

St. John the Evangelist

Roman Catholic Church



January 11, 2026

The Baptism of the Lord

The Lord will bless his people with his peace. ~ Psalm 29



Pastoral Team

Reverend Patrick M. Rieger
Pastor

Reverend Charlince Vendredy
Parochial Vicar

Reverend Monsignor Ellsworth R. Walden
Retired, In Residence

Reverend Francis Lasrado
Retired, In Residence

Reverend Jerry DiSpigno
Parish Assistant

Reverend Peter D'Abele
Parish Assistant

John Pettorino
Deacon

Michael Hoonhout
Deacon

Ed Grieb
Deacon

Katie Waller
Director of Operations

Carolyn Lapham
Director of Family Ministries

Michelle Pirraglia
Director of Faith Formation

Heather Crayne
Director of Parish Social Ministry

Angela Werner
Director of Music Ministry

OLQA

Our Lady Queen of Apostles
Regional Catholic School (on the campus of SJE)
2 St. John Place
Center Moriches, NY 631.878.1033 (ext. 201)
www.olqany.org

Dawn Waller, Principal
dwaller@olqany.org

Office Hours

Monday: 9 AM - 7:30 PM

Tuesday: 9 AM - 7:30 PM
6 - 8 PM Spanish-speaking support.

Wednesday: 9 AM - 4:00 PM

Thursday: 9 AM - 7:30 PM

Friday: 9 AM - 2 PM

Saturday: 9 AM - 2 PM

Please call before visiting any parish offices.

January 11, 2026

25 Ocean Avenue, Center Moriches, New York, 11934-3968
631-878-0009 | rectory@sjcem.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, January 17th

5:00 PM - Fr. Jerry
7:30 PM (Spanish) - Fr. Pete
(Saturday Evening 5 PM Mass
will be livestreamed. Videos remain
on Facebook after the live broadcast.)

Sunday, January 18th

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

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

Confession Schedule

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.

A Message from the Director of Family Ministries...

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, a feast that brings our Christmas season to a close and our lives as Christians to an amazing opening. This feast marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry and reveals something profound about God's love for humanity. There are so many questions, both asked and answered this day. It's difficult to tease out where to begin.

Perhaps we should start with the most obvious question, "Why was Jesus baptized?" Initially, like John the Baptist, we may find ourselves speechless, confused, not understanding why the Son of God would be baptized in the Jordan River by his cousin. It just doesn't make sense. But let's take a few moments to think about what we know about our God and what happened that day. We know God's love for His people. We know Jesus...His selflessness, His obedience, His humility, His mission. We know the Scripture and what was prophesied. And in light of all that we know...this day had to happen. And honestly...it makes perfect sense.

When Jesus chose to step into the waters of the Jordan, He had no sins for which He had to repent. Yet, He chose to stand among sinners, entering fully into our human condition. This act was not about His need for cleansing, but about His desire to be with us—to share in our struggles, our hopes, and our journey toward God. It was an outward sign of His acceptance of God's will for His life and His obedience to be the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy. It was the beginning of His public ministry. The beginning of His sacrifice for us.

But why did it happen that way?

At the moment, the heavens opened, the Spirit descended like a dove, and the Father's voice declared: "This is my beloved Son; with whom I am well pleased." And so, the Three Persons in the Holy Trinity were publicly revealed, as was Jesus' true identity, as the Son of God and His mission. And for many....new search for truth began.

But how does this beautiful Feast serve as an amazing beginning of our lives as Christians?

The Baptism of the Lord, not only reveals who Jesus is, but it also serves as a reminder of who we are through our own baptism—beloved children of God, called to live in His grace.

Through His Baptism, Jesus teaches us to live out our call to holiness with humility. Jesus lowered Himself to walk with us. He was baptized, though sinless, to show us the way that we can be freed of our sins. He demonstrates that humble service is true greatness.

Jesus demonstrates obedience. He does what He is required to do, without question or resistance, even if it doesn't seem to "make sense" to those around Him. He follows through so that "all righteousness can be fulfilled."

As we reflect on this feast, let us remember that our baptism is not just a past event—it is a living reality. Every day, we are invited to renew our "yes" to God, to live as His children, and to bring His light into the world. What a gift! What a privilege! What a challenge! But we can do it. Let's work together and pray each other through.

And while we're praying together, let us lift up all those who were baptized into our parish family during the past year! In January 2025, Deacon Ed and I were graciously asked to "revive" the Baptism Ministry here at St. John's. This once vibrant ministry, had been forced into a hiatus during covid, and the personal connections that had been the heart and soul of the SJE Baptism Ministry were reduced to online sacrament preparation and email communication with the families of those to be baptized.

We knew it was time to return to a more personal ministry. And so, with some experience, a small team of wonderful parishioners and the God-given burning desire to joyfully build up the Body of Christ, we set out to do what we could to renew the Baptism Program. With a year of growing pains under our belts, our team can gratefully report that we have spoken with countless couples, held more than 20 Baptism preparation classes, provided "Greeters" at almost every single Baptism, and since January 2025, have welcomed 155 babies and young children into our parish family. It is truly AMAZING!

As we join together in prayer, let us pray for these families and their children...that the Baptisms celebrated will begin their mission to live as the beloved children of God!

FYI: Next weekend we have invited those baptized in 2025 to come to the 10:00 Mass on Sunday 1/18, as a means by which to reunite all the young families and to connect them more closely to our parish family. Please welcome them with that second-to-none SJE love and joy! That's it for now!

Thank You Jesus for the gift of Your Baptism...and for the blessing of ours!

Submitted with gratitude and joy,

Carolyn Lapham

Masses for the Week...

Saturday, January 10th Christmas Weekday

8:00 AM Alexis Lynne Schieferstein

5:00 PM Saverio Giambalvo

7:30 PM (Spanish) People of the Parish

Sunday, January 11th The Baptism of the Lord

8:00 AM Albert Glover

10:00 AM Jeannie Krucher

12:00 Noon Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

6:00 PM Robert Salomone

Monday, January 12th Weekday

7:00 AM Charlie Kirk

12:00 Noon Michael A. Romagnolo

Tuesday, January 13th Weekday

7:00 AM Special Intention-Christine Shay

12:00 PM Special Intention-Adelaide Rego

Wednesday, January 14th Weekday

7:00 AM Jan Ryan

12:00 Noon Kristen Bigora

Thursday, January 15th Weekday

7:00 AM Robert Waidler

12:00 Noon Philip Kennedy

Friday, January 16th Weekday

7:00 AM Patricia Cuff

12:00 Noon Joan Speirs

Saturday, January 17th Saint Anthony, Abbot

8:00 AM Bernard and Christine Loughlin

5:00 PM William Riegger

7:30 PM (Spanish) People of the Parish

Sunday, January 18th The 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Justin DeRosa

10:00 AM Myrna Stabile

12:00 Noon Maureen Gay

6:00 PM Barbara Gosnell



We thank you for your generous

Christmas Appeal Offering!!

It's still not too late to make your donation! Please scan this QR code to make your donation today!



| CHRISTMAS APPEAL | TOTAL GIVING |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| 2025 as of 1/5/26 | \$76,803 |
| 2024 year end final total | \$78,674 |

PARISH WEEKLY DONATIONS

Average Weekly from January 1, 2025 to present.

| Year | Total | # of Weeks | Average Weekly |
|------|-----------|------------|----------------|
| 2025 | \$939,881 | 52 | \$18,075 |
| 2024 | \$937,882 | 52 | \$18,036 |

2025 Please help us reach our goal!

Catholic Ministries Appeal
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Renewed by the Eucharist
Sent on Mission



| As of 1/6/2026 | 2025 | 2024 |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Parish Goal | \$115,100 | \$115,100 |
| Number of Donors | 260 | 272 |
| Total Pledged to date | \$111,647 | \$117,306 |
| Avg. Gift | \$429 | \$434 |
| Percent of Goal | 97% | 101.9% |

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!

THE LIFE CENTER OF LONG ISLAND

Change for Life

By filling the Baby Bottle, you are directly supporting the life-changing work of meeting the physical and spiritual needs of women and men who find themselves facing an unplanned pregnancy.



Your donation helps us provide the vital resources that enable us to celebrate the beauty of the lives that may have been touched and saved through the ministry of the Life Center of Long Island.

Baby Bottle Campaign Impact

The Baby Bottle Campaign is an integral part of the Life Center of Long Island's operation. It provides the necessary funding for the Center's vital services to the individuals in need of pregnancy support enabling us to celebrate the beauty of the lives that have been touched and saved through the ministry of the Life Center. The Baby Bottle Campaign also raises awareness throughout communities here on Long Island about the tremendous resources and educational programs available so families can make truly informed, empowered decisions and better choices for their family unit. And perhaps, most importantly, it reinforces our basic mission to support and defend the sanctity of life.



Don't Forget Your Baby Bottle!!

On **the weekend of January 24 & 25**, once again St. John the Evangelist Parish will be hosting a **Baby Bottle Fundraiser** to benefit the **Life Center of Long Island**. Last year, our parish raised almost \$13,000 for The Life Center.

The Life Center is a pregnancy care center that consults with women and men who are experiencing an unplanned pregnancy. Do you know that they provide:

- ⇒ Free pregnancy test kits
- ⇒ Free Sonogram
- ⇒ Maternity housing with eligibility requirements referrals
- ⇒ Medical care referrals
- ⇒ Male advocates available to speak with fathers
- ⇒ Material aid including car seats, cribs, clothing, diapers, and many other baby needs

We are asking that you pick up a baby bottle in two weeks, fill it with your donations, and **return it the weekend of February 7 & 8**. Please make checks payable to the **Life Center of Long Island**.

More importantly, we are asking you to recite the prayer attached to the baby bottle. Prayer brings about something very powerful at the Life Center... a change of a mother's heart! We believe these prayers lead abortion-minded women to reach out to the Life Center in the beginning of their pregnancy.

Prayers also spiritually equip the consultants at the Life Center to say the right words a mother or a father may need to hear with hope of choosing the gift of life for their baby.



Let us pray for the conversion of a mother's heart to give the gift of life to her preborn baby.





Praying For and With One Another

Remember

Michael Anthony Postilio + Un Kong

Linda Anne Luoni + Millie Malone

Joseph Jerome Narissi

Jordan "Shower" Aponte

"In this you rejoice, although now for a little while you may have to suffer through various trials..."

-1 Peter 1:6

Pray for the Sick

Ray Galpin

Eileen & Chuck DeRicco

Michael Campanello

Bill Hasper

Baby Isabelle Reyes

Baby Leonardo Fulfree

Steve Poulos

Daniel Treadwell

Valentino Liuzzi

Alessandra Veloso Valentim

Mark Havens

Patricia Melillo

Tommaso Campione

Suzan Fitzpatrick

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.



Remembering Our Loved Ones

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

The Deceased of the Parish

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 \$250 is requested.

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

Our Military

US Marine Corps

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

US Navy

E43CPO Jason Abbatiello
MMN1 Christopher J Esposito Jr
STGCS Brian Holzmacher
ET3 Jeremiah Nolan, Jr
ETVSN Angel Gabriel Montoya Rivera
ENS Ralph J. Ruggiero
SA Thomas Taylor III
SR Jack Patrick Walsh
SR Michael Paduana
EM3 Andrew R. Casey

US Air Force

SrA Anthony Auciello
SSGT David Giese
A1C Brenden M. Hayes
SSGT Jason M Hermes
SSGT Kyle Kerstiens
SSGT Ryan Kerstiens
SSGT Timothy Kerstiens
SrA Jared T. Rosato
LT Col Salvatore Sferrazza
SSGT William E. McCauley II
1st Lt. Claire McGrath
A1C James Pfister
A1C Peter A. Traina

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
PVT Cara Williams

US Coast Guard

BM3 Brendan J. Bernath
CPT Keith Donohue

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.

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.**

Our Lady Queen of Apostles

THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL
IN CENTER MORICHES

Called to be a Family of Families



Open House

Sunday, January 25th

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Why OLQA?

- Faith-centered community rooted in Catholic values
- Individualized learning environment & dedicated teachers
- Students grow spiritually, socially, and academically



Come & See the
Catholic School Difference

631-878-1033



www.olqany.org



2 St Johns Place
Center Moriches, NY 11934



PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY



Hello from our Thrift shop volunteers! They are very busy organizing and sorting thru the many donations we receive each week, thanks to the generosity of our parishioners and the local community. We welcome your donations and ask that you please place them in the green bins in front of the shop in the school parking lot, they are greatly appreciated.

If you're able to donate, here are some helpful hints: We are a small shop and cannot store anything large, if you're unsure about an item, please call x120 to inquire. Clothing items we are able to sell are best if free of holes, stains, etc. and household goods that are free of damage. This helps us so much, we are grateful!

Every Wednesday we are open to the public from 9 AM-12 PM and feature many great items at spectacular prices. Come visit and find something amazing! The proceeds from the shop are used to support SJE outreach programs to help those in need.



ERNIE'S PLACE

Ernie's Place Food Pantry is open to serve those in need in our community on Monday's from 6:30-7:30 PM and Thursdays from 3:00-4:00 PM. If you are interested in volunteering to serve when we're open or to help re-stock and organize our pantry shelves, please call to join us!

- *Salt
- *Jelly
- *Ketchup
- *Hot Sauce
- *Drink Boxes
- *Salad Dressing
- *Canned Chicken
- *Jar Pasta Sauce
- *Small Bags of Flour
- *Pancake Mix & Syrup
- *Bags of Black & Red Beans
- *Individually Wrapped Snacks
- *Small Bottles of Cooking Oil



STREET MINISTRY

Our Street Ministry team provides food and clothes to those in need every Thursday night. There are lots of opportunities to get involved whether you like to cook, serve, help load our van or fold clothes. Please reach out for more information!



- ◆ Gloves
- ◆ Blankets
- ◆ Sweat Pants
- ◆ Single Razors
- ◆ Shaving Cream
- ◆ Face/Wash cloths
- ◆ Travel Size Shampoo
- ◆ Travel Size Body Lotion
- ◆ Feminine Hygiene Products
- ◆ Women's new Underwear (S, M)
- ◆ Gently used men's & women's sneakers
- ◆ Men's new Underwear & Socks (S, M, L, XL)
- ◆ Gently used men's jeans in size 32, 34 and 36
- ◆ Gently used coats (see donation box in fellowship hall)

*Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes through which He looks compassion on this world.*

- St. Teresa of Avila



A joyful gathering of all the newly Baptized!

You are cordially invited to a reunion that is being held for all the children who have been baptized into our St. John the Evangelist parish family during 2025.

Sunday, January 18th at the 10:00 Mass in the church.

Come to mass and receive a special blessing!

There will be a light reception after Mass in the Parish Auditorium (across the street, on the south side of the church).

Please let us know if you'll be joining us!

Baptism@sjecm.org

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

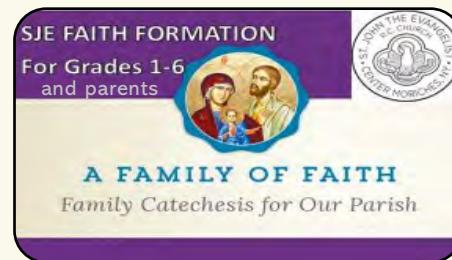
Phone: 631-878-0009, ext. 5
 Website: <https://sjecmf.blogspot.com/>
faithformation@sjecm.org / mpiraglia@sjecm.org
 Office Hours: By Appointment Only

Living out the Corporal Works of Mercy, our Level 7 and Level 8 students participated in our parish's Advent Giving Tree project and brought in a great amount of donations for our Street Ministry! Level 7 also helped replenish toilet paper for our Parish Social Ministry, while our Level 8 students donated new and gently used shoes to the "Soles4Souls" initiative, which provides shoes to individuals lacking proper footwear. Many thanks to our families in the Confirmation program for their generosity!



2025 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 Class Session:

Monday, January 12 at 7:15 PM in the Church.
 Please remember to bring your Breakthrough Bibles!

LEVEL 8 (Confirmation Prep Year 2):

Next Class Session:

Tuesday, January 13 at 7:15 PM in the Church.
 Please remember to bring your Breakthrough Bibles!

Next Sessions:

- **Tuesday, February 3 & Thursday, February 5 at 5 PM or 7 PM in the Church (attend one).**
 - **Grade Level 4 Mass - Sunday, January 11 at 10 AM.**
 - **Grade Level 5 Mass: Sunday, January 25 at 10 AM**

Come as a family to your child's assigned grade level Mass in the Church, where they will receive a special blessing. Please bring your completed activity sheet (which was given out at the November sessions) and hand it in at the Main Lobby when you enter the church!

OFFICE OF FAMILY MINISTRY

Family Ministry Christmas Season Happenings!

On December 30th, many of our parish families came together for a day of family fun and fellowship. We watched the heartwarming movie, "Arthur Christmas" which revealed the succession of "Santa Claus," beginning with St. Nicholas and continuing through the present day Santa. The children watched as the story unfolded, revealing that the future Santa Claus would not be Santa's oldest son, but his youngest son Arthur, who clearly held the true meaning to Christmas in his heart. The children had a blast, the parents spent a fun day out with their kids and everyone enjoyed the famous SJE popcorn, a delicious pizza lunch and some Christmas cupcakes and candy canes to top off the festivities. A special thanks to the ladies of Family Life Ministry who made this happen. They truly are a gift to our parish! Check out all the joy!



On Sunday, January 4th, the Three Kings came to the 10:00 Mass! That's right... they walked right down the main aisle of the church bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh! Msgr. Walden called the children up to witness the event and he conducted an intriguing conversation with each of the kings. Not only did the children learn why each of the kings followed the star, but they also learned that our Catholic faith is all over the world! Msgr. Walden asked each of the kings to reveal his true identity, and it was clear to everyone during those conversations, that the "wise men" of our parish still seek Jesus! Msgr. Walden reminded the children that THEY are the MOST PRECIOUS gifts for their parents... for all of us at St. John's ...and of course for Jesus! Then the children were sent "on mission" ...to return to their families and give their parents a BIG HUG! It was a wonderful celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany!

A Message from Monsignor Walden...

When we hear the word baptism, we usually think of infants being brought to a church to receive that sacrament. Today, we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Obviously, Jesus had no need to be baptized because has been eternally the Son of God, the second person of the most Holy Trinity we invoke every time we bless ourselves in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. As Jesus approached John the Baptist in today's Gospel (Matthew 3:13-17), John recognized that there is no need with these words: "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?" Obviously, Jesus knew people were going to John the Baptist with a hunger we all have - to come to know and experience the goodness and love of God and to live more closely in union with Him.

Jesus did not come to be baptized by John just to see what it was like or to see how people responded. Jesus did not come to watch, observe, criticize or direct us but to be one with us so we can truly be one with Him. Through the vision and gift of faith, we come to see and experience that Jesus came to encourage, enrich, enlighten, listen, forgive, proclaim and be the Good News of God's loving, life-giving presence. Living in union with Him as baptized members of God's family, we come to see and experience all we can do through, with, and in Him. To accept the invitation to live in union with Him and one another in that process is to accept to walk and think with Him and to allow Him to walk and think with us. He is not big brother who is watching. He is the Son of God who invites us to be an intimate part of who He is and, even more, to welcome Him to be intimate part of who we are.

After the four weeks of Advent and the two weeks and a few days of celebrating Christmas, the feast of the Holy Family, the Motherhood of Mary, Epiphany, and the Baptism of the Lord, tomorrow liturgically goes into the first week of Ordinary Time. Yet, the past days we

have been celebrating makes everyday far more than a day in ordinary time. Jesus is the gift of God Himself who opens minds and hearts to all that is truly good and life-giving in our lives with one another. There is a lot of information today about artificial intelligence. Our faith gives us a far greater gift - the very presence of God and His love, wisdom, mercy, truth, as we pray, receive the Sacraments, and read and reflect on the sacred words of Scripture. No one and nothing else will satisfy our inner longing for life, love, and meaning than Jesus Christ and all that He is and all that we can be through, with, and in Him personally and as His people.

I conclude with the Renew 2000 prayer which simply and beautifully puts our life with God and one another in perspective, a prayer I pray everyday.

Gracious God and Father,
We are your people embraced by your love.
We thank you for your presence with us
throughout all time.

As we celebrate the 2000 years since the birth of
Jesus, your Son: Create us anew.
Liberate us from all that keeps us from you.

Send your Holy Spirit, enabling us
to recreate our world and restore justice.

Heal us from every form of sin and violence.
Transform us to live your Word more
profoundly. Reconcile us so enemies, become
friends. Awaken us to the sacred;
Nurture our relationships;

Enliven our parishes; reunite our families. Fill
us with joy to celebrate the fullness of life.
Empower us to be a community of love
growing in your likeness by the
grace of Christ our Lord.

Amen.





Sunday's Word – Year A Now Available!

The Sunday's Word – Year A books are now available in the Parish Office. These handy guides include all the Sunday readings for the coming liturgical year and are a wonderful way to prepare for Mass and reflect on God's Word throughout the week.

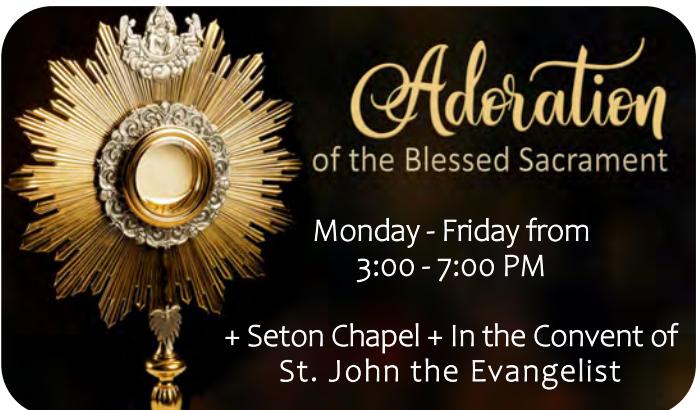
A suggested offering of \$5 is appreciated.
Stop by the Parish Office to pick up
your copy today!

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.

*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.*

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.



www.cfntv.org

The Catholic Faith Network (CFN) is at the service of the Word, the Church, the Bishops and the Encounter of Faith and Culture. Our mission is to proclaim the teachings of our Lord to the Catholic Community and beyond using media in all forms.

The Catholic Faith Network (CFN) is available on Optimum channel 29/137, Verizon FiOS TV channel 296, and Charter Spectrum channel 162/471 throughout the New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut area.

The Catholic Faith Network (CFN) is also available on selected cable and satellite systems nationwide, along with a vast on-demand library of original programming and a high quality 24/7 live stream.

Please consider offering one hour per week before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. 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.



January 11, 2026

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

The Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 | Acts 10:34-38 | Mt 3:13-17

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

We hear in today's Gospel that at the moment of Jesus' baptism, "a voice came from the heavens, saying, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'" We can hear these words as a simple proclamation of who Jesus is — the beloved Son of God — but also as a proclamation of who we are called to be: the beloved adopted sons and daughters of God. I sometimes forget that I am also called beloved. I mistakenly think that my value depends on my accomplishments or on my faithfulness, but the truth is that my status as beloved is due to being made in the image of my Creator. If I allow myself to absorb the full meaning of that, it will not only affect how I view myself but also how I relate to others. But Christ didn't come only to show us the truth about who we are. His coming also invites us to see one another as beloved. As Peter reminds us in our second reading, "God shows no partiality." May we strive to see the belovedness that God bestows on us and on all people.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Jesus entered fully into our humanity, including entering into communion with each of us through our common baptism, to allow for us to one day share in the perfect exchange of love of the Trinity. Our call is to take on Christ's mission of love here on earth — to speak and act in a way that proclaims the truth of who God is and who he has made us to be. How can we remind our families, our neighbors, and even our enemies of their nature as beloved children of God? And by recognizing our own nature as beloved, we allow God's grace to flow through us. We then trust that God will make himself known as the source of love itself.

REFLECT

Take time this week to reflect on what it means to be a beloved son or daughter of God. What would it be like to hear, "You are my beloved child, with whom I am well pleased"? Once we root ourselves in this truth we can ask ourselves, "What act of kindness, what consoling word might I offer, what goodness might I do for others around me to help them experience a glimpse of their own belovedness?" Then, do it!



***An Invitation to Participate
in the Bridge for Peace
Prayer Walk in Rome
February 2026***

“We need prayer to fulfill our calling to minister to God’s people,” said Fr. Victor. Bridge for Peace responded by beginning the Prayer Walk in Rome in 1998. Every year we raise up intercessors to pray for priests.

Will you commit to pray for priests from February 1-11 this year?

Sign up to pray by calling 631-730-3982 and we will carry your name to Rome, and show each priest we meet, that you care about them and that you are praying for them. Thank you so very much!

SJE Parish Social Ministry

SPREAD *the* WARMTH

Our Parish Street Ministry is in Desperate need of Men's Coats

All Sizes

DROP OFF LOCATION:
Donations can be left in the front Fellowship area of the Church

PLEASE DONATE YOUR UNWANTED COATS & HELP OTHERS TO STAY WARM

Marriage Struggling?

REGISTER NOW!

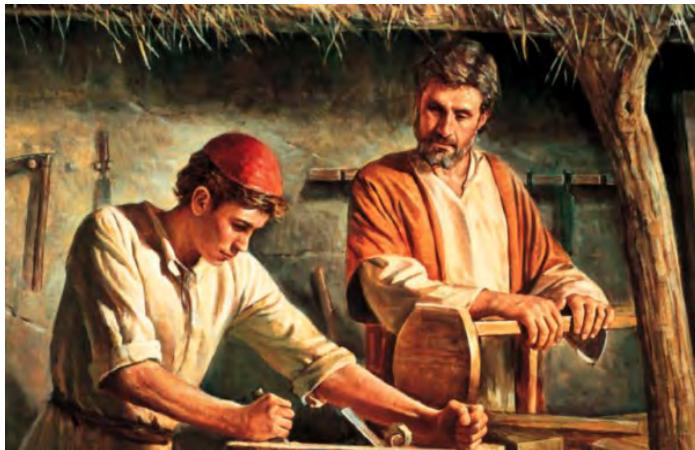
RETRouveille
A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES
HelpOurMarriage.org

JAN. 23-25TH • HUNTINGTON, NY
Register by: Jan. 9th • www.HelpOurMarriage.org

• Is your marriage tearing you apart? • Do you feel hurt and angry? • Does talking make it worse?
• Thought of leaving or divorce? • Is your marriage heading in the wrong direction?

No Marriage is Beyond Hope.

Men's Prayer Group...

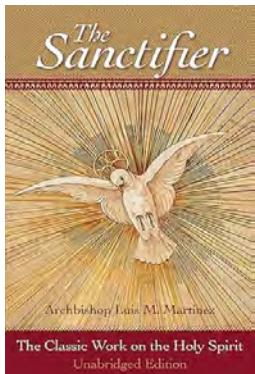


CALLING ALL MEN!

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.



Women's Group...



Our Women's Group will begin again on Monday, September 22, 2025, at 10 AM to 11:30 AM. We welcome newcomers anytime to join our group. All meetings are open, come when you can. There are no rules, just **desire** for growth in Jesus and fellowship. We're still reading *The Sanctifier* by Archbishop Luis M. Martinez. Part I is about True Devotion to the Holy Spirit. Part II: The Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Part III: The Fruit of the Spirit. Part IV: The Beatitudes.

As we read, we come to understand through our sharing, that the Holy Spirit is working in our daily lives & we're right where we're supposed to be on our journey. We're growing a little at a time. We all have the same feelings, doubts, fears, lack of knowledge, we're imperfect & we come to accept that. We're sisters in Jesus cheering each other on. If you're uncomfortable to share, you don't have to. We're just happy that you choose to be with us. There is no charge for the books, all meetings are on Mondays, 10-11:30 AM, which gives you time to attend 12:00 mass if you wish. We're in the white house meeting room (convent), between the school & the rectory (blue house).

God Bless you, Carol & Anita (Moderators)
For info call 631-878-0009

2026: January 26, February 9, 23, March 9, 23,
April 13, 27, May 11, 18, June 1, 15, 29
(Summer break July, August, back in September)

Comunidad Hispano...

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 PM 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!



(For infants and children through age 7)

Did you know that our new Baptism Program is up and running?

Here at St. John's we redesigned our Baptism Preparation program in January 2025. We wanted our program to be warm and welcoming, so we have included more interpersonal communication and multiple opportunities for families to come to St. John's prior to the day of Baptism. Our mission is to make St. John's every family's home away from home, where we come together to worship our Almighty God, to learn about our amazing Catholic faith, to dive deeper in our personal relationship with Jesus and grow together as a parish family accepting, loving, supporting and serving each other, our local community and beyond. Our Baptism preparation program now includes the following components:

- * Registration into the parish as a family
- * Complete the online Baptism registration for the child who is to be Baptized
- * Attend an in-person Baptism Preparation class
- * Complete the online Baptism Belonging video course
- * Submit all required paperwork

When all requirements have been met, meet with a member of the Baptism Ministry to schedule a date for Baptism.



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, January 12th, 2026

- 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
- 7-8 PM Holy Hour to Pray for Priests - SC

Tuesday, January 13th, 2026

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

Wednesday, January 14th, 2026

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

Thursday, January 15th, 2026

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous – BMR
- 3-4 PM Food Pantry Open - Ernie's Place
- 3:30-5:30 PM Legion of Mary- BMR
- 3-7 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - SC
- 7:30 PM Al-Anon - BMR

Friday, January 16th, 2026

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

Saturday, January 17th, 2026

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

Sunday, January 18th, 2026

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR

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