St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church

In Loving Memory

December 31, 2023 Feast of the Holy Family

"Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways" Psalm 128: 1-2,3,4-5



Pastoral Team



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

OUR PARISH MISSION

Reverend Patrick M. Riegger Pastor Reverend Felix Akpabio 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

Carolyn Lapham Director of Family Ministries Michelle Pirraglia

Director of Faith Formation Katie Spellman Coordinator of Parish Social Ministry

Katie Waller Director of Operations

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 - 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. Mass Schedule

December 31, 2023

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

Monday, January 1st Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God 8:00 AM ~ 10:00 AM ~ 12 noon

Saturday, January 6th

5:00 PM - Fr. Felix 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, January 7th

8:00 AM - Msgr. Walden 10:00 AM - Fr. Jerry 12 noon - Fr. Patrick 6:00 PM - Fr. Patrick

*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.

Office Hours

Confession Schedule

A Message from Deacon Michael Hoonhout

It is the great wonder of Christmas that the infinite and almighty God becomes truly human. The mystery of the Incarnation of the Son of God as Jesus the newborn of the Virgin Mary is so profound that the Church dedicates a whole season to celebrate it. The One who as God is not limited in any way whatsoever becomes as helpless and defenseless as an infant child. This is not God pretending to be just like us; this is God being just like us, in all things



except sin - that is, in every human way except in that way when we do not act like God. Thus today's feast of the Holy Family: the Incarnate God is so genuinely human that he is a true member of a real family. Like any child, the baby Jesus needed a mother and father to care for him, protect him, love him and be a loving example to him. They were there encouraging him as he learned how to walk and comfort him when he fell. They taught him manners - when to say thank you - and learned him his prayers. Imagine that! Poor, simple folk teaching the very Son of God how to pray to His heavenly Father! No less amazing than the Blessed Virgin Mary feeding the One who provides food for all creatures, or St. Joseph protecting the baby Jesus from the sword of Herod's soldiers even as Jesus remains the One who commands the whole heavenly host of angels. All of these seemingly contradictory things are true at the same time precisely because God truly became man.

In becoming just like us, even to the point of being the only divine member of a human family, Jesus sanctifies all human families and establishes the Holy Family as the model for all families. We need this example all the more today, when so many families are broken, and many make the claim that the family can take any form its members so choose, as if man himself, not God the Creator, is maker and author of all that is human - our nature, the male and female distinction, marriage, and the family. In all this confusion, what gets lost is what is best for the child, and what is beyond doubt - all sociological studies confirm this - is that a child does best being raised by his own mother and father who have committed themselves in a lifelong and faithful marriage. While no child is 'doomed' because of a broken family - where human failure and sin occur, God's grace abounds all the more - nonetheless for the sake of all children, it is worthwhile for a culture to strive for what is best for children, and what is best is to follow what the Creator of our nature established for us. In a society where the laws of the government and the values promoted by Hollywood often go against the virtues of faithfulness, self-giving, responsibility and reverence which make every family 'holy,' the witness we Catholics give in our families is needed all the more.

Now here I could ask each one of you— every father, mother, child—to be better in your familial relations with one another: more grateful, understanding, patient, quick both to admit your faults and to forgive the faults of others. In a word, be more loving. We certainly have the splendor of the Holy Family lighting the way to do this. Yet such change for the better does not really happen simply by our 'trying harder'. We need God's grace to become a better version of ourselves. This grace is always readily available, but alas we need faith to open and soften our hearts and allow divine grace to change us.



So for the sake of that needed vision of faith, let me share with you a beautiful artistic rendition of the Holy Family by the Dutch artist Jacob de Wit, entitled "Holy Family and the Trinity," painted in 1726. The painting brings out the likeness the human family can have with the Trinity. Both are communions of persons, and in the case of the Holy Family, one Person is a member of both communions simultaneously. In the painting the child Jesus walks between his parents Mary and Joseph, while directly above Jesus is the Father and the Holy Spirit. Jesus is the point of intersection—the cross, if you will—between the heavenly and the earthly 'trinities."

Now with faith, your family can be like the Holy Family, the 'earthly Trinity.' Jesus became human and shared in the life of a human family so that He might in turn share with all believers the life of his divine family. With faith you recognize who Jesus really is, not just the child born of the Virgin and raised by Joseph and Mary, but the only begotten Son of God the Father. With faith you can see that Jesus wants to be a member of your family too, 'between' every relationship the way he is between

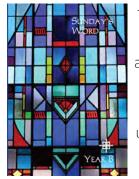
Joseph and Mary in the painting. No doubt you welcomed the baby Jesus this Christmas by placing him in the manger in the creche you set up at home. Welcome him into your heart each day, and place him in every relationship you have with the members of your family. When we believe that Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us, and remember he is with us in our relationships with those who we love so much (and who also can drive us crazy!), then the 'vertical line' of the Trinity will intersect the 'horizontal line' of our family. Then your family will be a holy family too.

Preparing for the Neek

Saturday, December 30 th Sixth Day within Octave of the Nativity of the Lord				
5:00 PM	Harry Conn			
7:30 PM Spanish	People of the Parish			
Sunday, Decembei	r 31 st The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph			
8:00 AM	Anne Mintel			
10:00 AM	Thomas Tebbens Sr.			
12:00 Noon	Katy Dyer			
6:00 PM	Jerome O'Brien			
Monday, January 1	st Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God			
8:00 AM	Daniel Dern Jr.			
10:00 AM	Charles and Margaret Peters			
12:00 Noon	People of the Parish			
Tuesday, January 2	2 nd Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors			
7:00 AM	Daniel Seltzer			
12 Noon	Special Intention -Novela Marigliano			
Wednesday, Janua	ary 3 rd Christmas Weekday			
7:00 AM	Nancy Firneisz			
12:00 Noon	Richard Montemarano			
Thursday, January	4 th Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton			
7:00 AM	Sheryl Kirk			
12 :00 Noon	Donald Marigliano			
Friday, January 5 th Saint John Neumann, Bishop				
7:00 AM	Laura Sheehan Violino			
12:00 Noon	Gloria Profeta			
Saturday, January 6 th Christmas Weekday				
8:00 AM	Trudi Norton			
5:00 PM	Sandy Fabricatore			
7:30 PM Spanish	Manuel Perez Lopez			
Sunday, January 7 th The Epiphany of the Lord				
8:00 AM	People of the Parish			
10:00 AM	Joan O'Connor			
12:00 Noon	Sandy Fabricatore			
6:00 PM	Mary Vitobello			

The 2024 Sunday's Word books have arrived ... A donation of \$5.00 is requested but not required.

Sunday's Word 2024



These books contain all of the Sunday readings as well as the psalm and antiphons for Daily Mass. They can picked up at the rectory office.

PARISH WEEKLY DONATIONS

Average Weekly from January 1, 2023 to present.

Year	Total	# of Weeks	Average Weekly
2023	\$864,684	50	\$17,294
2022	\$769,006	50	\$15,380

2023 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES A P P E A L		dy-Freenaysey tayothansa e Participation and Mission	
		2023	2022
Parish Goal		\$115,100.00	\$115,100.00
Number of Donors		305	300
Total Pledged to date		\$115,200	\$115,673
Avg. Gift		\$377	\$386
Percent of Goal		100%	100%

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 goal!





Scan to give!

One Family-Journeying together in Communion. Participation and Mission

Thank You So Much!!

We have reached our goal, so 20% of our parish goal comes back to us, plus 80% of everything OVER our goal!!

Praying For and With One Another -

<u>Remember</u>

The Souls in Purgatory

"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

Barbara La Vallee

"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 Navy

E43CPO Jason Abbatiello

STGCS Brian Holzmacher MMN2 Christopher J Esposito Jr

ETVSN Angel Gabriel Montoya Rivera

ET3 Jeremiah Nolan, Jr

US Coast Guard

BM3 Brendan J. Bernath

CPT Keith Donohue

US Air Force

SSGT David Giese

SSGT Jason M Hermes

PFC Kyle Kerstiens

SSGT Ryan Kerstiens

SSGT Timothy Kerstiens

A1C Jared T. Rosato

MAJ Salvatore Sferrazza

<u>US Army</u>

SGT Sean Casey PVT Joseph Cestare SPC Michael Garcia Jr PVT Anthony Koch CPL Aidan O'Neill SPC Daniel Sisco PFC David Smith Steven Valentin

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

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

Remembering Our Loved Ones

Altar Bread & Wine for the month of January has been donated:



In Memory of Rosemary Johnson

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 <u>rectory@sjecm.org</u>.

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. For the 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.



Phone: 631-878-0009, ext. 5 Website: https://sjecmff.blogspot.com/ faithformation@sjecm.org / mpirraglia@sjecm.org Office Hours: By Appointment Only

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Wishing all our families a blessed Christmas and happy & healthy New Year!

What We've Been up to...

- THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!: Thank you to our catechists, priests, volunteers and parish staff who've helped serve the nearly 1,000 students in our Faith Formation program this past year! We are grateful for your flexibility and support! We're always looking for more volunteers to mentor our young people! If you are interested, please contact Michelle Pirraglia, director of Faith Formation, at 631-878-0009, ext. 123 or via email at mpirraglia@sjecm.org.
- **REGISTRATION:** Our program begins when children enter 1st Grade. Registration for the 2024-25 Academic Year will run from June-August 2024—check the bulletin for future info!
- **"FAMILY OF FAITH" (Grades 1-6) Our next sessions are January 9 & 11 at 5 PM or 7 PM in the Church.** This program for our students in Grades 1-6 is a family catechesis model, where parents and students attend on-campus sessions once a month, then work at home with their children. This includes children preparing for First Communion, which is a two-year process.
- CONFIRMATION PREP (Grades 7 & Up): Our next sessions are January 22 (Level 7) and January 23 (Level 8) @ 7:15PM in the Church. Using a youth ministry model, our Confirmation prep is a two-and-a-half year process, typically beginning in 7th grade. We confirm in the Fall of 9th grade. We feature interactive, experiential learning and small group discussion.



Eucharistic Miracles of the World



Carlos and his incorrupt body $\sim \sim \sim \sim \sim$

Some of the Eucharistic Miracles





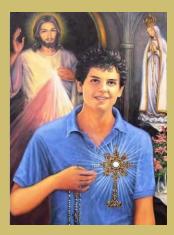


Santarem

Santa Maria Egipcia Batania

St. John the Evangelist RCC invites parishioners and friends to an exhibit of THE EUCHARIST MIRACLES OF THE WORLD developed by The Servant of God,

Blessed Carlos Acutis



Saturday, January 20, 2024 from 10 AM - 7 PM Sunday, January 21, 2024 from 9 AM - 3 PM

LOCATION: St. John the Evangelist RCC (in the Auditorium) 25 Ocean Avenue, Center Moriches NY (631) 878-0009 www.stjohntheevangelistcm.com

Come and learn about the extraordinary life of our newest beatified teen and his devotion to the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, based on the website he created with his own talents. *Read more here:* <u>carloacutis-en.org</u>

Exhibit sponsored by Legion of Mary

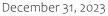
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Family Ministry

A year of family ministry in review! Thanks to all who participate in Family Life Ministry, Children's Liturgy of the Word, Moms on the Journey and Vacation Bible Camp. So grateful for our parish families! We are blessed to bring families together to grow in faith, share fellowship and have some fun!







Parish Social Ministry -

SJE Thrift Shop OPEN Wednesdays 9 AM to 12 Noon



Ernie's Place _____

Donations can be left in Fellowship Hall of the Church. Thank you for your support of our Outreach Ministry!



Closet Cleanout!

- St. John's Street Ministry is in need of:
 - **Men's Winter Coats**
 - Men's Sweatshirts
 - Men's Jeans
 - **Blankets**

The items listed here are items that Ernie's Place is in most need of this week. These items can be left at the doors of the church or at the bin, outside of Ernie's Place.

Pantry Shopping List

- Cereal
- Canned Tuna
- Small bags of white rice
- Black Beans (cans or bags)
- Red Beans (cans or bags
- Canned Chicken

- Shelf Stable Milk
- Peanut butter
- Cereal
- Tomato sauce
- Canned tomatoes
- Spaghetti
- Jelly



Knights of Columbus

Queen of All Hearts Council #4126



From the Desk of Msgr. Walden

Happy New Year! As we enter this new year, we all have hopes for a good year. Some will be realized, others will not happen. The key is to have the inner strength, courage, and resources to deal with what will happen. We begin this New Year celebrating the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. Her hopes and dreams were radically changed when the angel Gabriel appeared to her at the Annunciation and asked her to bring Jesus into our world. Her words. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word" brought a new light into the world, THE LIGHT all human beings need, seek, and hopefully find. Jesus is the light of the world and the hope not only for salvation from our sins but for peace in our hearts and in our world.

There are two opposite sounding scripture passages that come to mind as we go into our new year. As we look at human history, and the tension in our nation, and around our world with war, violence, abortion, and distrust, it is very clear that we sorely need help, we need a savior. Without the gift of Jesus and faith in Him, we are doomed to feel the emptiness of this passage from the book of Ecclestiastes 1:2-11: "Vanity of vanities, says Qoheleth, vanity of vanities! All things are vanity! What profit have we from all the toil which we toil at under the sun? One generation departs and another generation comes, but the world forever stays. The sun rises and the sun sets; then it presses on to the place where it rises. Shifting south, then north, back and forth shifts the wind, constantly shifting its course. All rivers flow to the sea, yet never does the sea become full. To the place where they flow, the rivers continue to flow.

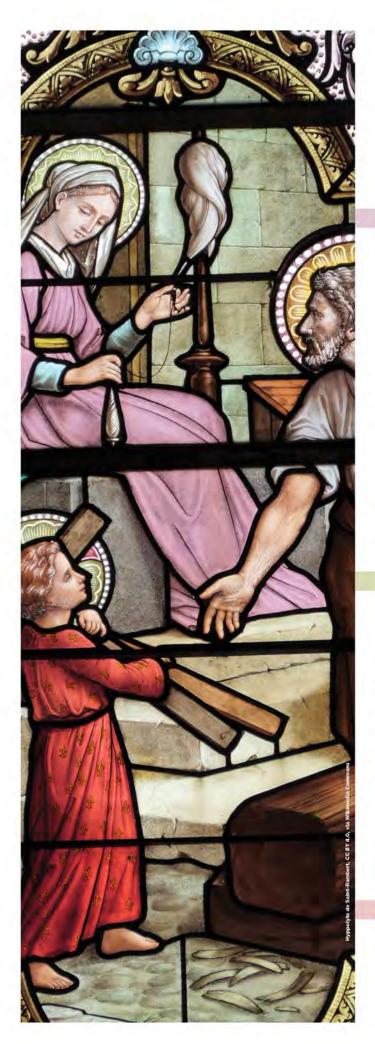
"All things are wearisome, too wearisome for words. The eye is not

satisfied by seeing nor has the ear enough of hearing. What has been, that will be; what has been done, that will



be done. Nothing is new under the sun! Even the thing of which we say, 'See, this is new!' has already existed in the ages that preceded us. There is no remembrance of past generations; nor will future generations be remembered by those who come after them."

The lack of hope for change that passage expresses is erased by these words from the Book of Revelation 21:1-7: "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them [as their God]. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, [for] the old order has passed away.' The one who sat on the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new. I [am] the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give a gift from the spring of life-giving water. The victor will inherit these gifts, and I shall be his God, and he will be my son.'" These words of true hope have been fulfilled in the coming of Jesus among us. Blessed are we who are part of His church and have Him as our Way, Truth, and Life. He is THE WAY, TRUTH AND LIFE to live everyday of our lives. He is the constant presence we all need to acknowledge to find peace, meaning, and direction in our lives every single day.



Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

Gen 15:1-6; 21:1-3 | Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 | Lk 2:22-40 or Lk 2:22, 39-40

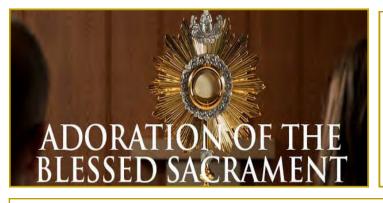
GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

St. Teresa of Calcutta once said, "If we love, naturally we will try to do something. First in our own home, our next door neighbor, in the country we live, in the whole world." In this quote we see a shift from the idyllic to a hard dose of reality: love means sacrifice and service. Perhaps it's worth asking ourselves: Does our family always get our best self? None of us is perfect, so the honest answer is probably no. If it's tempting to think, "well, the Holy Family was perfect, so what does this feast have to do with our family?" let's remember we are celebrating the Feast of the HOLY Family, not the feast of the perfect family. Yes, they were holy. They embodied this in their faith and devotion in those expanding circles of which St. Teresa spoke. They gave to God first - in today's Gospel we see the family travel to Jerusalem to present Jesus in the temple. They then returned to Nazareth where Jesus grew strong and was "filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him."

GO EVANGELIZE PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

What does this feast mean for us today? It means that being a *holy* family is not unattainable. St. John Paul II once said: "The Redeemer of the world chose the family as the place for his birth and growth." (2001) In other words, God's will was fulfilled in the simplest and most ordinary of human circumstances when Jesus was born to Mary and Joseph in a stable. He sanctified what had been profaned by sin. Are our families perfect? No. But are we holy? That is our baptismal vocation and is within our reach each and every day. With the dawn of the new year, let's make an effort to place Christ at the center of our lives. Let's try to love our family members with all our heart, and bear witness in our actions and words. And finally, and most importantly, we must pray with and for one another.

PRAY Family prayer is powerful and transformative, uniting and equipping us to go out into the world each day and bear witness. Pray together: *Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer.*



Even a quarter of an hour prayer in front of the Eucharist, perhaps gains more graces than all the other spiritual exercises of the day (outside of mass).

(Saint Alphonsus Liguria)

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

Please consider offering one hour per week before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. If you can be present for a specific hour, email <u>rectory@sjecm.org</u> or call the Parish Office at 631.878.0009.

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.

HOLY HOURS FOR VOCATIONS | 2023-2024 DATES

9.15 // 10.20 // 12.15 // 1.19 // 2.23 // 3.15 // 4.19

SPONSORED BY DRVCVOCATIONS.COM

DOORS OPEN 7 PM, BEGINS 7:30 PM | AT THE SEMINARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Comunidad Hispano De San Juan Evangelista

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

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

MINISTERIOS Y SERVICIOS

Bautismos: Segundo Domingo a las 2 PM 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:

Certificado de nacimiento del niño o/de la niña.
 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. El personal de la oficina estará disponible para hablar en español de 6 a 8 PM los martes! Asegúrese de venir a visitarnos y permítanos servirle! por favor llame a la oficina de la rectoría 631-878-0009 o envíe un correo electrónico al ministerio español a

espanol@sjecm.org

Office staff will be available to speak in Spanish from 6 to 8 PM on Tuesdays. Be sure to come and visit and allow us to serve you!

;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!



Celebrating Our Lady of Guadalupe





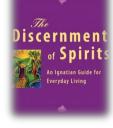






Women's Group...

Fr. Timothy Gallagher's book Discernment on The of Spirits, lists St. Ignatius' 14 rules for discernment, then goes through each rule a chapter at a time, describing how to apply it in our lives. In the ups & downs, consolations and desolations of our spiritual life, we go through



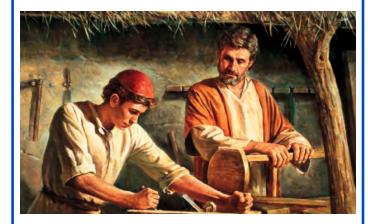
times of pure joy to "Where are You Jesus?"

St. Ignatius (1491-1556), recuperating from war wounds was given reading material on the life of Christ & the saints. As he thought about what he read, he became aware of his thought patterns, how the thoughts affected his feelings, and how the good feelings remained with him. When he had worldly thoughts, although he felt good while thinking them, he noticed that afterward the feelings left him empty. He continued reading spiritual books, growing in wisdom. God was leading him, fulfilling His Plan for him to be a great saint & to teach us. God's plan for us is the same, the process is slow.

As women who love Jesus, we need & want to learn to recognize Jesus' voice & grow closer to Him. At times we feel inadequate, wondering is this Jesus speaking, me or the enemy? In our group we begin to see we're all equal, with the problems, emotions, same weaknesses, confusion, strengths, desires, fears, doing the best we can, we don't have to be perfect. Jesus consoles us through our love for each other. If you feel desire to come but are fearful, we understand because we've been there & at times still are, so just come as you are, no rules or requirements, you don't have to read or share. We respect the privacy of others, sharing is anonymous!

We meet every other Monday from 10:00 - 11:30 AM in the IHM room, white house (convent) between school & rectory. Dates: January 8, 22, February 5, 26*, March 4, 18, April 8*, 15, 29, May 13, 20*, June 24 (summer break). Dates with * are makeup dates. Facilitators: Carol Ketcham, Anita Luccari. For additional information, please call the rectory office at 631-878-0009. Or... just show up!

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, call the rectory office at 631-878-0009.

FOR LIFE PRAY TO PROTECT HUMAN LIFE! JANUARY 16-24, 2024



9 Days for Life is an annual novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help

build a culture of life. Sign up to receive the daily prayers via email or text message here:

https://www.usccb.org/resources/9-days-life-novena

Bereavement Support Group...

Grieving is a natural process each of us goes through after the death of a loved on. 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.

WHEN:Saturday mornings, through January 6, 2024TIME:10:30 AM to 12 Noon

WHERE: First floor meeting room in the Barn. The Barn is the blue building located in the back of the school parking lot.

FACILITATORS: Maureen Harney & Loretta Gallagher

REGISTRATION: Contact the Rectory at 631.878.0009 or via email at <u>Rectory@sjecm.org</u>

FEES: \$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.

Important DRVC Information....

Information regarding a new deadline to file proofs of claim for victims od sexual abuse who were over 18 or older when the alleged conduct occurred and

the forms to use can be found by clicking on the following link to the Diocese's bankruptcy website

and scrolling down the page:

https://dm.epiq11.com/drvc

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? Not only that, our parish receives a part of the advertising commission. 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, January 1st, 2024 Parish Offices Closed

6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR
3-7 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - SC
6:30-7:30 PM Food Pantry Open - Ernie's Place
7:00-8:00 PM Holy Hour to Pray for Priests - SC
7 PM Narcotics Anonymous-Men only - BMR

Tuesday, January 2nd, 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 Front Mtg Rm Auditorium

Wednesday, January 3rd, 2024

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous BMR
- 9 AM-12 Noon Thrift Shop Open Thrift Shop
 - 3-5 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament SC

Thursday, January 4th 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, January 5th, 2024

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous BMR
- $\ensuremath{\textbf{3-7 PM}}$ Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament SC
- 7:30 PM Knights of Columbus -Bingo Night Auditorium
 - 7 PM Narcotics Anonymous BMR
 - 7 PM Spanish Prayer Group SC

Saturday, January 6th, 2024

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

Sunday, January 7th, 2024

6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR

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