

# St. John the Evangelist

## Roman Catholic Church

*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



## Christmas 2020

**Feast of the Holy Family/ Feast of St. John the Evangelist**  
December 25-27, 2020

"...the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it..."

—John 1:5



# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Grace in place of grace...

## A DIFFERENT CHRISTMAS

Dear Parish Family:

I don't know about you but I am sort of tired hearing the title of the article above. I guess I'm partially in denial, frustrated, and overwhelmed by it all. When we left the season of Christmas last year, I don't think anyone anticipated we would find ourselves in the places we find ourselves in today. As I pray through these days—because everything else seems futile lately—I imagine the same feeling for Mary and Joseph. That birth, that place, that journey, that moment was not part of their plan. I imagine them filled with fear, wondering what was coming next, perhaps doubt crashing in...who knows?

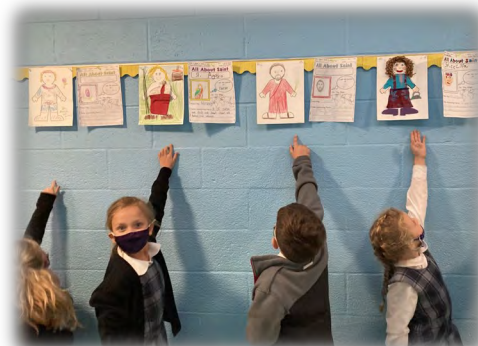
While not titled Christmas then, it was a different time for them. In that "different", in that fear, in that uncertainty, in that pain, in that worry, God breaks in—Jesus Christ is born!

We are missing a lot these days. For many, we are missing loved ones. Some have been called home to the Lord, perhaps due to the pandemic. Others we miss because we are taking wise precautions. For some, it may be the first Christmas celebrated alone or one celebrated in a unique way, even via Zoom. For others, we are dealing with financial realities that are impacting so much of our lives. We find ourselves learning differently, living differently, working differently (if at all), praying differently, and celebrating differently. We even look different as we wisely wear masks to protect ourselves and others. It is a hard and challenging time. There is no denial of this reality.

Good news! Christmas is still celebrated! The Incarnation of God into our lives still happens. Nothing is impossible for God. We need Christmas to remember this. We need Christmas to remind us that God is always with us—in times of pandemic and pain, in times of celebration and success. God is all in. He shows up!

Here's more good news! Our God wants to meet and to know us intimately and personally, particularly in our pain and devastation. He wants to walk with us, cry with us, mourn with us, grieve with us, talk to us, embrace us, heal us, and bring us peace.

Even more good news—you are reading the bulletin from a place that wants to you know and to see this. Even in the midst of this difficult and overwhelming time, the People of God at SJE have found the presence of



## CHRISTMAS = GOOD NEWS!

God and done our best, in the midst of our pain, to share it. From virtual Masses and Zoom prayer groups, from caring for the poor and the sick in their homes and safely on campus and in streets to providing quiet times of prayer and peace, from Holy Week on Facebook to over 700 house blessings during Easter, from online phone messages (which still continue) to drive thru Eucharistic Blessings, from drive in Masses to Masses inside with percentages of capacity, from sending Fr. Michael off to a new and exciting assignment to welcoming Fr. Jaime and Seminarian Louis Cona, from opening school safely to developing an entirely new faith formation model to so much more. God breaks in through his Church, particularly here at SJE!

There is reason for good news in these days. This comes not only from the birth of Jesus but from our awareness of Jesus' dying and rising to new life. This is the cause of our hope. God stops at nothing for this people. The cradle of Bethlehem is never far from the cross of Jerusalem.

Recently, Pope Francis wrote,

*Despite these dark clouds, which may not be ignored, I would like in the following pages to take up and discuss many new paths of hope. For God continues to sow abundant seeds of goodness in our human family. The recent pandemic enabled us to recognize and appreciate once more all those around us who, in the midst of fear, responded by putting their lives on the line. We began to realize that our lives are interwoven with and sustained by ordinary people valiantly shaping the decisive events of our shared history: doctors, nurses, pharmacists, storekeepers and supermarket workers, cleaning personnel, caretakers, transport workers, men and women working to provide essential services and public safety, volunteers, priests and religious... They understood that no one is saved alone. (Fratelli Tutti 51).*

We are not saved alone! We need one another. If you're returning to Church—in person or virtually—in these days, be welcome here! Find a way to share all that God has given you with his People of God here. More important, let us help and serve and pray with and share life with you. It may be different that perhaps how you have been living life in the past. Don't worry. That "different" may be good news—it might be your chance and mine to encounter Jesus Christ and his Church in a whole new way, especially in this part of Long Island.

Let us pray for one another!

*Featherman*



Photos by Michelle Pirraglia and Andrew McKeon



# Christmas

## Mass Schedule



**Please note corrected times**

**Feast of the Holy Family (12/27)**

**Saturday - 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. (Spanish)**

**Sunday - 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12 Noon and 6:00 p.m.**

**Solemnity of Mary (1/1)**

**Tuesday - 5 p.m., 7:30 p.m. (Spanish)**

**Wednesday - 7:00 a.m., 12 Noon and 7:30 p.m.**



**Come and join us! Get involved! Be a greater part of SJE!**

### St. Zita Society **CHURCH CLEANING CREW!**

*By Cathy Mahoney*

St. John's parish is so fortunate to have a beautiful church in which to worship. The cleaning crew, totaling seven women, meets once a week, usually Thursdays, after 12 p.m. Mass. We are



honored to assist in keeping the entire church shining and bright. Our focus is washing windows, dry mopping floors, dusting pews, vacuuming the entry areas and the church floors, and now and then eliminating wayward Cheerios or Froot Loops :)!

*If anyone cares to join our group, feel free to call Father John or stop by the church and speak with us. The only requirement is having Virtus clearance which can assist you in obtaining.*

### The St. Genesius Guild **OFFICE VOLUNTEERS**

*By Lisa LoBosco*

We are a ministry that works to support the rectory staff at St. John's. Volunteering about six hours monthly, we provide office assistance at the Rectory/Parish Office with duties such as answering and redirecting phone calls, connecting people with the appropriate church offices, personnel or the many ministries and activities happening at St. John's. For anyone who is interested in learning what really happens inside a rectory, enjoys interacting with parish workers, parishioners, and especially our priests here at St. John's— this is an awesome ministry to be involved in.



After an early retirement, I was looking for a way to still feel productive, but not take on the full responsibility of even part-time work. As a member of the St Genesius Guild, I am able to contribute my time and talent in an office environment in ways that are simple, social and fun— as we work together to support our priests, each other and our community.

**Come and join us! Get involved! Be a greater part of SJE!**

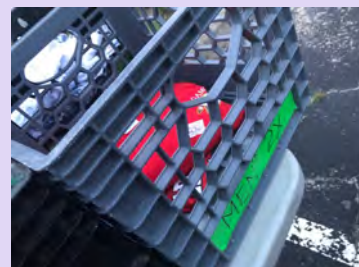
## Street Ministry—Clothes Sorting

*By Antonia Flaherty*

Before you read about us, it is important to say that this ministry works very hard but you would never know it because the ladies in this group are always laughing! **We need more hands- and you men out there- you are needed too!**

The donations crew works behind the scenes in the Red Barn several days a week generally **during the day though we get together at night some times too.** Some volunteers come every week, some once in a while, and all come whenever they can. Although they usually meet together as a group on Wednesday evenings and other days as available, many also come individually whenever they have free time. The donation volunteers do several different activities including sorting through donation bags, folding and labeling clothing items, putting together wash and shave kits, and filling crates that are taken out every Thursday night by other volunteers. Throughout the year they also help collect items for outside organizations (like summer clothes for children sponsored to go to summer camp or dresses for young girls going to a formal dance), organize the advent tree donations, create Christmas gift bags for local women's and men's shelters and even collect damaged blankets for animal shelters.

If you think your talents can be shared to help with any of these activities, we need you! If you are just curious or would like to see what we do in the donation section of the Street Ministry, or think you would like to help with one (or two or more) of these activities, come to the barn and laugh with us! Feel free to email [rectory@sjecm.org](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org) or call 631.878.0009 directly for more information or to get a tour!



*By Aimee Mattiolo*

Would you like to be more involved in the St. John's community, but not sure you can commit to once a week, or even once a month? Then **the Community Meal Ministry** is the perfect ministry for you!

Once a month we gather at the Auditorium, each member bringing an item they prepared to the table. We give a theme each month, such as Christmas Dinner or Backyard BBQ, provide a sign up with suggestions, and volunteers sign up to bring food items, supplies or help. With the help of a generous grant, we are also able to work with local restaurants to provide the food during some months.

We need everything – vegetables, salads, fruit, drinks, breads, hot entrees, starches, desserts- and if you're not a great cook then we need your hands to serve or drop supplies like napkins, plates, and flatware. **There is a role for everyone!** The goal is to provide a hot meal, prepared with love, served with kindness and a warm welcome to anyone that attends. And you don't have to sign up each month. You sign up when you can commit, whether it's once a month or twice a year.



Our guests are members of the community who enjoy company, members of the community we serve through Parish Social Ministry, and individuals starting a new life. Guests of all ages are welcome!

Email Aimee Mattiolo at [rectory@sjecm.org](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org) or call at 631.878.0009 with the subject line



**Come and join us! Get involved! Be a greater part of SJE!**

## Totus Tuus Men's Group

*By Brian Leavey*



The Totus Tuus Men's Group is a prayer group for the men of SJE. We meet once a week on Saturdays at 9 a.m. in the convent building. During our meetings, we have coffee, read the gospel for Sunday and discuss and reflect on it, and discern how its message applies to us. We pray together and discuss how we can live our faith better as men in an increasingly secular world.

We also sponsor/host events at the parish throughout the year.

These events include talks on St. Joseph and the Rosary, St. John's "A Night at the Movies" where we screen short films on the Holy Spirit, Holy Smokes (cigars) night in the summer, and our annual Men's Day retreat that we hold in early December.

Our meetings are open to all and we invite any man who is looking for fellowship and brotherhood on their journey of faith to come join us Saturday mornings at 9 a.m. in the convent. Please contact the Rectory or e-mail to [rectory@sjecm.org](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org) for more information.

## THE LEGION OF MARY— Our Lady of Hope Praesidium

*By Judy Paulsen*

The Legion of Mary is a ministry which undertakes apostolic work to give Christ to the world through the love of Mary. Members become instruments of the Holy Spirit through a balanced program of prayer and volunteer work, which includes visits to the sick and aged, religious education, prison ministry, community outreach, communion to the homebound and more. Many good intentions are brought to fruition through Legion membership. The Legion of Mary has been approved and acclaimed by the last six Popes: *"You are a movement of lay people who propose to make faith the aspiration of your life up to the achievement of personal sanctity."* - Pope Saint John Paul II



The Legion meets weekly and welcomes you to join in praying the rosary, spiritual readings and discussing service to our neighbors. Some of our active members are pictured above with our Spiritual Director, Father Felix, and Our Mother, Mary. Come join us in giving glory to God by spreading the love of Jesus with Our Lady's help. Please contact the Rectory or e-mail to [rectory@sjecm.org](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org) for more information.

## SJE CHICKEN MINISTRY



Did you know SJE has an active and vibrant chicken ministry. The eggs they produce are given to our guests at Ernie's Place, SJE's Food Pantry Ministry. You can see they survived their first winter storm this year and they are actively preparing for the celebration of Christmas!



We are always in need of chicken tenders – men, women, and families – to let the chickens out of their coop in the morning and usher them back into the coop at night.

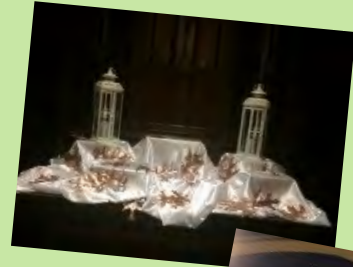
For more information, contact the Rectory at 631.878.0009 or email [rectory@sjecm.org](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org).

**Come and join us! Get involved! Be a greater part of SJE!**

## The Art & Environment Ministry

*By Claire Dern*

This ministry serves SJE by decorating for each Liturgical season. Using flowers, plants, linens, fabric and other elements, we assist in making the church and Seton's chapel a prayerful place throughout the year. E-mail Claire Dern—[cdern@olqany.org](mailto:cdern@olqany.org) for more information.



## Sunday Night Mass Come to The Six!

As you may have noticed, our Sunday morning Masses are beginning to fill up. This is good news!

I want to ask those who may be accustomed to coming on Sunday morning to consider coming on Sunday evening at 6 p.m. In general - regardless of the public health situation we find ourselves in now- it is a little less crowded. It is also, at least for me, a great way to draw the weekend to a close. Coming to pray the Mass with the community of faith is a great way to conclude the Lord's Day and often allows me to be more focused rather than so easily distracted by all the day ahead may bring. It provides an opportunity to give thanks to God for the day and to seek his help in the week ahead. Consider coming to Mass on Sunday evenings at 6 p.m. Hope to see you there!



## Looking to Help?

*You're always needed and wanted in these days*

Email [rectory@sjecm.org](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org) or call the Parish Office at 631.878.0009.

## Christmas Clean Up

*What goes up most come down!*

**Outside:** Sunday, January 10, 2020 – after 12 Noon Mass

**Inside:** Sunday, January 10, 2020- after the 6 p.m. Mass



## CHRISTMAS LETTER FROM BISHOP BARRES

To the People of God of the Diocese of Rockville Centre:

When he was elected as a Successor of St. Peter on March 13, 2013, our Holy Father chose the name *Francis*. It was a weighty decision with a prophetic message. Especially now, seven years later and with the publication of his latest encyclical *Fratelli Tutti* from the tomb of St. Francis of Assisi on October 3, 2020, the significance of the choice is clear: Pope Francis connects his papacy to St. Francis.



Through the ministry of our Holy Father, St. Francis of Assisi is close to the Church in these times. Therefore, as we draw near to Bethlehem at the end of this difficult year, I wish to recall two points Pope Francis highlights from the life of St. Francis. One will help us celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord; the other indicates a grace for which to pray during the holy season.

First, in his 2019 Apostolic Letter *Admirabile Signum: On the Meaning and Importance of the Nativity Scene*, Pope Francis emphasizes St. Francis of Assisi's foundational role in our celebration of Christmas. The Holy Father recalls the origins of the crèche and the first nativity scene inspired by the holy friar in 1223, by which the saint sought "to bring to life the memory of that babe born in Bethlehem." Importantly, the remembrance of Christ's birth that St. Francis desired to convey was brought alive in Greccio, a small village in Italy, not by statues but by people from the surrounding towns and countryside. Together with St. Francis, his friars, an ox and a donkey, they gathered at a cave to behold a manger full of hay over which the Eucharist was celebrated. That Christmas night, almost 800 years ago, Pope Francis reminds us, "the nativity scene was enacted and experienced by all who were present." That night, there was "no distance between the original event and those sharing in its mystery." (2) Encountering Christ, there was simply joy and hope.

This Christmas, in our world laden with the Crosses of COVID-19, political and economic turmoil, racism, financial hardship, and so many other societal ills and challenges – challenges that impact us on Long Island – let us remember this lesson from Greccio: Christmas is an event to be lived. It demands our participation. Like the women and men who embodied that first crèche, we must be present to Christ who is born for us. We must behold and receive Him.

Second, in *Fratelli Tutti*, Pope Francis shows St. Francis as an icon of Christocentric listening. With great humility and charity, the saint reverently listened to others. He was present to the various voices in his life – the voice of God, the voice of his neighbor, the voice of the poor, the voice of the sick, the voice of nature – and by truly hearing them, he was an instrument of peace, healing, and understanding. How different it can be for us! The Holy Father says well what we know: "Today's world is largely a deaf world... At times, the frantic pace of the modern world prevents us from listening attentively to what another person is saying." Aware of this fact, the Pope encourages us, in the midst of our hectic and polarized world, to be like St. Francis and "not lose our ability to listen." (48)

This Christmas, when we approach the crib, let us ask for the grace to be attentive listeners. Let us ask for the grace to be like St. Francis, so that we may hear the voice of God and the voice of our neighbor and respond with the radical charity he exhibited.

Like Pope Francis, may we be moved by the example of St. Francis, and may St. Francis of Assisi's love for the Mystery of the Nativity, his ecstatic mysticism, his love for the poor, and his spirit of universal fraternity animate our celebration of Christmas this year.

May God bless you and your families this Christmas. Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend John O. Barres



## **CHRISTMAS LETTER FROM BISHOP BARRES**

Al Pueblo de Dios de la Diócesis de Rockville Centre:

Cuando fue elegido Sucesor de San Pedro el 13 de marzo del 2013, nuestro Santo Padre eligió el nombre de Francisco. Fue una decisión de peso con un mensaje profético. Especialmente ahora, siete años después y con la publicación de su última encíclica *Fratelli Tutti* desde la tumba de San Francisco de Asís el 3 de octubre del 2020, el significado de la elección es claro: el Papa Francisco conecta su papado con San Francisco.



A través del ministerio de nuestro Santo Padre, San Francisco de Asís está cerca de la Iglesia en estos tiempos. Por lo tanto, al acercarnos a Belén al final de este año difícil, deseo recordar dos puntos que el Papa Francisco destaca de la vida de San Francisco. Uno nos ayudará a celebrar el nacimiento de Nuestro Señor; el otro indica una gracia por la cual orar durante la temporada santa.

Primero, en su Carta Apostólica de 2019 *Admirabile Signum*: Sobre el significado y la importancia de la escena del nacimiento, el Papa Francisco hace énfasis en el papel fundamental de San Francisco de Asís en nuestra celebración de la Navidad. El Santo Padre recuerda los orígenes de la representación del nacimiento y la primera natividad inspirada por el santo fraile en 1223, con el que el santo buscaba “dar vida a la memoria del niño nacido en Belén”. Es importante destacar que el recuerdo del nacimiento de Cristo que San Francisco deseaba transmitir cobró vida en Greccio, un pequeño pueblo en Italia, no por estatuas sino por personas del campo y los pueblos vecinos. Junto a San Francisco, sus frailes, un buey y un burro, se reunieron en una cueva para contemplar un pesebre lleno de heno sobre el que se celebró la Eucaristía. Esa noche de Navidad, hace casi 800 años, nos recuerda el Papa Francisco, “el nacimiento fue representado y experimentado por todos los que estaban allí presentes”. Esa noche, “no había distancia entre el evento original y los que compartían su misterio”. (2) Al encuentro con Cristo, hubo simplemente gozo y esperanza.

Esta Navidad, en nuestro mundo cargado con las Cruces del COVID-19, la agitación política y económica, el racismo, las dificultades financieras y tantos otros males y desafíos sociales, desafíos que nos impactan en Long Island, recordemos esta lección de Greccio: La Navidad es un acontecimiento para ser vivido. Exige nuestra participación. Como las mujeres y los hombres que encarnaron esa primera representación, debemos estar presentes para Cristo que nació por nosotros. Debemos contemplarlo y recibirlo.

En segundo lugar, en *Fratelli Tutti*, el Papa Francisco muestra a San Francisco como un ícono de la escucha Cristocéntrica. Con gran humildad y caridad, el santo escuchó con reverencia a los demás. Estuvo presente en las diversas voces de su vida - la voz de Dios, la voz del prójimo, la voz de los pobres, la voz de los enfermos, la voz de la naturaleza - y al escucharlas verdaderamente, fue un instrumento de paz, sanación y entendimiento. ¡Qué tan diferente puede ser para nosotros! El Santo Padre bien dice lo que sabemos: “El mundo de hoy es en gran parte un mundo sordo ... A veces, el ritmo frenético del mundo moderno nos impide escuchar atentamente lo que dice otra persona”. Consciente de este hecho, el Papa nos anima, en medio de nuestro mundo agitado y polarizado, a ser como San Francisco y “no perder la capacidad de escuchar”. (48)

Esta Navidad, cuando nos acerquemos al pesebre, pidamos la gracia de ser oyentes atentos. Pidamos la gracia de ser como San Francisco, para que podamos escuchar la voz de Dios y la voz del prójimo y responder con la caridad radical que él mostró.<sup>1</sup>

Como el Papa Francisco, que seamos conmovidos por el ejemplo de San Francisco, y que el amor de San Francisco de Asís por el Misterio de la Natividad, su misticismo extático, su amor por los pobres y su espíritu de fraternidad universal animen nuestra celebración de Navidad este año.

Que Dios los bendiga a ustedes y a sus familias en esta Navidad. Sinceramente en Cristo,

Reverendísimo John O. Barres Obispo de Rockville Centre

## PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

PHONE # 631.878.0009 + RECTORY @SJECM.ORG

Sister Ann Berendes + aberendes@sjecm.org + Director of Senior Ministry

Christian Diconsiglio Case Manger

Ernie's Place—Food Pantry Ministry: Katie Spellman

Ministry of Consolation: Eve O'Brien—eveobrien@optonline.net

Communion to the Homebound: Kevin Both

Respect Life Group: Maria Sikora

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

### IF YOU ARE IN NEED, PLEASE REACH OUT

If we are unable to assist you directly, we will be more than happy to connect you to resources that can help.

#### Our office hours in the Red Barn are:

During these days, please call to make an appointment. Our staff is here to serve you but not on campus at all times.

Please call 631-878-0009 ext. 120 to make an appointment.

Alternative office hours can be given upon request of appointment.

Ernie's Place (Food Pantry) -Monday 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m., Thursdays 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Thrift Shop - Wednesday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

## Help out those in need!



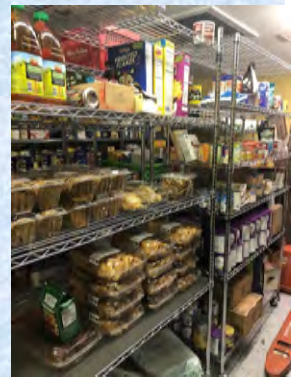
**Street Ministry** — serving the homeless in our area each week.

**Donations Needed:** Adult Tee shirts + Adult Sweat Shirts + Adult Coats + Blankets  
you can put them in a bag—just remember to label it street ministry— and drop off in the green bins. Thank you!

**Ernie's Place Food Pantry** — serving those in need on Mon. and Thurs.

Ernie's Place, SJE's Food Pantry Ministry, is beginning to manage with regular volunteers. We are looking for men and women age 18 and above to assist on Monday evenings and/or Thursday afternoons. While limited in the number of volunteers we can have in the pantry at one time, we would like have more available volunteers. If you're interested or would like some more information, please call the Parish Office or email to rectory@sjecm.org.

**Donations Needed:** Canned red kidney beans/black beans + Canned chicken + Canned tunafish + Canned Diced tomatoes + Tomato puree + pasta (Ziti, Rigatoni, Farfale, Elbow)



**Chicken Ministry** — taking care of God's creatures to provide for the poor!

**Chicken Tenders Wanted**— We are looking for volunteers to help care for the chickens and their coop. Morning shift is before 8:00 am and evening shift is at dusk. Please contact Lynn and Mike Walsh for details. Lynnwalshlcs@yahoo.com **Note: We are not taking any more egg crates.**



**Thrift Shop** — provide garments, gems and great items for the local community

Donations may only be left in the green bins. Anything left outside is discarded

Donations for all parish social ministries may be left in Fellowship Area of the Church or Rectory.



## PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY



### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

*Weekly Scripture Reflection*

Imagine how Mary felt at the birth of Jesus: excited, awed,

frightened. Deep faith was her light in the darkness, for Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest.

Through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to bring Christmas to the hearts of the poor this December. Thanks!

To arrange for a large furniture pick up, click here: <https://www.svdpli.org/get-involved/donate/schedule-pickup/schedule-a-pick-up-suffolk-county/>. **SJE DOES NOT ACCEPT FURNITURE ON CAMPUS.**

SJE is proud to have a St. Vincent de Paul Conference. We are always looking for new members. For more information, call 631.878.0009 or e-mail to [rectory@sjecm.org](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org) and your information will be shared with the leaders of the conference.

### MONDAY MUSCLE

The Thrift Shop is in need of some Monday morning muscle – even Sunday afternoon muscle. Can you help our volunteers by coming to “empty the bins”? For more details email [rectory@sjecm.org](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org) or call the Parish Office.



### WONDERFUL WOODWORKER NEEDED



The Thrift Shop is in need of some new shelves for our housewares department! Do you have some nice display shelves we can use? Even better, are you good at building things like this and need an “at home” project?

## PRAYER AND WORSHIP

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS — The Epiphany of the Lord

**Reading I:** Isaiah 60:1-6

*Jerusalem is exalted*

**Responsorial Psalm:** PS 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

**Second Reading:** Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

*Paul declares the Gentiles co-heirs to the Kingdom.*

**Gospel:** Matthew 2:1-12

*The Wise Men journey to the infant Jesus.*



### Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think Sirach says that good things happen to you when you honor your parents (prayers heard, sins atoned, long life, made happy by children)?
2. Is a family a good place to learn to forgive and be forgiven? To step outside of yourself and accept others? In Colossians St Paul gives some ideas about how we can love each other and live in harmony: “compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another.” Is this easy? How are you doing with it in your life?
3. Luke mentions the Spirit three times when speaking of Simeon. Through the Spirit Simeon recognized Jesus as the glory of Israel and the light to the rest of the world. Do you let the same Spirit who lives in you help you recognize Jesus in your daily life? How?

# KEEPING SAFE IN THESE DAYS!

## LITURGICAL PRACTICES, GOOD HEALTH AND COMMON SENSE!

*Since 2017, we have published updates regarding good health, particularly in the winter months. My former Pastor, Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco, a former professor of liturgy at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, prepared a brief article for my former parish's bulletin. As we are approaching the winter season in a time of pandemic, there are some good things to consider in our celebration of the Eucharist and some things we have been encouraging for many years!*

As we come to celebrate Mass together each week during these winter days, it's a good time to review some common-sense liturgical practices and issues, to help everyone stay healthy and to care for one another.

- **Not feeling great, STAY HOME!** Please do not take any chances for your sake or anyone else's! Join us via social media or watch Mass on the Catholic Faith Network. The risks are too great for you and for others in these days. There is no obligation to attend Mass in this time; it is not a sin to miss Mass for this reason. (Also, there is no need to go to Confession if you miss Mass because you are sick.)
- **Entering the Church:** You must enter through the main fellowship doors with your mask on. NO MASK = NO ENTRANCE into the Church. Sanitize your hands, take a worship aid and enter the church. For Masses in the Auditorium, you may enter through the north or south entrances. Specific doors are marked for entrance and exit.
- **Seating:** Please sit as close to the front as possible. It works best for groups of one and two can sit closer to the front and/or fill the seats along the perimeter of the church. This allows us to make the maximum, safe use of our available seating. Please keep a safe distance from those on either side of you and/or your family.
- **Holy Communion:** Priests, deacons and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion wash and sanitize their hands before Mass begins and immediately before distribution of Holy Communion. When Extraordinary Ministers go to their station, they place the vessel on the small table near that station and sanitize their hands before distributing Holy Communion.
- **Communion from the Chalice:** The distribution of the Precious Blood is suspended at this time.
- **Reception of Holy Communion:** Remember to bow as the person before you receives Holy Communion (this is not new). While you do this, please take down your mask. Please hold your hands out as flat as possible to receive Holy Communion. After placing the host in your mouth, put your mask back up and return to your seat.
- **Greeting of Peace:** The greeting of peace by shaking hands is suspended at this time.
- **Help!:** We are always looking for more volunteers to assist with the Cana Care Crew, particularly after Masses with the wipe down of the pews. If you and/or your family are willing to help, please see one of the volunteers in the orange shirts. We provide the gloves, t-shirt, towels and cleaning solution. You provide the arm strength and the positive spirit!

## SAFE ENVIRONMENT UPDATES



This is an important reminder for SJE employees and volunteers. You must stay up to date on your VIRTUS update bulletins, even if your ministry is not presently as active as it normally is in these times. If you have any questions about your VIRTUS account or how to complete the bulletins, please contact our safe environment coordinators – Michael Walsh or Elizabeth Dellaratta - at 631.878.0009 or email to [mwalsh@sjecm.org](mailto:mwalsh@sjecm.org) or [edellaratta@sjecm.org](mailto:edellaratta@sjecm.org).



## FAITH FORMATION

Phone: 631-878-0009, ext. 5 + Website: [sjecm.org](http://sjecm.org) + Facebook: StJohn FaithFormation

Email: [faithformation@sjecm.org](mailto:faithformation@sjecm.org) / [mpirraglia@sjecm.org](mailto:mpirraglia@sjecm.org)

Office Hours: Monday-By Appointment Only (Monday-Thursday) (RED BARN, Upstairs)

### OUR FAITH FORMATION STAFF WISH YOU & YOUR FAMILY A BLESSED CHRISTMAS SEASON & A HAPPY NEW YEAR! “FAMILY OF FAITH” (GRADES 1-6)

Our next “Family of Faith” parent meetings are scheduled for January 5 & 7. Please check the calendar on our website—<https://sjecmff.blogspot.com/>

Parent meetings are live streamed on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/WelcomeHomeStJohn>

Don't forget to complete the Google Forms for October, November & December! See our website for the links, as well as grade-level content and more!



### CONFIRMATION PREP (GRADES 7/8 & UP)

**Confirmation Prep—(Grades 7-8):** Be sure to watch the November/December video and fill out the Google Forms! All of this is posted on our Faith Formation Website: <https://sjecmff.blogspot.com/>

You should have received an email on December 9 with instructions on how to log in your student to our Google Classroom. Please be sure your student is logged in before the New Year! If you did not receive these instructions, or have questions, please email us at [confirmation@sjecm.org](mailto:confirmation@sjecm.org).

**Mark Your Calendars!**

**Level 7—Google Classroom Session: Tuesday, January 12 @ 7:15PM**

**Level 8—Google Classroom Session: Monday, January 11 @ 7:15PM**



### FAITH FORMATION WEBSITE:

[sjecmff.blogspot.com](https://sjecmff.blogspot.com)

**UPDATES ON OUR WEBSITE:** Meet & contact our “Family of Faith” Catechists, check out our new Christmas section of videos, activities and more, and view the Bible online!



## Comunidad Hispano de San Juan Evangelista, Center Moriches

La Comunidad Hispana de nuestra Parroquia en Centro Moriches, te invita a celebrar la Santa Misa en Español los Sabados a las 7:30 p.m. en la Iglesia, y los Martes a las 7:30 p.m en La Capilla del Convento.

Te invitamos a compartir la Palabra de Dios en el Grupo de Oracion, todos los Viernes a las 7:30 p.m. en la Capilla del Convento de la Parroquia. Ven a enriquecer tu vida espiritual orando

### MINISTERIOS Y SERVICIOS

**Bautismos:** Segundo Domingo a las 2p.m. en la Iglesia. Clases pre-bautismos es el tercer miércoles de cada mes.

**Favor de traer el certificado de nacimiento del niño dos meses antes del bautismo.**

#### Requisitos:

1. Certificado de nacimiento del niño o/de la niña.
2. Certificado de inscripción de su Parroquia (padres y padrinos)
3. Los padres deben traer estos documentos a la oficina de San Juan para fijar las fechas de charla pre-bautismal (OBLIGATORIA para padres y padrinos) y la fecha del Bautismo.

#### Matrimonios:

Parejas que planean su matrimonio, deben hacer una cita con uno de los sacerdotes antes de su boda. De este modo tendrán suficiente tiempo para recibir las instrucciones prematrimoniales y obtener los documentos necesarios. Para más información llame al oficina.

**R.I.C.A:** Padre Jaime- 1-631.878.0009

**Templos del Espiritu Santo (Grupo de Jovenes)** cada sabado a las 5PM en el Red Barn

## Feligreses de la comunidad Hispana de St. Juan Evangelista en Centro Moriches

\*La subscripcion deben hacerla en linea usando la pagina de <http://www.stjohntheevangelist.com>.

\*Hacer click en el cuadrito que dice "Baptisms."

\*Usted puede ver el video que sigue en la pagina siguiente, o puede ir en la parte superior al texto que dice: "click here to continue with the process".

\*Si no estas registrado como parroquiano de San Juan, debes hacer este paso primero, para que obtengas tu numero de parish ID.

\*Si ya estas registrado, usa tu numero de Parish ID, para que llenes el registrado con los datos de tu bebe.

## Permítanos ayudarlo!

### DESPENSA DE COMIDA DE ERNIE

Abierto - Lunes 6:30 p.m. a las 7:30 p.m.  
Jueves 1 p.m. a las 2 p.m.

### TIENDA DE SEGUNDA MANO

Miércoles - Red Barn  
Miércoles de 9 a.m. a 12 p.m.

### MINISTERIO DE LA CALLE

Jueves - Estación de tren Mastic-Shirley  
7:15 p.m. (aproximadamente)  
Comidas sencillas y ropa disponible.

### COMIDA COMUNITARIA

Último lunes del mes 6 p.m.  
Auditorio de la escuela  
DICIEMBRE - 21 de diciembre de 2020

También necesitamos voluntarios para ayudar a traducir para aquellos que lo necesitan



**CFN ESPAÑOL**

Watch CFN Español, a new 24-hour hub for Hispanic Catholics.

visit [www.cfnespanol.org](http://www.cfnespanol.org)

Powered by  Office of Communications • Diocese of Rockville Centre



## PRAYING FOR AND WITH ONE ANOTHER

### We Remember...

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine up on them.*

**-Entrance Antiphon, Funeral Mass  
Lorraine Scarpinaro-Garlin**

### We Pray...

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

**Sandy Fabricatore, Barbara Spanaro,**

**Michael Patoucci, June Price, Kathleen O'Keefe**

*Names will be announced at Mass the first week they are submitted and will remain on this list for approximately four weeks. 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](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org)*

### Praying for Our Military

#### US Army

Sgt. Justin Sikorski, PVT Bailey Meyer, PVT Sean Casey,  
SGT Daniel Smith, PVT Joseph Cestare, PFC David  
Smith, PFC Jack Dyer, SPC Jarrad Saturnino, PVT Mi-  
chael Garcia Jr., SPC Daniel Sisco

#### US Air Force

SSgt. Jason M. Hermes, SSgt Ryan Kerstiens,  
SSgt Timothy Kerstiens, PFC Kyle Kerstiens,  
MAJ Salvatore Sferrazza

#### US Marine Corps

Pfc Sean Brady, Patrick Kimes, Lt. Col. Robert K.  
Maldonado, CPL Andrew Schlosberg PVT Charles  
O'Connor, SGT Quentin Montemarano, Recruit Evan  
Berkemeyer

#### US Navy

STGCS Brian Holzmacher, ET3 Jeremiah Nolan, Jr.,  
MMN3 Christopher J. Esposito Jr.

#### US Coast Guard

SR Brendan J. Bernath, Capt. Keith Donohue

## Remembering our Loved Ones

*Helping our Parish*

**Altar Bread and Wine**—for the month an offering of  
\$150 is requested

**Altar Candles**—\$25.00 per week

*Altar bread and wine for the month of  
December has been donated: In  
memory of Michael Stachnik Jr*



## STEWARDSHIP

# GIVE YOUR GIFTS ONLINE.



IT'S SAFE. IT'S SIMPLE. IT'S CONVENIENT.

Support St. John today using your debit,  
credit cards, checking, or savings accounts.

**1** TEXT **SJECM** TO **555888** or visit  
**stjohntheevangelistcm.com**  
and click **Give Online**.

**2** Select the collection of your  
choice.

**3** Choose a payment option and  
customize your donation.

TEXT  
**SJECM**  
to  
**555888**



## Looking for daily inspiration?

Call extension 185  
(631-878-0009)

Call each day for a prayer, spiritual  
reflection, or Scripture reading  
from Fr. John or Seminarian Louis.

Share it with those who might  
need a lift – anyone can call from  
anywhere!



## PREPARING FOR THE WEEK

### MASS SCHEDULE

**Monday, December 28, 2020 + Feast of the Holy Innocents, martyrs**

7:00 a.m. Anthony Monaco

12 Noon Ethlyn Libardi

**Tuesday, December 29, 2020 + Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas**

7:00 a.m. Louis Corderio

12 Noon Michael Saverio

7:30 p.m. Intention Still Available

**Wednesday, December 30, 2020 + Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas**

7:00 a.m. Kevin Mitchell

12 Noon Joe A. Chambel

**Thursday, December 31, 2020 + Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas**

7:00 a.m. Roger DeTrano

12 Noon Jerome F. O'Brien

5:00 p.m. Deceased members of the Lipinski Family

7:30 p.m. Intention Still Available

**Friday, January 1, 2021 + Solemnity of Mary**

7:00 a.m. Christine Rizzi

12 Noon Gloria Profeta

7:30 p.m. The People of the Parish

**Saturday, January 2, 2021 + Memorial of Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church**

8:00 a.m. Special Intention— Margaret & Thomas Blomberg

### The Epiphany of the Lord

#### Mass of Anticipation

5:00 p.m. Francis Congema

7:30 p.m. Intention Still Available

#### Sunday

8:00 a.m. Msgr. Patrick J. Armshaw

10:00 a.m. Joseph Rera

12:00 p.m. Elaine Houlihan

6:00 p.m. Philip R. Rizzi

## MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

RBMR—Red Barn—1st Floor Mtg. Room/RBUR—Upper Room SC—Seton Chapel

### Monday, December 28, 2020

6:45 a.m. Alcoholics Anonymous RB

3—7 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament SC

7:00 p.m. Holy Hour for Priest Prayer Group SC

7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous Cafeteria

7:30 p.m. RCIA (Spanish Community) RBMR

### Tuesday, December 29, 2020

6:45 a.m. Alcoholics Anonymous RB

3—7 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament SC

7:00 p.m. Divine Will Prayer Group Auditorium

7:00 p.m. Adult Confirmation Faculty Rm.

### Wednesday, December 30, 2020

6:45 a.m. Alcoholics Anonymous RB

9:00 a.m. Thrift Shop Open Thrift Shop

3—7 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament SC

7:00 p.m. Imagine NA Cafeteria

### Thursday, December 31, 2020

6:45 a.m. Alcoholics Anonymous RB

3—7 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament SC

4:00 p.m. Legion of Mary RBMR

7:00 p.m. Street Ministry Convent

### Friday, January 1, 2021

6:45 a.m. Alcoholics Anonymous RB

7:00 p.m. Spanish Prayer Group SC

7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous RBMR

### Saturday, January 2, 2021

6:45 a.m. Alcoholics Anonymous RB

9:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Group SC

5:00 p.m. FF Family Meeting Church

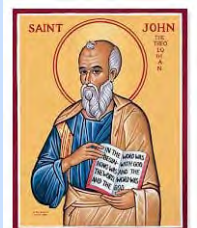
7:00 p.m. FF Family Meeting Church

### Sunday, January 3, 2021

6:45 a.m. Alcoholics Anonymous RB

10:30 a.m. RCIA (English) Cafeteria

**The Parish Office is closed Monday December 31<sup>st</sup> at 12 noon and we will reopen on Saturday, January 2, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.**







## St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church

25 Ocean Avenue, Center Moriches, New York 11934-3698

631-878-0009 | rectory@sjecm.org | www.sjecm.org



### PASTORAL TEAM

**Reverend John Sureau**

*Pastor + jsureau@sjecm.org*

**Reverend Felix Akpabio**

*Parochial Vicar*

**Reverend Jaime Calderon-Hernandez**

*Parochial Vicar*

**John Pettorino**

*Deacon*

**Sr. Ann Berendes, IHM**

*Director of Senior Ministry*

**Louis Cona**

*Pastoral Year Seminarian*

**Andrew McKeon**

*Director of Music Ministries*

**Michelle Pirraglia**

*Director of Faith Formation*

**Katie Waller**

*Business Manager*

**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)

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

*(in the Blue House)*

**Monday—Thursday:**

**9 a.m.—8 p.m.**

**Friday—Saturday**

**9 a.m.—2p.m.**

*We ask that you call before  
visiting any parish offices.*

## Come and pray with us!

### SUNDAY MASS

#### **Saturday Evening**

**5 p.m. + 7:30 p.m. (Spanish Mass)**

(Saturday Evening 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Masses  
will be livestreamed.)

Videos remain on Facebook after the live broadcast.)



#### **Sunday**

**Church: 8:00 a.m. + 10:00 a.m. + 12 Noon + 6:00 p.m.**

**Auditorium: 10:00 a.m.**

Please call the Rectory or check SJE Social Media for latest updates.

### WEEKDAY MASS

**Monday—Friday: 7:00 a.m. + 12 Noon**

**Tuesday: 7:30 p.m. (Spanish—Seton Chapel)**

**Saturday Morning: 8:00 a.m.**

(The 7 a.m. Daily Mass will be livestreamed.)

Videos remain on Facebook after the live broadcast.)

## Come and know God's Mercy!

We celebrate the **Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

**Monday—Friday:** After the 7 a.m. and 12 Noon Masses

**Saturday:** After the 8 a.m. Mass

**Saturday:** 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. + 7:00—7:15 p.m. (Spanish)

**Sunday:** 5:30—5:45 p.m.

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

## Come and know God's healing of the sick!

**Please contact the Rectory (631.878.0009, x. 9) for a priest to  
celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick with the  
seriously ill or those preparing for surgery.**

## Give us a call!

A daily spiritual message is recorded each day for you to hear.

Call 631.878.0009, x. 185.

Share this with family members and friends who are homebound.

## Come to know Mary, Our Lady Queen of Apostles

All are invited to pray the Rosary after Daily Mass in the Church. In addition we pray the Rosary via Zoom each morning at 10 a.m.

Zoom Online Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81729471841?pwd=Y0FhQVNmVVcyaGp3eGxHNTVVSzJXUT09>

Meeting ID: 817 2947 1841

Passcode: 560695

Zoom Phone #: +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Extra Rosary beads are available at the doors of the Church and Seton Chapel. Not sure how to pray the Rosary? Click [here](#)— or click here and pray online—[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VtJM\\_V8scoo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VtJM_V8scoo)

## Come to know Mary, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

The Miraculous Medal Novena is prayed on Mondays after the 7 a.m. and 12 Noon Masses.

Booklets are provided. We ask that you take the booklet and keep it, bringing it back each Monday. You can also view it online here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zfrp55orahg>.

## Come to the quiet!

The church building and Seton Chapel (located in the white convent building) are open from Monday - Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Saturday: 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. + Sunday: 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

All who visit must sign in, wash their hands in the bathroom or use sanitizer before entering the worship space, and keep a safe social distance from others.

## Come and spend some time with the Lord!

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place in Seton Chapel Mondays —Fridays from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. All are invited to quiet times of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament when the Church and Seton Chapel are open.



## Come pray the Liturgy of the Hours!

The communal celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours is postponed until further notice. Those who wish to pray may visit [univialis.com](http://univialis.com) or you can click [here](#) for Ibreviary or scan the QR code to the left. You may also download the app for your iphone or android device. Those who wish to pray may pick up a *Christian Prayer* book from the lobby of Seton Chapel to keep in these days.



All are encouraged to stay connected with our local and global church through the Catholic Faith Network (CFN).

CFN is available on  
Optimum channel 29/137, Verizon FiOS TV channel 296,  
and Charter Spectrum channel 162/471  
and can be accessed via [catholicfaithnetwork.org](http://catholicfaithnetwork.org)