from 1:30-3:30 in the Philip & James Room. Please join us for an afternoon of faith, friendship, and fun.

OUR FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:

Canned Corned Beef
Cannellini Beans
Canned Beef Chili with Beans



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.

Welcome to this new year of possibilities to defend life! We invite all to turn to Our Lord Jesus Christ in prayer to guide us in this effort. Act by calling your state legislator. Call Assembly 518-455-4218; Senate 518-455-2800 to contact your legislator. Tell them to preserve life, prevent suicide. Help Physicians role as Healers. Protect vulnerable people from financial, psychological, or other pressures. Join us for the rosary 8AM Mon.-Fri. in the prayer room! Attend adoration Mon. anytime 1:30PM to 7PM in the Main Church.

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

You are never alone

AA 24 Hour Hotline	631-669-1124
Al-Anon	631-669-2827
Birthingright	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

Our youngest parishioners in our Children's Liturgy group presented "The Story of the Birth of Jesus" on the Epiphany of the Lord. Thanks to all of the hard work by our volunteers. This was followed by a delicious breakfast hosted by the Knights of Columbus!



Watch
live & on
demand.



www.cfntv.org

POWERED BY OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS • DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE



Music Ministry

WEEKLY REFLECTION FROM MUSIC DIRECTOR MARGARET ADAMS

This weekend is the Baptism of the Lord. Today marks the end of the Christmas season. After this weekend the Gloria will not be sung but spoken until the Easter season and we will be singing the Mass of Renewal until Lent when it changes to the Chant Mass.

Joy to the World is our Sending Forth hymn this weekend. An interesting fact about this hymn. Written by Issac Watts (1674-1748), the hymn is based on the second half of Psalm 98, The Coming of God. Usually sung at Christmas but the text is appropriate throughout the year especially when the theme is kingdom. A melody was arranged by Lowell Mason, an early American church musician, from

Handel's Messiah. This expressed the joy of the text. I always find it interesting to uncover facts about hymns we often sing.

The choirs are getting back from their Christmas time off. This is a good time to join. Easter will be here before you know it.

Remember Sing a hymn to him.

Join the Music Ministry!!

SSPJ Faith Sharing Group



Would you like to experience a more peaceful, joyful, and meaningful Advent than you have before?

Join us as we journey through the season, exploring scripture with engaging videos, readings, prayer, and discussion. We will be using the book *Rejoice! An Advent Pilgrimage into the Heart of Scripture* by Fr. Mark Touns. It follows the Sunday scripture readings with short daily reflections, prayers, and space for you to record your own thoughts. Books are available (\$10) from Sr. Theresita at the parish center office; call 631-584-5454 with any questions.

New and returning members are welcome to join us on Wednesday mornings in the Bethany Center from 10:00 - 11:00.

The Faith Sharing Group will resume meeting on Wednesday January 15th in the Bethany Center from 10:00 - 11:00. All are welcome. We wish you all a blessed and grace-filled Christmas season!

Thank you for your patience and grace as the SSPJ Bulletins goes through a makeover in the coming weeks!

For anyone who believes they have a Sexual Abuse Claim against an Additional Debtor (parish) arising prior to December 3, 2024, the claim form to submit and related information can be found at <https://dm.epiq11.com/case/drvc/info> under the "Proof of Claim Form" heading. The deadline for filing claims is January 13, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. prevailing Eastern time.

Religious Education

Jan. 13 – 5th Grade Reconciliation at 5:30- 6:30

Jan. 15 – Nicene Creed Mass (a requirement for 8th grade Confirmation students) 7pm



There is a profound and basic truth proclaimed repeatedly in Sacred Scripture. It is a very simple truth: God loves us. In love, God created the world. In love, God breathed life into Adam and Eve as He created them in His image. In love, God the Father sent his son as our Savior. His gift of love became visible in the flesh of Jesus Christ. Through his love, we are forgiven. In imitation of the love that we have received, we are called to embody God's love. This is the cause of our great joy!

All are called to love

Every person is called to the joy of love—just as God has loved us! As St. John proclaims,

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.... Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another. No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us, and His love is brought to perfection in us. (1 John 4: 7–12)

This beautiful proclamation expresses the vocation of all people, which is to be open to God's love and to embody God's love in return. As Christians, it is our universal call to give love and to receive love.

The ability to know, give, and receive love is a gift from God—it is a sharing in His divine nature. Since God is love itself, we were created by love, in love, to love. This fundamental truth should guide all relationships between people, not least those between people called to share their lives in the covenant of marriage.

God's love is at the heart of marriage. Married love is free, faithful, permanent, and fruitful—open to life (see *Gaudium et Spes*, 49–50; *Humanae Vitae*, 9; *Amoris Laetitia*, 74, 125). Married love joins husband and wife so that they become “one flesh” (Gen 2: 24). Within the arms of husband and wife, God desired the perfect environment be created to welcome new life into the world. Marriage creates the family!

Chastity helps us to love deeply and selflessly!

God has written the capacity to give and to receive love into the hearts of every person. One beautiful expression of God's plan of love is that He created us with sexuality—male and female. Human sexuality—whether male or female—is woven into our very bodies, and affects all aspects of human existence, including our relationships with one another.

In a world wounded by sin, the virtue of chastity strengthens us to express love in ways that are holy and genuine—whether we are married, single, celibate, or vowed in religious life. In fact, loving chastity enables us to maintain “the integrity of the powers of life and love” that have been given to us and therefore helps us to respect ourselves and the personal boundaries of other people (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2338). Within marriage, chastity protects the integrity of husband and wife, especially with respect to their gifts of union and procreation. Chastity calls husband and wife to a right order of their love for each other within God's design for their marriage.

Marriage and parenthood

In marriage, human sexuality brings together the fullness of love and life. The precious gift of fertility is a beautiful participation in the creative Spirit of God as He calls into existence a new person. Of all the various profound forms of human relationship, marriage, or Holy Matrimony, was willed by God as a blessing from the beginning of creation (Gen 2:18–25; Mt 19: 1–6). God did not want the man to be alone. God made a suitable partner for him—the woman. Together, they form the one-flesh union of marriage which has the potential to give life and create a family. God intended marital love to accept and nurture the power of life.

The nature of marriage calls spouses to a sacred stewardship over the twofold gifts of love and life. Within this vocation, a husband and wife celebrate their human sexuality in all its fullness. Their conjugal union is “meant to express the full meaning of love,” as willed by God, “its power to bind a couple together and its openness to new life” (USCCB, *Married Love and the Gift of Life*, 4).

NFP—cooperating with God's design for married love

In marriage, serious reasons may arise that cause husband and wife to limit the size of their family. These reasons can include financial stresses, physical illness, psychological and even spiritual difficulties. So, what are the moral ways for a couple to accept God's gift of fertility and yet cooperate with God to plan their families?

Authentic family planning honors God's design by supporting the love-giving and life-giving nature of sexual intercourse. It promotes openness to new life and the value of the child. And it helps to enrich the marital bond between husband and wife. Authentic family planning builds healthy and holy families. In the world of family planning, only the methods of Natural Family Planning (NFP) check “Yes” to all these moral characteristics!

NFP methods make use of fertility education. All NFP education teaches husband and wife about their fertile time (the time of the wife's ovulation when an egg is released from her ovary). NFP methods can be used to either attempt a pregnancy or avoid one. When avoiding, couples abstain from conjugal relations during the fertile time of the woman. No drugs, devices, or surgical procedures are used with NFP. Any woman, no matter the variety in her menstrual cycle, can use

an NFP method. That is because NFP methods help the wife to recognize her unique signs of fertility, which she will observe daily.

Love, naturally and generously

It is time to consider and embrace all that God has given us. Take the time to learn, reflect, and pray about God's marvelous plan for men, women, and Holy Matrimony. Answer the call to cooperate with God's design for married love. Share God's vision of human sexuality lovingly with your family members, friends, and neighbors. Accepting God's invitation to the joy of love is to embrace all aspects of His divine plan for your marriage. If accepted, it will bring joy to your marriage!

Learn more

Catholic teaching on love and human sexuality
usccb.org/topics/natural-family-planning/love-and-sexuality

Catholic teaching on married love and the gift of life
usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/natural-family-planning/catholic-teaching/upload/Married-Love-and-the-Gift-of-Life-English-version.pdf

Natural Family Planning
usccb.org/topics/natural-family-planning/what-natural-family-planning

Where to learn an NFP method
usccb.org/topics/natural-family-planning/find-nfp-class

Useful marriage-focused websites
foryourmarraige.org; marriageuniqueforareason.org

Cannot find what you need? Contact nfp@usccb.org.

©2022, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 3211 4th St, NE, Washington, DC 20017; Natural Family Planning Program, Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth; tel. 202-541-3240; nfp@usccb.org. Permission is given to use this text for educational purposes. Include the following text: Text taken from “Called to the Joy of Love” ©2022, US Conference of Catholic Bishops. Used with permission.



My Weekly Gospel Reflection for Grades 1-3

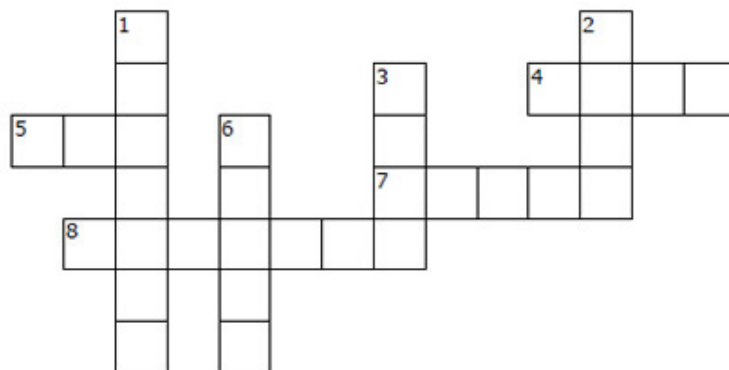
MY NAME IS _____ MY GRADE IS _____ SSPJ SCHOOL _____

Please bring this to mass with you next weekend.

Jesus, the One and Only

And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." Luke 3:22b (NIV)

Based on Luke 3:15-17, 21-22



ACROSS

4. The name of the man who baptized Jesus
5. A male offspring
7. The sound produced by vibration of the human vocal cords
8. To cover briefly completely in water or pour water over a person's head

DOWN

1. A shoe consisting of a sole fastened to the foot by straps
2. A deep feeling of affection for a person
3. A bird often used as a symbol of peace
6. Clear, colorless, odorless, tasteless liquid; H₂O

SON	DOVE	BAPTIZE	SANDALS
LOVE	JOHN	WATER	VOICE

My Weekly Gospel Reflection for Grades 4-6

MY NAME IS _____ MY GRADE IS _____ SSPJ SCHOOL _____

Please bring this to mass with you next weekend.

What stood out most to you in the First or Second Reading? (ie: Did you learn something new? What surprised you, shocked you, made you happy, or brought you peace?)

What is something the Priest talked about in his Homily? (ie: How did he relate the readings to everyday life?)

Empowered with the love of God in the Eucharist, what can you do this week to put the message of the readings into action? (ie: How will you bring Christ to the world today? What will you do to show God's love to others?)

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.

What stood out most to you in the Gospel? (ie: Did you learn something new? What surprised you, shocked you, made you happy, or brought you peace?)

What is something the Priest talked about in his Homily? (ie: How did he relate the readings to everyday life?)

Empowered with the love of God in the Eucharist, what can you do this week to put the message of the readings into action? (ie: How will you bring Christ to the world today? What will you do to show God's love to others?)



Prayer Invitation



Please join a nationwide prayer effort for the end of abortion
and the protection of women and preborn children.



St. Joseph, Defender of Life, pray for us!

*Explanation from
Bishops Broglio and Burbidge
available by clicking on the QR code*



DIOCESE of ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Office of Human Life,
Family and Bioethics

Gospel Reflection

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

January 19, 2025

Gospel - John 2: 1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding.

When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."

And Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come."

His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you."

Now there were six stone water jars there for Jewish ceremonial washings, each holding twenty to thirty gallons.

Jesus told the them, "Fill the jars with water."

So they filled them to the brim.

Then he told them, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter."

So they took it.

And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine, without knowing where it came from

— although the servers who had drawn the water knew —, the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him,

"Everyone serves good wine first,

and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now."

Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs at Cana in Galilee

and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel Reflection Process

- ♦ Prayer to the Holy Spirit.
- ♦ Read the Gospel.
- ♦ Choose an echo (a phrase that calls your attention or speaks to the heart).
- ♦ Think of a story or an experience of why they chose that echo.
- ♦ Make a short prayer of promise (something practical you are going to do as a result of reflecting on this Gospel.)