

St. John the Evangelist

Roman Catholic Church



December 1, 2024
First Sunday of Advent

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul, to you I lift my soul. ~Psalm 25



December 1, 2024

25 Ocean Avenue, Center Moriches, New York, 11934-3968
631-878-0009 | rectory@sjecm.org

OUR PARISH MISSION

Inspired by our Patron, St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church in Center Moriches seeks to bring the light of Christ to a world in need, so that as Christ has done, we may also do. From the celebration of the Eucharist, we are sent forth to serve God and neighbor through ministries of formation, education and outreach.

-Mission Statement

Church Hours

Monday through Friday 6:30 AM - 2:45 PM
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in Seton Chapel
(Convent) - Monday through Friday
3:00 - 7:00 PM

Next Weekend's Schedule

Saturday, December 7th

5:00 PM - Fr. Patrick

7:30 PM (Spanish) - Fr. Peter

(Saturday Evening 5 PM and 7:30 PM Masses will be livestreamed. Videos remain on Facebook after the live broadcast.)

Sunday, December 8th

8:00 AM - Fr. Patrick

10:00 AM - Msgr. Walden

12 noon - Fr. Abin

6:00 PM - Fr. Jerry

*Presider subject to change. Please call the Rectory or check SJE Social Media for latest updates.

We celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Monday - Friday: After the 7 AM & 12 Noon Masses

Saturday: After the 8 AM Mass

Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45 PM &

7:00 - 7:15 PM (Spanish)

Sunday: 5:30 - 5:45 PM

Confessions will take place in Our Lady's Chapel in the Church.

Pastoral Team

Reverend Patrick M. Riegger

Pastor

Reverend Abin Panicker

Parochial Vicar

Reverend Monsignor Ellsworth R. Walden

Retired, In Residence

Reverend Jerry DiSpigno

Parish Assistant

Reverend Peter D'Abele

Parish Assistant

John Pettorino

Deacon

Michael Hoonhout

Deacon

Ed Grieb

Deacon

Carolyn Lapham

Director of Family Ministries

Michelle Pirraglia

Director of Faith Formation

Heather Crayne

Director of Parish Social Ministry

Katie Waller

Director of Operations

Mass Schedule

OLQA

**Our Lady Queen of Apostles
Regional Catholic School**

(on the campus of SJE)

2 St. John Place

Center Moriches, NY 631.878.1033

www.olqany.org

Dawn Waller

Principal

dwaller@olqany.org (ext. 201)

Confession Schedule

Office Hours

Parish Office - Blue House

Monday - Thursday:

9 AM - 8 PM

Tuesdays: 6-8 PM Spanish-speaking support.

Friday - Saturday

9 AM - 2 PM

We ask that you call before visiting any parish offices.

A message from our Pastor, Fr. Patrick...

First Sunday of Advent **A Season of Hope and New Beginnings**

This weekend we begin a new liturgical season. Advent offers us another opportunity to draw closer to Jesus through prayer and reflection and through the reading of the Scriptures. The Scriptures that we hear being proclaimed at the masses during the next four weeks invite us to become more attentive and aware of the presence of the Lord in our lives. The Scriptures remind us of the importance of God and how we can prepare ourselves for the Day of Judgment when we stand before the Lord.

The word Advent means coming. Advent invites us to allow Jesus to come more fully into our lives. This season invites us in all of its simplicity to open our hearts to receive Him with great joy and anticipation, knowing that He is the fulfillment of all of our hopes and longings! Advent is another opportunity to grow in our personal relationship with Jesus. It is a time for us to be restored in our hope as we await the fullness of God's Kingdom. It is an opportunity for us to prepare our lives for the next life, knowing of God's great promise for us and His great desire to be one with us forever in heaven.

Advent is a time for spiritual renewal and growth. It is a time to grow in our awareness and appreciation of the Lord; to rediscover for ourselves the complete love that God has for humanity fully revealed in Jesus; to open our hearts a little more towards the one who is among us to fill us with His joy and wonder. It is a time to awaken our hearts to the one who can refresh our souls and restore us to wholeness. It is a time to be at peace with ourselves knowing of the greatness and the power of God in our lives; to know of the urgency that exists in preparing ourselves for the Day of Judgment.

For me, Advent is one of my favorite seasons because it precedes Christmas. Advent leads us into the great Christmas Feast. Before Jesus was born, the Jewish people were anxiously awaiting the promise of the coming savior. This longing was the first Advent. No Christmas, no Jesus! No Jesus, no salvation! Jesus would not have entered the world, and we would still be living in complete darkness. If

Jesus did not enter the world, we would not be saved. This is why we need Advent because Advent reminds us of and prepares us to celebrate Christmas with greater meaning and understanding of the importance of why Jesus came to live among us. Advent gets us thinking again. It reminds us of the urgency that exists in preparing for a new Christmas season that can help change the way in which we approach life more joyfully in the Lord. Advent changes our perspective on life with Christmas in sight. It changes the way in which we relate to Christ in our service and love for one another, if we take this season seriously.

The truth is our lives are one long season of Advent because we never know the day nor the hour when the Son of Man will come again to restore all things back to new. We are always anticipating the return of our Lord who will gather the elect, all of God's faithful, into the Kingdom of Heaven. Even though we do not know the day nor the hour when all things will be restored back to new, what we do know is that this day will come upon us unexpectedly and we only have this life of ours to account for. Even if the second coming occurs after our time here on earth, we only have this life to get ready for eternity. Advent reminds us that Christmas and eternity are right around the corner and the importance of preparing ourselves for these two great feasts!

As we enter this new season of Advent, let's not allow the busyness and the craziness of the holiday season to distract us or overshadow the purpose behind this season. Let us rejoice again in the Lord and surrender more to God. Let us take this season of Advent more seriously so we can encounter the Lord more fully. He is coming into our lives each day to bring us His peace and joy! Let us allow the candles we light on the Advent wreath to remind us just how close and near Jesus is to us. He lights up the pathway to eternity. Our future depends on the way in which we are living our lives at this moment. We are the ones in control of our final destiny, no one else. Advent allows us to do just this, to reconnect with the Lord; to deepen our relationship with God, and to see the joy and wonder that is found in Jesus!



Masses for the Week...

Saturday, November 30th Saint Andrew, Apostle

5:00 PM Barbara Tanoff

7:30 PM (Spanish) People of the Parish

Sunday, December 1st First Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Rev. John Corcoran

10:00 AM Ruth Ramos

12:00 Noon Mary and William Lebold

6:00 PM Robert Fives

Monday, December 2nd Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Henriqueta Stoffel

12:00 Noon Carl Woronka

Tuesday, December 3rd Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

7:00 AM Richard Sr. and Ricky Jr. DiRocco

12:00 Noon Augustine Xavier

Wednesday, December 4th Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Lawrence Santinon

12:00 PM Jean Colaianni

Thursday, December 5th Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Joseph Mazzarella

12:00 PM John Maloney

Friday, December 6th Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Judy Gohlsen

12:00 Noon James Rocco and Gerard Howell

Saturday, December 7th Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

8:00 AM Vivian Cordeiro

5:00 PM Katy Dyer and her brother Jack Dyer

7:30 PM (Spanish) People of the Parish

Sunday, December 8th Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Barbara Hughes

10:00 AM Kristen Bigora

12:00 Noon Frank Stabile

6:00 PM Jared McGuinness



The clergy and staff of St. John the Evangelist wish you and your families all of the blessings of this Thanksgiving weekend, as we wait for the coming of Our Lord with joyful anticipation during this Advent season.

PARISH WEEKLY DONATIONS

Average Weekly from January 1, 2024 to present.

Year	Total	# of Weeks	Average Weekly
2024	\$838,694	47	\$17,845
2023	\$796,992	47	\$16,957

There will be a special collection after communion next weekend, December 7/8, to help us reach our CMA goal!

2024
CATHOLIC
MINISTRIES
APPEAL
DIocese of Rockville Centre

*Revitalizing our Faith -
Renewed by the Eucharist*



As of 11/19/2024	2024	2023
Parish Goal	\$115,100	\$115,100
Number of Donors	255	295
Total Pledged to date	\$106,836	\$100,567
Avg. Gift	\$419	\$341
Percent of Goal	93%	87.4%

Supporting the CMA helps to support SJE! We receive back 20% of whatever is raised below the goal. If we go above the goal, we also receive 80% of all monies that are raised above the goal!

Please help us go above the goal!



St. John the Evangelist RCC 2024



Catholic Ministries Appeal

**We are in the home stretch!!
Let's hit it out of the park!!**

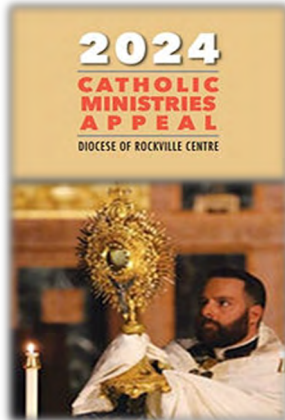


Please help us meet our goal.

Our parish receives \$24,000 in rebates when we reach 100%!

ONLY 4 WEEKS TO GO!

We appreciate your support! www.catholicministriesappeal.org



Please take a CMA brochure located at the exits of the church.

Scan to Give:



Text to Give: 516-271-3338



Gifts are used to live and share our faith, care for God's people and help to build God's Kingdom.



Praying For and With One Another

Remember

Ann Garcia + William Sarubbi

“For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died.” -1 Thessalonians 4:14

Pray for the Sick

Carole De Somma

Gerri Planz + Barbara Mulholland

“In this you rejoice, although now for a little while you may have to suffer through various trials...
-1 Peter 1:6

If you would like a loved one's name placed under Prayers for the Sick, please call the rectory at 631.878.0009 or e-mail to rectory@sjecm.org.

Our Military

US Marine Corps

LC Michael Abbatiello
CPL Evan Berkemeyer
PFC Sean Brady
SGT Quentin Montemarano
PVT Charles O'Connor
E-1 Christian Raeihle
2nd LT Christopher Walther
PAC Kevin W. Deshler II

US Navy

E43CPO Jason Abbatiello
STGCS Brian Holzmacher
MMN2 Christopher J Esposito Jr
ETVSN Angel Gabriel Montoya Rivera
ET3 Jeremiah Nolan, Jr
ENS Ralph J. Ruggiero

US Coast Guard

BM3 Brendan J. Bernath
CPT Keith Donohue

US Army

SGT Sean Casey
PVT Joseph Cestare
SPC Michael Garcia Jr
PVT Anthony Koch
CPL Aidan O'Neill
PFC David Smith
Steven Valentin
PFC Francis J. Amalifitano

US Air Force

SrA Anthony Auciello
SSGT David Giese
SSGT Jason M Hermes
PFC Kyle Kerstiens
SSGT Ryan Kerstiens
SSGT Timothy Kerstiens
SrA Jared T. Rosato
MAJ Salvatore Sferrazza

If you wish to place someone on the Military prayer list, please call the rectory at 631.878.0009 or e-mail to rectory@sjecm.org.

Remembering Our Loved Ones



Altar Bread & Wine for the month of December has been donated in memory of:

Theresa Cartolano

This week, the Blessed Mother Candle will be lit in memory of:

Judy Gohlsen

Mass Intentions

Remembering one who has passed away at Mass is a most noble practice calling us to pray for one who has died at the most powerful prayer we know - the celebration of the Eucharist.

Altar Bread and Wine

Names will be listed in each bulletin during the course of that month.
An offering of \$150 is requested.

Votive Candles/Altar Candles

A number of votive candles enlighten the beautiful statues in our church. You may have a particular devotion to one of these saints. These candles are next to the statues of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph, St. Teresa, St. Gerard Majella and the Sacred Heart of Jesus. They bring a certain light to the statues and, hopefully, inspire some deeper times of prayer and reflection. **Altar Candles - \$25.00 per week.**

SJE offers a number of ways to remember loved ones, or honor someone living.
To make an offering, visit or contact the Parish Office at 631.878.0009 or email to rectory@sjecm.org

December 1, 2024

SJE Christmas Tree Lighting

Tuesday, December 3rd
at 6:15 PM

The Parish Tree Lighting will be held on the lawn between the Convent and the Parish Office/ Rectory. Come watch as we light our parish tree, sing some carols, and enjoy a nice cup of hot chocolate and some Advent treats!

Hope to see you there!

Journeying through Advent at SJE



Advent is a beautiful time of year. A time for recalling how many ways we have seen God's love at work in our lives during the past year. It is a time for new beginnings. A time for joyful anticipation of the ways that the coming of our Savior will bring hope, peace, healing and growth in the year ahead. Here at St. John's there are endless opportunities to keep our minds and hearts focused on Jesus during the weeks ahead.



EVERY SUNDAY during Advent, the children of the parish will have the awesome opportunity to spend some time with the prophet Isaiah! The Old Testament hero will be with us each week at the 10:00 Mass. Please come and hear what the prophet of old has to share with all of us here in Center Moriches!



Our Parish Tree Lighting will be held on Tuesday, 12/3 at 6:15 PM. Please join us on the lawn between the convent and the rectory where we will make family ornaments to hang on the tree, enjoy hot chocolate and sweet treats and sing carols as we anxiously await the lighting of our Christmas tree!



The Blessing of the outdoor Nativity will take place on Sunday 12/8. Join us on the lawn in front of the church after the 10:00 am Mass. Take part in the blessing and spend time with our parish family.



Come make sandwiches for those in need at our Sandwich Sunday event on Sunday 12/15 after the 10:00 Mass. This is a wonderful way to live out the gospel's call to service!



St. John's parish graciously welcomes the Choral Society of the Moriches as they present George Frideric Handel's *Messiah* on Sunday, 12/15 at 3:00 PM in the Church. Come and enjoy an afternoon of prayerful song as we await the coming of Our Savior!



On Sunday, 12/22 our Parish Music Ministry will be presenting our annual Lessons and Carols. It will be a wonderful afternoon filled with the sharing of poignant scripture readings interspersed between beloved Christmas hymns. Come enjoy an afternoon of beautiful Christmas traditions in the church.

Please come pray with us!

The Office of Family Life Ministry

Moms on the Journey



Our Moms on the Journey answered the call to serve by sponsoring families for our Parish Social Ministry Outreach Project. The moms shopped and creatively packaged the fixings for Thanksgiving meals for two families! The Moms also helped out on the day of the Thanksgiving Meal distribution by checking in families, distributing children's coats and making sure each family had a turkey for Thanksgiving! These ladies are AMAZING!



If you're a mom who likes to have fun, enjoys some good old fashioned girl time and wants to grow in your faith, there's a spot in this photo for YOU!

Our next monthly gathering will be January 22, 2025. We meet at 7:00 pm in the Upper Room of The Barn!

Faith Formation

At our "Family of Faith" sessions this month, families learned about how we are made in the image and likeness of God and that God is promise keeper.

The Old Testament Patriarchs paid us a visit (thanks to the dads who volunteered to get dressed up and let us know about their Bible figure!). Students had to decide which Old Testament patriarch each one was representing. Our youth volunteers acted out skits to help students understand how we are to be the image of God in the world. Special thanks to all our presenters and youth and adult volunteers who made the night a fun and faith-filled experience!



2024 FAITH FORMATION UPCOMING EVENTS

CALENDARS for all our programs are available on the Faith Formation page of our parish website. (sjecm.org, click on "Faith Formation")

LEVEL 7 (Confirmation Prep Year 1):

Next Session:

Tuesday, December 10th at 7:15 PM in the Church ADVENT FAMILY PRAYER SERVICE. This is a parent/student event. Please remember to bring the item from your Giving Tree Ornament to this session.

LEVEL 8 (Confirmation Prep Year 2):

Next Session:

Monday, December 2nd at 7:15 PM in the Church ADVENT FAMILY PRAYER SERVICE. This is a parent/student event. Please remember to bring the item from your Giving Tree Ornament to this session.

"FAMILY OF FAITH" - Parent/Student Events (GRADES 1-6):

Tuesday, December 3rd or Thursday, December 5th at 5:00 PM or 7:00 PM in the Church (Come to the Parish Tree Lighting between sessions on Tuesday, 12/5 on the Convent Lawn! The event will begin at 6:15 PM. There will be refreshments and caroling!).



Our Lady Queen of Apostles
Regional Catholic School

Contact Us!

631-878-1033

olqany.org

Scan QR Code



Thanksgiving Feast 2024!



SJE Parish Social Ministry

Christmas Giving

Sponsor a Family

Provide a complete Holiday Meal for a neighbor. Have your family help a family. EMAIL christmas@sjecm.org or call 631.878.0009 ext 120 for more details.

Donate Food

Leave non-perishable food in the bins at Ernie's Place or in Fellowship Hall in the Church.

Help put it all together

We will need lots of help with sorting and the distribution of the meal to our Families on Saturday, December 14th

Please complete the form below and let us know how you can help! It can be dropped in the basket at church, dropped at the rectory office or emailed to christmas@SJEcm.org
NO LATER than Friday, December 9th

Name: _____

Phone # : _____ Email: _____

Yes! We/I can help sponsor a Family for Christmas
 Family of 4 Family of 6 Family of 8

Yes! We/I can help contact families via phone to schedule pick up times.
This would be done on your own time the week of December 9th

Yes! We are in need of Spanish speakers to assist with calling our families
the week of December 9th

Yes! We/I can help with Thanksgiving basket distribution on
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14th between 8:30 AM and 1 PM

*"You pray for the hungry, then you feed them.
That is how prayer works." - Pope Francis*

Advent Giving Tree

Our parish Parish Social Ministry is asking for your help during Advent with our annual *Giving Tree* that will benefit the Street Ministry and Ernie's Place.

As we have done in the past, we will have 2 trees in the fellowship area of the church. Please take one or more paper ornaments from them which will list a needed item. These items should be returned UNWRAPPED to the fellowship area of the church or to the rectory office.

We ask that all unwrapped gifts be returned on or before 12/15.

If you have any questions please call the PSM Office 631.878.0009 ext 120

Sunday's Word 2025...

The 2025 Sunday's Word books have arrived!

Sunday's Word is for use in conjunction with a hymnal and service book or other music resource, and is intended for those who wish to pre-read the scriptures of the day as a preparation for the celebration, who have difficulty hearing, or who feel the need to read the text as it is proclaimed for full comprehension. The Eucharistic Prayers are also included. It contains the assembly's responsorial psalm refrain for each Sunday and major feast. *Sunday's Word* also contains the Order of Mass.



The weekday section includes the entrance antiphon, Psalm response, gospel verse, and communion antiphon for all feasts, memorials, and weekdays of the year. In addition, the Order of Mass texts (including both the Nicene Creed and the Apostle's Creed) are printed on the inside front cover for convenience.

A donation of \$5.00 is requested but not required. They can be picked up at the rectory office.



Adoration
of the Blessed Sacrament
at
St. John the Evangelist

Monday - Friday from
3:00 - 7:00 PM
in Seton Chapel, in the Convent

On Mondays following Adoration, there is a Holy Hour to Pray for Priests from 7 - 8 PM. All are invited to pray for our Shepherds. Please consider offering one hour per week before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

If you can be present for a specific hour, email rectory@sjecm.org or call the Parish Office at 631.878.0009.

Queen of All Hearts Council 4126



Christmas Wreath Sale

\$30 each



This weekend after Masses.
All proceeds go to support Our Lady Queen of Apostles

Thanks Be To God From Whom All Blessings Flow!

We had a wonderful day of spreading Thanksgiving joy to 73 grateful families with our Holiday Meal Program! It was cold outside but that didn't stop the smiling faces on all the many volunteers who came out to help those in need. From giving turkeys, to new coats for kids, Christmas gift cards to all the children, and complete Thanksgiving meals including pumpkin pie, this amazing community gave so much of their time, talent, and treasure. We are so very blessed and thankful! Please watch the bulletin for ways you can help with our Christmas program.

A very big thank you for your contributions, making this day such a great success:

OLQA Students
Legion of Mary
Stop & Shop
Rico Foundation
Girl Scout Troop 4000

Knights of Columbus
Mom's on the Journey
Hampton Marine and Watercraft
Five Star Nationals Baseball Team
Long Island's East End Hiking Group

Parishioners, thank you for generously volunteering, donating food, gift cards and sponsoring families!





Knights of Columbus
Queen of All Hearts Council #4126

FRIDAY NIGHT'S

Doors Open at 6:30 PM
Games Begin at 7:30 PM

\$3000 IN PRIZES

For more information
kofc4126.com

Safe Environment...

All volunteers and employees at SJE are required to participate in a VIRTUS training course and to go through a background check. You can sign up for the VIRTUS classes by visiting www.drvc.org or clicking here:

<https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/index.cfm?>

All SJE volunteers must wear their SJE badge while serving in ministry. Please also check your email regularly to complete monthly bulletin updates. (Be sure to check your "spam" or "Junk" folder.)

PASTORAL INTERVENTION TEAM

The dedicated telephone line for reporting allegations of sexual abuse (516-694-9063) continues to be available. If the caller does not reach someone directly, messages can be left on an answering machine connected to the phone. Those messages will be retrieved by a member of the Intervention Team and returned as soon as possible. All appropriate steps will be taken to protect the reputation and privacy of those involved. For more information on the Charter for the Protection of Children / Young People, please visit drvc.org.



www.206TOURS.COM
206 TOURS
Est. 1985

JUBILEE 2025
PILGRIMS OF HOPE

June 1- 9, 2025
Rome & Assisi

Spiritual Director:
Fr. Francis Pizzarelli

SCAN

Contact: cara@206tours.com
silvia@206tours.com

dominic@206tours.com
(800) 206-8687



TOTUS TUUS

SJE Men's Group

MEN'S DAY RETREAT



Fr. Jerry DiSpigno with

SATURDAY
December 7th

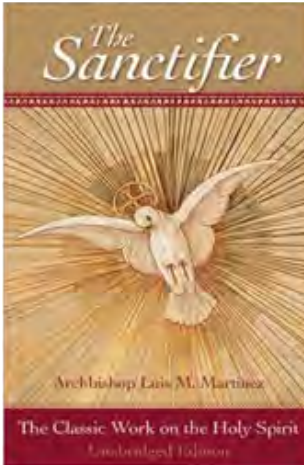
10-5pm

SJE Parish Auditorium

\$20 free will offering is
respectfully requested

For more information or to register, please contact
The Parish Office 631-878-0009 or email
rectory@sjecm.org

Women's Group...



We welcome back our Members & invite New Members to join us as we read together, learn & share our feelings & life's experiences. It's an open group, come when you want or can. You can join throughout the year. There's no commitment. You don't have to share or read out loud, no homework. Everything we share is kept confidential. We respect each other's sharing. No judgement. All you need is desire to draw nearer to Jesus & to have fellowship with like-minded women who know we're not perfect & it's ok. **BRING A FRIEND!!!**

The book we'll read together is **"The Sanctifier"** by Archbishop Luis M. Martinez, explaining in detail how the workings of the gifts of The Holy Spirit bring us into holiness. It's usually in the sharing part of what we're reading that gives us clearer understanding of the subject especially because it relates to our lives at the present moment. We're living the lessons which is comforting when we're in pain, we have a lot of laughs too. We're there for each other! The book will be provided, and a free will offering can be made for the book.

We meet in the white house between the school & rectory every other Monday, unless noted with an asterisk *, at 10:00 -11:30 AM, ending in time to go to 12:00 Mass if you want.

Dates: December 2nd & 16th, January 6th & 20th,
February 3rd & 17th, March 3rd, 17th, & 31st, April 14th & 28th,
May 12th & 19th*, June 2nd, 16th & 30th.

Carol Ketcham and Anita Luccari, Group Moderators ~ For info: 631-878-0009

Men's Prayer Group...



CALLING ALL MEN!

Come join the Totus Tuus Men's Prayer Group on **Saturday mornings at 9 AM** in the Convent. Join as us as we learn to follow the example of St. Joseph and grow in our faith, reflect on the Gospel and have coffee. For more information, please call the rectory office at 631-878-0009.

Bereavement Support ...

Grieving is a natural process each of us goes through after the death of a loved one. While no one can take away our sadness, others can help by listening and caring. Sharing our feelings with others who have experienced the death of a loved one help many people begin the healing process.

Saturday mornings - 10:30 AM to 12 Noon

First floor meeting room in the Barn.

REGISTRATION: Contact the Rectory at

631.878.0009 or via email at Rectory@sjecm.org

\$10 donation for the workbook.

Grief never ends but it changes. It is a passage, not a place to stay. It is not a sign of weakness, nor a lack of faith. Grief is the price of love.



A Message from Msgr. Walden...



“You better watch out, You better not cry, Better not pout, I’m telling you why: Santa Claus is comin’ to town.” These lyrics were written in 1934 and simply expressed the innocent joy of Christmas for children. Well, Santa Claus did come to town (New York City) at the end of the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Christmas parade this past Thursday. That was immediately followed by Black Friday (this past Friday), the day supposedly Christmas shopping brings the merchants into the black financially. With all the talk about whether or not we are now a Christian nation, Christmas is certainly in the forefront of everyone’s mind, but not necessarily for spiritual reasons.

It is always good to go back to our roots and see how traditions and celebrations have come about. During these four Sundays of Advent, the first readings at Mass will come from a different prophet each week (Jeremiah, Baruch, Zephaniah, and Micah), all expressing human hope for the ultimate meaning of life. Left to ourselves as human beings, we can so easily become lost, confused, self centered, and self protective. From the very beginning of creation, we as human beings fell into the trap of thinking we know better than God and don’t need God. In spite of the original sin committed by Adam and Eve, and the infinitely countless sins committed by us as human beings since then, God has not given up in His love for us and His desire to have us be part of His life here and forever in heaven. Advent is a simple season and time to be uplifted, inspired, and renewed by the deepest longings every human being has, the longing to live in peace and joy forever in heaven.

The spirit of Christmas is a spirit of generosity, giving, and joy. Ultimately, it opens our minds and hearts to be generous to one another as God is to us. Our most precious gifts are not wrapped up in a box, but our love, joy, mercy, patience, and sincerity. Without these simple virtues that are at the foundation of true, pure love, every Friday is Black Friday, every Saturday is Black Saturday, every Sunday is Black Sunday, every Monday is Black Monday, every Tuesday is Black Tuesday, every Wednesday is Black Wednesday, every Thursday is Black Thursday, because the love we so wonderfully have is not lived. Thank God all that changed with Good Friday and Easter

Sunday. The power of God’s love is far beyond what we could ever conceive left to ourselves. At Christmas we celebrate the wonder and humility of God’s love as He came into our world in Jesus just as you and I, precious and in need of parental love. His life is mirrored so beautifully in our parents. Thank you mom and dad for the gift of life and for the gift of your love.

I invite you to take some time during these weeks before Christmas to make a visit to our chapel in the convent on Monday through Friday 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM where the Blessed Sacrament, Jesus in the Eucharist, is on our altar for quiet prayer and reflection. Bring a bible and read the opening chapters of the Gospels from Matthew and Luke (chapters 1 and 2 in both). Santa Claus is comin’ to town was long ago preceded by what the angels proclaimed to the Shepherds when Jesus was born:

“Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. The angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.’ And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: ‘Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.’ When the angels went away from them to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.’ So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them. (Luke 2:8-20)

Comunidad Hispano De San Juan Evangelista

La Comunidad Hispana de nuestra Parroquia en Centro Moriches te invita a celebrar la Santa Misa en español los sábados a las 7:30 PM en la Iglesia.

Te invitamos a compartir la Palabra de Dios en el Grupo de Oración, todos los viernes a las 7:30 PM en la Capilla del Convento Parroquial. Ven a enriquecer tu vida espiritual orando

MINISTERIOS Y SERVICIOS

BAUTISMO:

Por favor traiga el certificado de nacimiento del niño dos meses antes del bautismo.

Requisitos:

1. Acta de nacimiento del niño o niña.
2. Certificado de registro de su Parroquia (padres y padrinos)
3. Los padres deben traer estos documentos a la oficina de San Juan para fijar las fechas de la charla prebautismal (OBLIGATORIO para padres y padrinos) y la fecha del Bautismo.

Segundo domingo a las 14 horas en la Iglesia. Las clases de prebautismo son el tercer miércoles de cada mes.

CASAMIENTO:

Las parejas que planean casarse deben concertar una cita con uno de los sacerdotes antes de la boda. Esto les dará tiempo suficiente para recibir las instrucciones prematrimoniales y obtener los documentos necesarios. Para más información llame a la oficina

El personal de la oficina estará disponible para hablar en español de 6 a 8 p.m. los martes.

Asegúrese de llamar antes de venir a visitarnos.

espanol@sjecm.org

Office staff will be available to speak in Spanish from 6 to 8 PM on Tuesdays. Be sure to call before you come and visit.

¡Dejanos ayudarte!

DESPENSA DE ALIMENTOS DE ERNIE

Abierto - Lunes 6:30 PM a las 7:30 PM
Jueves 3:00 PM a las 4:00 PM.

TIENDA DE SEGUNDA MANO

Miércoles - Granero
Miércoles de 9:00 AM a las 12:00 PM.

COMIDA COMUNITARIA

Último lunes del mes 6:00 PM
auditorio de la escuela

MINISTERIO DE CALLE

Jueves - Estación de tren Mastic-Shirley
7:15 PM (aproximadamente)
Se encuentran disponibles comidas y ropa sencillas.

También necesitamos voluntarios para ayudar a traducir para quienes lo necesiten. Necesitamos voluntarios bilingües para nuestra despensa de comida. ¡Avísanos si puedes ayudar!

Ambiente seguro...

Todos los voluntarios y empleados de SJE deben participar en un curso de capacitación VIRTUS y pasar por una verificación de antecedentes. Puede inscribirse en las clases VIRTUS visitando www.drvc.org o haciendo clic aquí:

<https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/index.cfm?>

RECORDATORIOS PARA VOLUNTARIOS

Todos los voluntarios de SJE deben usar su insignia de SJE mientras sirven en el ministerio. También revise su correo electrónico periódicamente para completar las actualizaciones mensuales. (Asegúrese de revisar su carpeta de "spam" o "basura").

EQUIPO DE INTERVENCIÓN PASTORAL

La línea telefónica exclusiva para denuncias de abuso sexual (516-694-9063) continúa disponible. Si la persona que llama no se comunica con alguien directamente, los mensajes se pueden dejar en un contestador automático conectado al teléfono. Esos mensajes serán recuperados por un miembro del Equipo de Intervención y devueltos lo antes posible. Se tomarán todas las medidas apropiadas para proteger la reputación y la privacidad de los involucrados. Para obtener más información sobre la Carta para la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes, visite drvc.org.



As a Christian tradition, the wreath holds the four Advent candles. The candles represent Jesus coming as the light in darkness. One candle is lit each Sunday until all four candles are lit. As Christmas draws nearer, each candle brings a little more light into the darkness. Sometimes a white candle is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to symbolize that Jesus is with us. This can be referred to as the "Christ candle."

Each of the candles lit before Christmas represent an aspect of preparation during the season of Advent.

The First Week of Advent Represents: Hope

Candle Name: *the Prophecy Candle* Candle Color: **Purple**

Purple is the primary color associated with Advent. Within the Catholic Church, it symbolizes penance, preparation, and sacrifice. During the first week of Advent, we remember the Old Testament prophets who foretold of Jesus' coming with hope and anticipation.

The Second Week of Advent Represents: Peace and Preparation

Candle Name: *the Bethlehem Candle* Candle Color: **Purple**

During this second week of Advent, we reflect on our lives and work on becoming better-versions-of-ourselves in preparation for Jesus' coming. We remember the journey Joseph and Mary took from Nazareth to Bethlehem.

The Third Week of Advent Represents: Joy

Candle Name: *the Shepherd's Candle* Candle Color: **Pink**

This third candle is pink and symbolizes rejoicing. During the third week of Advent we are filled with joy for the near arrival of Jesus on Christmas day. This Sunday is often called "Gaudete Sunday" as we reflect on the joy the shepherd's felt at the birth of Jesus.

The Fourth Week of Advent Represents: Love

Candle Name: *the Angel's Candle* Candle Color: **Purple**

During this final week of Advent we rejoice in the endless love that God has for us, which is made apparent in the birth of his Son. We reflect on the good news of God's love brought to us from the angel Gabriel.

Lighting Your Advent Wreath During the Week

Each day during the Fourth week of Advent, at the evening meal (or any time), light the first and second purple candles and the pink candle. The following prayers accompany the lighting of the candles.

All make the sign of the cross: **In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Someone at table reads the Scripture assigned to the liturgy of the day (one or both of the readings may be used). Go to www.usccb.org to find the readings of the day. Then the Leader continues:

Leader: **Lift up your hearts.**

All respond: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

The Leader prays: **God, the Father of mercies, you willed your Son to take flesh, in order to give life back to us. Bless these your gifts with which we are about to nourish our bodies, so that, receiving new strength, we may wait in watchfulness for the glorious coming of Christ. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

After the meal, the Leader says: **Let us live soberly, justly, and devoutly in this world as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.**

All respond: **For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**



SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Please take some time look through the back pages of the bulletin! It features many local businesses (and often the work of parishioners) and the good work they do in our community. We have parishioners who do everything from car detailing to car mechanics to lacrosse training to taking care of pets. Take a look and learn more!

Did you know that St. John the Evangelist bulletin is printed free of charge each week? So please frequent the fine establishments that advertise in our bulletin!

Also, if your business could use a shot in the arm, consider advertising in the bulletin. Each weekend, the nearly 1,400 people who attend Mass at St. John the Evangelist - most of whom live and shop in the Moriches, Mastic, Shirley, Eastport, Speonk and Remsenberg area - receive or view our bulletin online. It's an easy way to reach thousands of families in the area with information about your business.

For more information on how to advertise in our bulletin, call
The Church Bulletin Company
 at 631-249-4994

Weekly Calendar

Monday, December 2nd, 2024

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR
- 6:30-7:30 PM Food Pantry Open - Ernie's Place
- 7 PM Narcotics Anonymous (Men only) - BMR

Tuesday, December 3rd, 2024

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR
- 3-7 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - SC
- 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR
- 7 PM Divine Will

Wednesday, December 4th, 2024

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR
- 9 AM-12 Noon Thrift Shop Open - Thrift Shop
- 3-7 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - SC

Thursday, December 5th, 2024

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR
- 3-4 PM Food Pantry Open - Ernie's Place
- 3-7 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - SC
- 4 PM Legion of Mary - BMR
- 7:30 PM Al-Anon - BMR

Friday, December 6th, 2024

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR
- 3-7 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - SC
- 7:30 PM Knights of Columbus - Bingo - Auditorium
- 7 PM Narcotics Anonymous - BMR
- 7 PM Spanish Prayer Group - SC

Saturday, December 7th, 2024

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR
- 9 AM Men's Prayer Group - SC
- 10:30 AM Bereavement Group - BMR

Sunday, December 8th, 2024

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR

BMR - Barn 1st Floor Mtg. Room
 BUR - Barn Upper Room
 SC - Seton Chapel