

St. John the Evangelist

Roman Catholic Church

*Prepare Ye
The Way of the Lord...*

December 8, 2024

Second Sunday of Advent

The Lord has done things for us; we are filled with joy ~Psalm 126





December 8, 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 14th

5:00 PM - Msgr. Walden

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 15th

8:00 AM - Fr. Abin

10:00 AM - Fr. Patrick

12 noon - Fr. Jerry

6:00 PM - Msgr. Walden

*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)

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.

Confession Schedule

A message from Deacon Ed Grieb...

*2nd Sunday of Advent
'All people shall see the
Salvation of God'*

This week and next, our Gospel readings focus on John the Baptist's message to repent in preparation for God's promised coming. In Luke's Gospel, as well as the other Synoptic Gospels, we hear Jesus often speak about the coming of His Kingdom...the fulfillment of God's promise to save His people and bring salvation. Advent is a time when we step back and try to focus on what that gift of salvation really means.

It's the beginning of December, and our Advent (and Christmas) preparations are underway. At last week's Masses, we lit the first candle in the our Advent wreath(s); we've also had our parish Christmas tree lighting, and two weeks ago it was so wonderful to see all the families who came over to the auditorium on Sunday morning to make Advent wreaths.

The underlying message of Advent for us to focus on, as we prepare ourselves for Christmas, is **HOPE and FAITH**. Faith in a better future through the Hope we carry in our hearts to experience God's love first hand.

There is a lot going on in today's Gospel passage as John begins proclaiming Christ's coming. St. Luke throws us names, geographic locations and secular leaders that can all be sort of confusing at first glance. But it helps put in perspective where and when John is preaching, and importantly, a reminder that God is and has always been present for us in this world. Just as there is a lot going on in the Gospel, there always seems to be a lot going on in our own lives... our lives are busy and hectic and can feel overwhelming at times. But as the Gospel helps remind us, **GOD IS PRESENT**,

calling out and trying to reach out to us to be there for us.

John the Baptist's mission was to remind the Israelites (and us!) to prepare for God's coming, and with it bringing salvation. It's the same message we hear in the first reading from the prophet Baruch that he was giving to the Israelites centuries earlier as they awaited the Messiah.

And so we stay watchful, especially during this Advent season, as we are drawn to the Incarnation and God's coming to us through His Son at that first Christmas, but also drawn to the realization that we wait in Hope for His continuing coming.

With Hope in our hearts, we watch and listen for God's presence in our lives through others we meet, those who are bring and share His grace with us and especially those in need.

This week, we also celebrate our Blessed Mother's example of deep faith. Mary didn't waiver as she listened as the angel addressed her. Though troubled and overwhelmed, she maintained the Hope and Faith she had in her heart and willingly gave God her Yes. And so we celebrate Mary's special grace and favor from God from the moment of her conception, and the special part she played in God's plan.



Masses for the Week...

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

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

**Monday, December 9th Solemnity of the Immaculate
Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

7:00 AM Goncalo Rego

12:00 Noon Anthony Ricci

7:30 PM People of the Parish (Solemnity mass)

Tuesday, December 10th Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Henriqueta Stoffel

12:00 Noon Jean Colaianni

Wednesday, December 11th Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Susan Tortorice

12:00 PM Ernest Vigliotta

Thursday, December 12th Our Lady of Guadalupe

7:00 AM William Hurt

12:00 PM Patrick Mannix

Friday, December 13th Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

7:00 AM Arthur Romita

12:00 Noon Trudy Barbara Minicozzi

**Saturday, December 14th Saint John of the Cross,
Priest and Doctor of the Church**

8:00 AM Thomas Strong Sr.

5:00 PM Robert Salomone

7:30 PM (Spanish) People of the Parish

Sunday, December 15th Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Raymond Reid

10:00 AM Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

12:00 Noon Special Intention - Joan Murphy


6:00 PM Michael Ogiejko



Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Monday, December 9, 2024
Holy Day of Obligation
 Masses - 7:00 AM ~ 12 Noon
 7:30 PM in the Church

Christmas Mass Remembrance Envelopes

Christmas Mass Remembrance Envelopes will once again be collected and placed on the altar for your Special Intentions during all Masses throughout the Christmas season. Please place your envelope in the collection basket or dropped it at the rectory no later than Monday, December 23rd.



PARISH WEEKLY DONATIONS
 Average Weekly from January 1, 2024 to present.

Year	Total	# of Weeks	Average Weekly
2024	\$856,660	48	\$17,847
2023	\$813,754	48	\$16,953

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



*Revitalizing our Faith -
Renewed by the Eucharist*



As of 12/3/2024	2024	2023
Parish Goal	\$115,100	\$115,100
Number of Donors	261	298
Total Pledged to date	\$107,581	\$101,478
Avg. Gift	\$412	\$341
Percent of Goal	94%	88.1%

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!

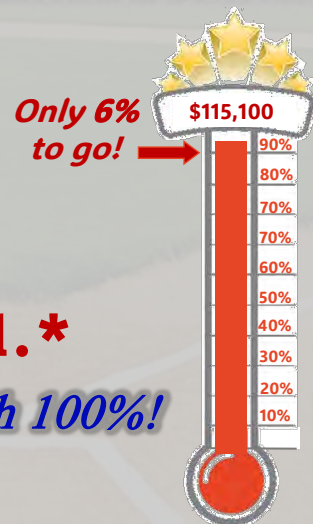
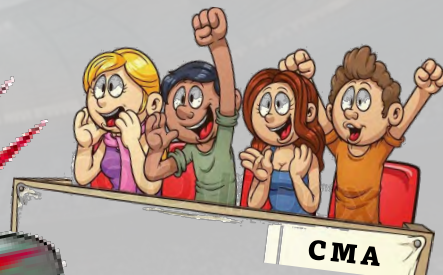


St. John the Evangelist RCC 2024



Catholic Ministries Appeal

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

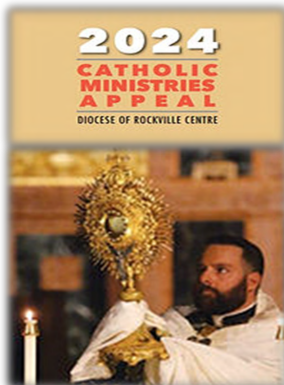


Please help us meet our goal.

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

ONLY 3 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

Dorothy Gargiulo
Florence Marchionni
Annunziata Micalizio
Nolan Horn

“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 + Thomas Taylor
Gerri Planz + Barbara Mulholland
Marilyn Tennant + Scott Ravetti

“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. Bemath
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

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



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.

Christmas Confessions...

The season of Advent is a wonderful way to prepare our hearts for the Lord! The sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated at SJE on the following days and times.



Monday - Friday after the 7 AM & 12 Noon Masses
Saturdays: After the 8 AM Mass, and from 4 - 4:45 PM
7 - 7:15 PM (Spanish)
Sundays: 5:30 - 5:45 PM

Advent Confessions...

Monday, December 16th
6:00 - 9:00 PM

St. John the Evangelist R.C. Church

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

- 4:00 PM CHRISTMAS VIGIL (CHURCH & AUDITORIUM)
- 6:00 PM CHRISTMAS VIGIL
- 9:00 PM CHRISTMAS VIGIL (SPANISH)
- 12:00 MIDNIGHT MASS

CHRISTMAS DAY SUNDAY, WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 25TH

- 8:00 AM MASS
- 10:00 AM MASS
- 12 NOON MASS

25 Ocean Avenue - Center Moriches, New York 11934



Faith Formation

Last month, our Level 7 & 8 students learned about the Season of Advent. Our Level 7 session focused on Jesus as the Light that shines in the darkness of our lives, while Level 8 students completed a Jesse Tree project! All our Confirmation prep students took home an ornament from our Giving Tree, with the donations being collected during their December Advent Family Prayer Services.



2024-25 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, January 13th at 7:15 PM in the Church

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

Next Sessions: Tuesday, January 7 and Thursday, January 9 @ 5 PM & 7 PM in the Church.

The background of the entire page is a dark, atmospheric night sky with a warm, golden-brown glow. In the upper right, a bright, multi-pointed star shines prominently. Below the star, the silhouettes of three figures are visible against the horizon. One figure is riding a donkey, while the other two are walking. The overall scene evokes the journey of the Three Kings.

Please join our parish Choir as we journey from
Advent to Christmas at our Annual...

Christmas Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 22, 2024
4 o'clock in the afternoon in the Church

The Office of Family Life Ministry

Our Family Advent Wreath Making Event was Fabulous!

Today we begin the second week of Advent and two purple candles are burning brightly in many an SJE home thanks to the many families who are keeping the practice of praying with the Advent wreath alive! And many of those families made their Advent wreaths right here at St. John's on Sunday, November 24th! It was a wonderful time for faith, families and fun! A word of great thanks to all who made our Family Advent Wreath Making Event such a tremendous success. The ladies on the Family Life Ministry worked tirelessly to make sure that everything was just perfect for all of the families who attended. Our Youth Service Corps did an outstanding job with our set-up on Saturday afternoon. Our parish office provided unbelievable support by monitoring and troubleshooting our online registration procedures to ensure that everything was accessible through the parish website! Forge River Nursery generously donated our fresh pine branches. Msgr. Walden, Fr. Jerry and Deacon Ed joined in the fun and Fr. Patrick led us in the Blessing of the Advent Wreaths. This year we also offered the "Shepherd on the Search" for purchase – a wonderful Christian alternative to the "Elf on the Shelf". We sold out of our inventory but the Shepherd on the Search is available through Amazon and through Dayspring.com. It's a wonderful way to keep children excited and focused on the coming of Jesus during Advent! Shepherds and wreaths and tons of joy! Families connecting...faith growing...and no doubt, the good Lord smiling down from Heaven above! Check out the fun!



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!



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!



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 11 AM

*"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

Knights of Columbus

Queen of All Hearts Council #4126

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

**Retirement Fund
for Religious**

Please give to
those who have
given a lifetime.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

“Vocation, more than our own choice, is a response to the Lord’s unmerited call.” Our Holy Father shared these words in his recent message for the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. In doing so, Pope Francis made clear what lies at the heart of every vocation: God’s initiative. He calls. He invites. In freedom, we simply respond.

Our Religious Sisters and Brothers in the Diocese of Rockville Centre heard God’s call and responded generously. They have selflessly dedicated their lives to serving the Lord and his people. Through their devotion to Christ and greater configuration to Him in their vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, they have lived out their call of discipleship and service in education, healthcare, parochial ministry, and so many other apostolates.

We are grateful for the countless ways they have served and ministered among us, and we are grateful for their witness to us! As you prayerfully reflect on how your life has been touched by the ministry and witness of our consecrated religious men and women, I would ask that you consider making a gift to the Religious Retirement Fund. In the name of our dedicated and faithful Religious Sisters and Brothers, thank you for your generosity! May God to bless you and your loved ones.

Collection This Weekend

Thank you for your generosity!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Rockville Centre

Parish Social Ministry

Ernie's Place Shopping List

Here is a list of items needed for our pantry. These items can be left at the doors of the church or at the bin, outside of Ernie's Place.

- Jelly
- Apple Sauce
- Pancake Mix
- Tomato Sauce
- Pancake Syrup
- Mac & Cheese
- Raman Noodles
- Shelf-stable Milk



Thanks to all the many generous donations we received to the food pantry for the holidays, we are only in need of a few items to supplement our Christmas outreach:

- Christmas cookies*
- Jarred tomato sauce*
- Boxed pasta*



Street Ministry Shopping List

Below is a list of items that are needed for Street Ministry. These items can be left at the doors of the church.

- ◆ Blankets
- ◆ Toilet Paper
- ◆ Feminine Products
- ◆ Men's & Women's Socks
- ◆ **Men's & Women's Coats S, M, L, XL**
- ◆ Men's & Women's T-Shirts Sizes S, M, L
- ◆ **DESPERATELY NEED Men's Jeans All Sizes**
- ◆ Men's & Women's Sweatshirts S, M, L, XL
- ◆ Travel Size Shaving Cream & Razors
- ◆ Travel Size Shampoo & Conditioner
- ◆ Men's & Women's Underwear (new) All Sizes

Street Ministry

Join Our Street Ministry Team!

Are you a talented cook? A social butterfly who loves engaging with others? Or do you prefer working behind the scenes? If you enjoy folding clothes and organizing, we would love for you to use the wonderful gifts God has given you to serve those in need in our local community!

Our Street Ministry is a vibrant community of volunteers dedicated to providing hot meals and clothing to individuals and families every Thursday night, many of whom are homeless or unable to access other support services. Whether you're interested in working in our donation room, cooking hot meals, preparing PB&J sandwiches, or joining our van runs, there's a place and a role for everyone!

If you're ready to get started or want more information, please contact Victoria Papatatto at:

streetministry@sjecm.org.

WE NEED YOUR HELP ON THURSDAY NIGHTS...

We urgently need your help on Thursday nights for the **Street Ministry Van Runs!** Volunteers meet at the convent at **6:30 PM** and go out into the community to provide hot meals and clothing to those in desperate need. If you can spare just one hour each week, your assistance would make a tremendous difference. Every bit of help counts! **Interested in Helping?** Please call the Parish Social Ministry office at **631-878-0009 x120**.

Thank you for considering this vital opportunity to serve!



December 8, 2024

*The Choral Society of the Moriches, Inc.
invites you to our 85th Season of*

G.F. Handel's
The Messiah

Directed by Martha Campanile



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2024 | 7:30 PM
ST. JUDE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
89 OVERLOOK DR, MASTIC BEACH, NY, 11951

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024 | 3:00 PM
ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST RC CHURCH
25 OCEAN AVE, CENTER MORICHES, NY, 11934

*Free Entry with Good Will Offering
For more information visit moricheschoral.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.**



Our Lady Queen of Apostles
Regional Catholic School

Contact Us!

631-878-1033

olqany.org

Scan QR Code



Thanksgiving Feast 2024!



A Message from Msgr. Walden...



“They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again.” Those words are from the first reading at Mass this past Monday (Isaiah 2:1-5) and seem so out of touch with reality and the world situation we live in today. Are these words too good to be true? Are they too simple to happen? The hope these prophetic words express are exactly what Jesus came into our world to accomplish. In the over 2000 years since he was born, and over 2700 years since Isaiah proclaimed these words with great hope, they are clearly not a reality. As much as Adam and Eve needed God’s mercy and we need the forgiveness of God today, God has never stopped offering these words of hope. As long as they fall on deaf ears and unbelieving hearts, we are doomed to see the discord, anger, violence, hatred, and distrust that is reported in the news media everyday.

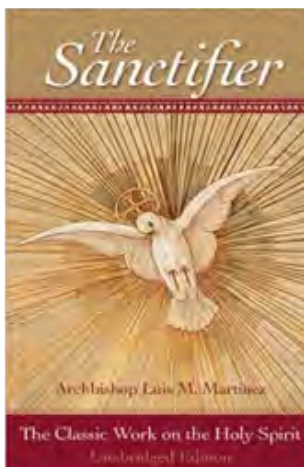
Where is the answer to the above prophecy of Isaiah? Jesus came to bring us salvation from all that separates us from God and one another. He did not do it by preaching doom and gloom but goodness, love, mercy, and reconciliation. We celebrate Christmas in our homes by putting up manger scenes. That is good to see, but what do they really portray? Two conflicting messages! Jesus was born in a stable because there was no room for him in the inn. The most powerful person who ever walked the face of the earth did so because He loves us more than we could ever believe and hope for. Just like today, the message is “not wanted” but needed more than ever. The challenge we face and opportunity that is

right in front of us everyday is the same challenge and opportunity that has been present since He came into our world to be our savior, brother, and hope for life in this world and in the world to come when we die. His words on the cross need to be taken to heart as much as they were when He uttered them lovingly in some of His last words on the cross: “Father, forgive them, they know not what they do.” (Luke 23:34)

Peace and hope come when we are open and willing to love each other as God loves us. That love includes patience, understanding and a deep desire to resolve differences with humility, God’s truth, and open hearts. That is exactly why Jesus is our Savior. Yes, we are human and have a rough road to walk together at times, but the gift of Jesus in our hearts illumines the path to peace, reconciliation, and unity with God and one another. The more we see the true meaning of Christmas in our everyday lives and all year long, the more real, meaningful, hopeful, grateful, and joyful our personal Christmas celebrations are. May we find the joy of putting aside our “swords and spears” and experience the sharing of God’s mercy, love, and truth.

I offer this prayer from the breviary:
Father in heaven, when your strength takes possession of us we no longer say: why are you cast down my soul: So now that the surging waves of your indignation have passed over us, let us feel the healing calm of your forgiveness. Inspire us to yearn for you always, like the deer for running streams, until you satisfy every longing in heaven. Amen.

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.



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.





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 9th, 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 10th, 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 11th, 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 12th, 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 13th, 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 14th, 2024

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

Sunday, December 15th, 2024

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR

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