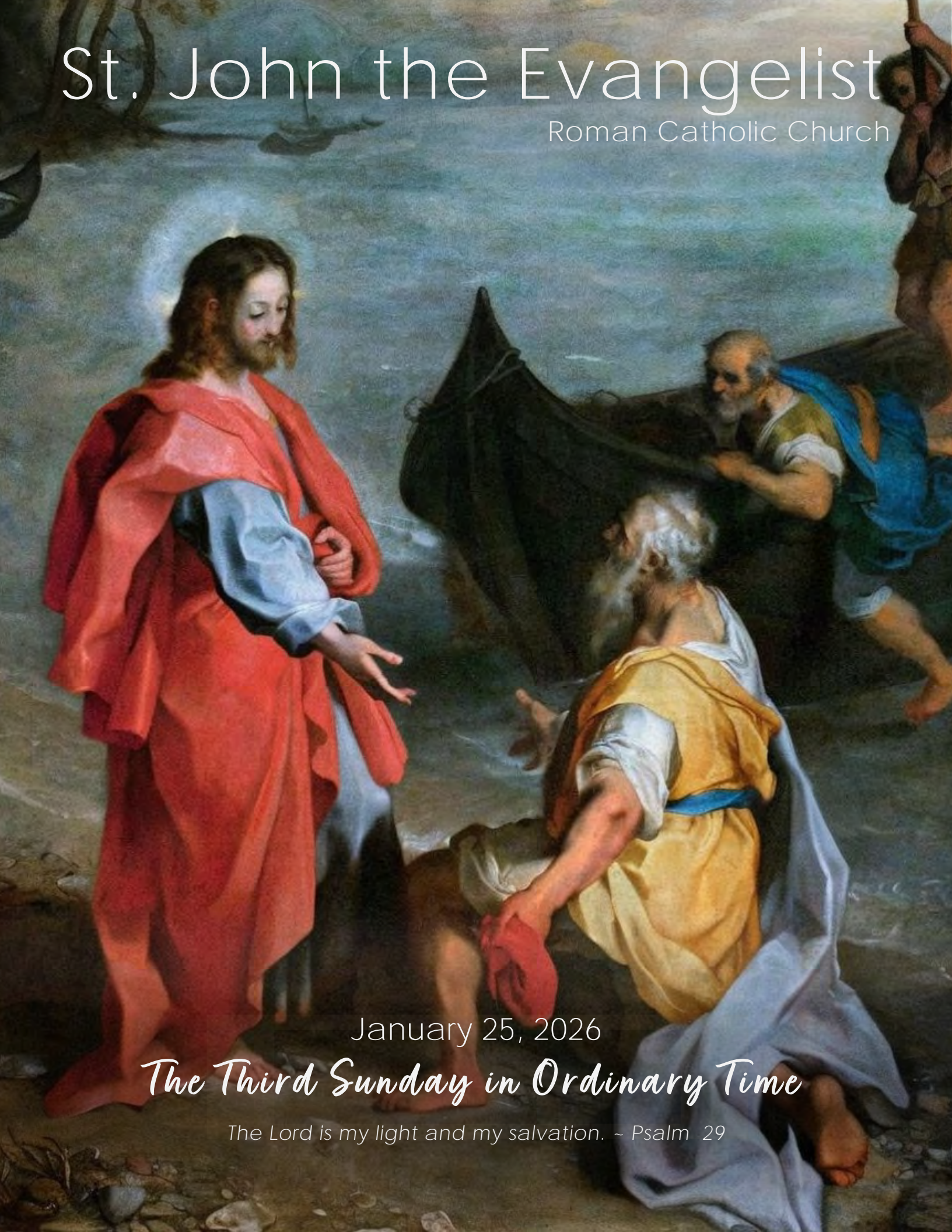


St. John the Evangelist

Roman Catholic Church



January 25, 2026

The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Lord is my light and my salvation. ~ Psalm 29



January 25, 2026

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, January 31st

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

Sunday, February 1st

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

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

Pastoral Team

Reverend Patrick M. Riegger
Pastor

Reverend Charline 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

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 (ext. 201)
www.olqany.org

Dawn Waller, Principal
dwaller@olqany.org

Office Hours

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.

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 Principal of OLQA ...

Dear SJE Parish Family:



My name is Dawn Waller (I'm in the picture to the left with Father Patrick and the Class of 2026!) I hope you know how honored I am, as a fellow parishioner, to be the principal of the Catholic School in Center Moriches, right here on our campus. I have been part of the OLQA and SJE communities for over 20 years. What a gift. How blessed is our school for the support of this great parish. I hope we are a blessing for the parish too!

This week begins Catholic Schools Week at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Regional Catholic School. While we try to keep you up to date each week about what is happening here, Catholic Schools Week is a great time to let you know about our school community to ask you to spread the good news! So here goes! This might be a little lengthy but it's only because I want you to know about the many wonderful things happening here.

Prayer. Everything we do at OLQA is based in and surrounded by prayer. Every morning the school community meets in the auditorium, and we begin our day with prayers. Each day one of our 8th graders leads us in praying the Angelus before lunch and we end our day praying a Hail Mary together. We attend Mass every month as a school community, and classes attend weekly Mass; maybe you have seen us there. Many of our students have been reading and altar serving at the daily Mass they participate in with their class. Students in our Mission - the middle school academy at OLQA - attend religious retreats and will be going back out more into the community to do some Mission work.

Academics. God gave one of many gifts and talents and it is our job to help our young people know these gifts in their lives. Students are helped to a high standard academically while, at the same time, meeting the needs of various learners. All of our teachers follow and exceed New York State standards in the core academic subjects. In this area, too, our faith grounds what we do in the classroom. Our second graders are prepared for their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion here in school. We have a full-time Campus Minister who is the primary theology teacher for students in grades 4-8 and guides our school community in all Masses, prayer services, and Mission retreats and projects. Students in the Mission take Spanish daily and complete two high schools Regents level courses (Algebra 1 and Living Environment) during their 8th-grade year. In many cases, students graduate from OLQA with three high school course already completed, providing them with an opportunity to advance further in high school. opportunity. Our 7th and 8th graders participate in project REACH, an intensive research program that integrates student desire, research methods - both action and resource, Catholic identity, and the opportunity to present their findings in written, verbal, and visual form. You can learn more about our superior academic standards as well as the significant academic support offered by visiting our Open House on Sunday, January 25th and talking with our outstanding teachers or by contacting us at 631.878.1033 or via email at dwaller@olqany.org.



It's more than class! A Catholic community is formed not only by our prayer and academic rigor, but also by the many opportunities to come together outside of the classroom. We are part of the Catholic Middle School Sports Association and students in The Mission participate in basketball and volleyball. Students can compete with other Catholic Schools from the diocese in these sports. Our younger students participate in intramurals throughout the year. We have a chess club, core team, and drama club (stay tuned for The Little Mermaid Jr.. tickets on sale soon!) and much, much, more. All of our students in grades 4-8 participate in band (led by Jimmy Osborne music), chorus, or both.

The Family of Families. We call ourselves the "Family of Families", for good reason. Without the support and engagement of parents and families, we fail in our mission as a Catholic School. That is because we know how vital is to build a connection between home and school. We have the "FUN" Group (Family Unity Network) here at OLQA that consists of parents who help in needed areas like the Father/Daughter Dance, Mother/Son Social, Open Houses, etc. We invite parents into the building to help with our Santa and Bunny breakfast and our Thanksgiving Feast. It is our hope that when you walk into the building you as parents feel part of the family.

An Invitation. to visit sometime today, January 25, 2026 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to visit one of our Open House. Whether you have a school aged child or grandchild or not, come and see the difference a Catholic school can and does make and how you can become an even greater part of the Catholic School in Center Moriches.

Thank you for all of your support!

Our Lady Queen of Apostles, pray for us!
St. John the Evangelist, pray for us!



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



Masses for the Week...

**Saturday, January 24th Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop
and Doctor of the Church**

8:00 AM Salvatore Buscemi

5:00 PM Michael Albano

7:30 PM *(Spanish)* People of the Parish

Sunday, January 25th The 3rd Sunday In Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Rita Jacino

10:00 AM James Anthony Taylor

12:00 Noon Goncalo Rego

6:00 PM Special Intention - Kyle Stevens

Monday, January 26th Saint Timothy & Saint Titus, Bishops

7:00 AM Kevin F. O'Brien Jr.

12:00 Noon Alden Sprague

Tuesday, January 27th Weekday

7:00 AM Special Intention - Eileen Moloney

12:00 PM Katy Dyer and her brother Jack Dyer

**Wednesday, January 28th Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest
and Doctor of the Church**

7:00 AM Edward Judge

12:00 Noon Michael Nicholas Sikora

Thursday, January 29th Weekday

7:00 AM Joanne Cavalieri

12:00 Noon Frank Albergo

Friday, January 30th Weekday

7:00 AM Peter J. Catalano

12:00 Noon Lewis and Jeane Thorner

Saturday, January 31st Saint John Bosco, Priest

8:00 AM James A. Prudente

5:00 PM Douglas Ashley

7:30 PM *(Spanish)* People of the Parish

Sunday, February 1st The 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Kristen Bigora

10:00 AM Delores Hughes

12:00 Noon Kevin Radigan

6:00 PM Louis LaNasa

Ash Wednesday Awaits:

Help Us Prepare!

Lent is just around the corner! As we prepare for this sacred season, we invite you to bring in palms from previous years to be burned and used for ashes on **Ash Wednesday, February 18th**.

Baskets will be placed at the church doors for your palms. The palms will be reverently burned during our **Mardi Gras celebration on Sunday, February 15th**—a beautiful transition from celebration to reflection.

Thank you for helping us prepare our hearts and our community for Lent.

PARISH WEEKLY DONATIONS

Average Weekly from January 1, 2026 to present.

Year	Total	# of Weeks	Average Weekly
2026	\$61,501	3	\$20,500
2025	\$60,934	3	\$20,311

2025

**We did it!!!
Thank you!!**

Catholic Ministries Appeal
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

*Renewed by the Eucharist
Sent on Mission*



As of 1/13/2026	2025	2024
Parish Goal	\$115,100	\$115,100
Number of Donors	268	272
Total Pledged to date	\$115,178	\$117,306
Avg. Gift	\$430	\$434
Percent of Goal	100%	101.9%

Supporting the CMA helps to support SJL! 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 a 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.



This weekend of January 24–25, our parish will once again host a Baby Bottle Fundraiser benefiting the Life Center of Long Island. Last year, thanks to your generosity, our parish raised nearly \$13,000. Please pick up a baby bottle, fill it with your donation, and return it on February 7–8. Checks should be made payable to The Life Center of Long Island.

Thank you for your continued support of life.



January 25, 2026

Praying For and With One Another

Remember

Steve Poulos

*"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

Eileen & Chuck DeRicco	Daniel Treadwell
Michael Campanello	Valentino Liuzzi
Bill Hasper	Alessandra Veloso Valentim
Baby Isabelle Reyes	Mark Havens
Baby Leonardo Fulfree	Patricia Melillo
Rev. Matthew Considine	Tommaso Campione
Fr. Peter D'Abele	Suzan Fitzpatrick
Michael Lankau	Robert Maldonado

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
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 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 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 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.



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.

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



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

January 25-31, 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we celebrate Catholic Schools Week, I give thanks for the extraordinary gift of Catholic education and for the students, families, educators, clergy, and benefactors who make our schools thrive across Long Island.

This year's observance begins on *Word of God Sunday*, reminding us that Sacred Scripture is not merely studied, but proclaimed, prayed, and lived. In our Catholic schools, the Word of God forms minds and hearts and draws students into a lifelong relationship with Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

Our Catholic schools remain steadfast in four essential commitments. First, to be *robustly Catholic*, rooted in daily prayer, the sacraments, and fidelity to the teachings of the Church. Under the patronage of St. Thomas Aquinas and St. John Henry Newman, co-patrons of Catholic education, we affirm that faith and reason are not rivals but companions, leading the mind to truth and the heart to God.

Second, to be *academically excellent*, forming the whole person. Guided by St. Thomas Aquinas's love for truth and inspired by St. John Henry Newman's vision of education, our schools cultivate intellectual rigor, disciplined inquiry, and thoughtful engagement with the world.

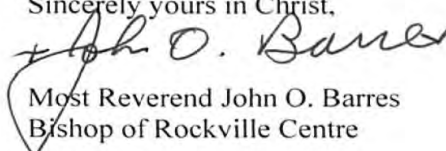
Third, to be *safe and supportive*, honoring the dignity of every child and fostering communities where students are known, protected, and encouraged. Finally, to be *here to stay*, strengthened through responsible stewardship and shared mission across parishes, families, and benefactors.

As Pope Leo XIV has reminded the Church, "*education is not an ancillary activity, but forms the very fabric of evangelization: it is the concrete way in which the Gospel becomes an educational gesture, a relationship, a culture.*"¹ Our schools exist so that students may discover their God-given dignity, discern their vocation, and learn to live lives of joyful witness to Jesus Christ.

As we conclude Catholic Schools Week with the witness of St. John Bosco, I ask you to pray for our Catholic schools, support them generously, and encourage families to consider the profound gift of a Catholic education.

May the Word of God continue to be a light for our homes, parishes, and schools.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Rockville Centre

¹ Pope Leo XIV, *Drawing New Maps of Hope* (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2025), § 1.1.

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

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 26 at 7:15 PM in the Church.

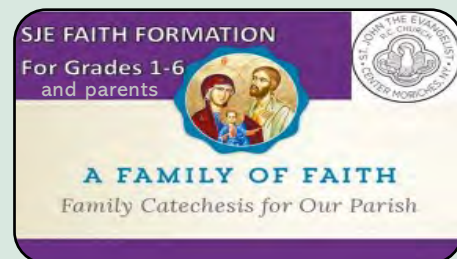
Please remember to bring your Breakthrough Bibles and your homework on the St. Carlo Acutis comic book! !

LEVEL 8 (Confirmation Prep Year 2):

Next Class Session:

Tuesday, January 27 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 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!

Our parish Family Life Ministry wants to let you know that....

It's Time for Tea

For all the lovely ladies of our parish (ages 4-104).

Bring your mom, your daughter, your aunt, your friend, your granddaughter, your niece, your neighbor, or your cousin! Bring someone with whom you'd like to spend a quaint afternoon of fun and fellowship! Ticket holders are invited to bring their favorite teacup to enjoy the afternoon in true Victorian style.

All are welcome!

✦ Enjoy a Victorian Tea Menu, heartwarming story time, a Chinese auction, and charming photo opportunities.

Sunday, February 1, 2026 • 2:00 PM

in the school cafeteria

Tickets are **\$5.00**. Scan the QR code below to purchase yours today!



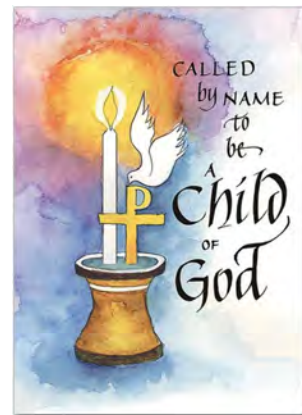
OFFICE OF FAMILY MINISTRY

What a reunion it was!

On Sunday, January 18th, we had the wonderful privilege of hosting a Baptism Reunion for all of the children who were baptized at St. John's during 2025. Despite the wintry mix, many of the families of the recently Baptized came to the 10:00 Mass, received a special blessing and then celebrated together at a reception in the parish auditorium. What an absolute joy to see so many young families gathered together...sharing bagels and swapping stories about life with little ones. The families of the children who attend our Children's Liturgy of the Word on Sundays joined in the fun, serving as hosts and hostesses by welcoming the new families and providing witness to the blessing that St. John's is in their lives.

We couldn't have asked for a more joyful reunion! A special word of great gratitude to the members of the Baptism Ministry for all that they did to make the reunion so special. Our parish is blessed in so many ways!

Thank you Lord, for all our blessings, and for the gift of our beautiful, growing parish family. Amen!





PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

PSM Office 631.878.0009 ext. 120

Email: socialministry@SJECm.org

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.

*Our Community Meal will be held this month on **Monday, 1/26 at 6 PM** at the Parish Auditorium. Our volunteers serve with great love and compassion, if you'd like to help, please call the Social Ministry office. If you know of an individual or family in need of a delicious meal, invite them to join us!*



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



Come join the fun
at our parish

MARDI GRAS

Sunday, February 15th at 1:00 pm
in the parish auditorium.

*We will feast before we fast!
Traditional Mardi Gras foods, games
for the children, New Orleans Jazz !*

If you would like to help, please email :
Familylife@sjecm.org

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.



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.



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!



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!



Winter COAT DONATIONS

Our Parish Street Ministry is in urgent need of men's coats and sweatshirts (all sizes). Please consider donating your gently used or new coats to help others stay warm this season.

Thank you for your generosity and compassion for those in need.

SJE Parish Social Ministry

Knights of Columbus

BINGO

Night

Every Friday
Doors Open at 6:30 P.M.
Games Begin at 7:30 P.M.

\$3000 IN PRIZES

SJE Parish Auditorium

A Message from Monsignor Walden...



"The people who sit in darkness have seen a great light, on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death light has arisen." These words from today's Gospel (Matthew 4:12-23) are a quote from the prophet Isaias in the first reading at Mass today. The symbol of light is meant to bring hope into darkness. Darkness is caused by the absence of physical light, but that darkness has been remedied in our time by the abundance and creativity of electric light. True darkness is the evil that causes unrest. The darkness of evil is present wherever there is injustice that separates us from one another, and in reality, whatever separates us from God. As we have just finished focusing on the wonder and miracle of God coming into world in the person of Jesus Christ on that first Christmas, we need to continue to look for the light of goodness, love, truth, and mercy that is the very essence of who Jesus is and who we are invited to share through, with, and in Him.

This past Friday once again thousands of people gathered in Washington D.C. for the annual March for Life. Even though Roe vs. Wade that legalized abortion in 1973 was overturned four years ago, the right to an abortion is still present and taking the lives of approximately 900,000 children a year. Even here we see division as all states can make their own laws to make abortion legal or illegal. Evil will never stop seeking to divide us. "You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." These are the words of Jesus Himself from John 8:32. The last five words in that verse (the truth will set you free) are crucial to our personal, familial, neighborly, local, national, and international relationships and dealings with one another. To know the truth is to know Jesus Himself: "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me". (John 14:6)

Ironically and historically documented, the presence of truth has been denied and attacked over and over again, dividing and separating us from one another, our very selves, and God. Abortion is not going to go away any time

soon. The key for us is to continue to support all women carrying children in their wombs and to pray as we do at every Sunday Mass for an end to abortion. The most powerful weapon we have to deal with this national issue is who we vote for. There are no perfect candidates and we tend to justify our vote by who we think will practically do the best for our nation, state and local communities. There is a simple saying that sums up our quest: For God and Country. When we leave out God, we open our national character and unity to comfort, pragmatism, and letting the status quo stand. When goodness and truth are part of the status quo, wonders happen. When evil gets its foot in the door, we experience the unrest, anger, distrust that make the news everyday.

I offer Psalm 63 for your reflection.

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water.
So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise.
So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast. Glory...

Psalm Prayer: Father, creator of unfailing light, give that same light to those who call to you. May our lips praise you; our lives proclaim your goodness; our work give you honor, and our voices celebrate you for ever.



Queen of All Hearts
Knights of Columbus

Valentine's Dinner

Saturday, February 14th

Buffet dinner, dessert and soft drinks included.

DJ Dancing & Door Prizes

7:00 PM

313 Frowein Road, Center Moriches

\$30 per person.

You may bring your
own adult beverage.

For Tickets Contact Jim @ 631.838.0271
or Frank @ 631.599.6092

TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR.

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!

25 de enero de 2026

Tercer Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Is 8,23—9,3

1 Cor 1,10-13; 17

Mt 4,12-23

CRECER COMO DISCÍPULO | ORA, ESTUDIA, COMPROMÉTETE, SIRVE

“Conviértanse, porque el Reino de los Cielos está cerca”. Durante la mayor parte de mi vida, cada vez que he oído estas palabras de Jesús, el énfasis siempre ha recaído en “Conviértanse”. Recientemente, he empezado a prestar más atención a la segunda parte de su proclamación: “El Reino de los Cielos está cerca”. Con su llegada a nuestro mundo y el comienzo de su ministerio público, ha comenzado el reinado de Jesús. Las señales de la llegada de su reino son sorprendentes e inmediatas; vemos a él “curando todas las enfermedades y dolencias de la gente”. Esto es motivo de gran alegría, como la de la que hablamos en la lectura de hoy de Isaías: “El pueblo que caminaba en las tinieblas ha visto una gran luz: sobre los que habitaban en el país de la oscuridad ha brillado una luz”. Los milagros de Jesús revelan que el reinado de las tinieblas, el pecado y la muerte está llegando a su fin; ¡esta es una buena noticia, sin duda! También es una parte importante de nuestra vocación como discípulos. Estamos llamados a orar (“venga tu reino”) y a trabajar para promover el reino de Jesús en la tierra.

IR Y EVANGELIZAR | ORACIÓN, INVITACIÓN, TESTIMONIO, ACOMPAÑAMIENTO

Al igual que los apóstoles Pedro, Andrés, Santiago y Juan en el Evangelio de hoy, nosotros también hemos sido llamados a ayudar a construir el Reino de Dios en la tierra. Lo hacemos de manera particular, continuando la obra de Jesús aquí en la tierra. Como nos recuerda el papa León XIV en *Dilexi Te*: “Los signos que acompañan la predicación de Jesús son manifestación del amor y de la compasión con la que Dios mira a los enfermos, a los pobres y a los pecadores... Y la Iglesia, si quiere ser de Cristo, debe ser [...] un lugar en el que los pobres tienen un sitio privilegiado” (21). Parte de la forma en que damos testimonio de la irrupción del Reino de Dios en la tierra es poner a los enfermos y marginados en el centro de nuestra preocupación. Entonces, el Reino de Dios se manifestará y será visible en el mundo, atrayendo a otros a Cristo.

SERVIR: Esta semana, dedica algo de tiempo a investigar formas en que puedes colaborar con otros cristianos para servir a los enfermos y a los pobres de nuestro mundo. Al concluir esta Semana de Oración por la Unidad de los Cristianos (que termina el 25 de enero de 2026), no hay mejor testimonio que podamos ofrecer al amanecer del Reino de Dios que estar unidos en “la misma manera de pensar y de sentir” (como nos exhorta Pablo hoy) para servir a los necesitados.

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.

St. John the Evangelist R.C. Church		Sacrificial Giving for the Support of My Parish				
WEEKLY INCOME	\$1000	\$700	\$400	\$200	\$100	
OFFERING	\$50	\$35	\$20	\$10	\$5	
Name: _____ (PLEASE PRINT)						
Address: _____						
City/State/Zip: _____						
Env. #: _____						
WEEKLY SACRIFICE \$ _____						

We have been notified by our envelope printing company that, due to unexpected machinery issues, some mailings may be delayed by up to two weeks. Their team is actively working to resolve the issue.

In the meantime, temporary blank envelopes are available at the doors of the church for anyone who may need them. You may also give online using the QR code below or by visiting the parish website.

We appreciate your patience and understanding.



Women's Group...

Our Women's Group meets Mondays from 10:00–11:30 AM and welcomes newcomers at any time. There are no rules—just a desire to grow in Jesus and enjoy fellowship.

We are reading *The Sanctifier* by Archbishop Luis M. Martinez, reflecting on devotion to the Holy Spirit, His gifts, fruits, and the Beatitudes. Sharing is always optional; we're simply happy you choose to be with us.

There is no charge for the book. Meetings are held in the IHM Room in the convent (white house next to the school) and conclude in time to attend the 12:00 PM Mass if you wish.

2026 Meeting Dates: January 26; February 9 & 23; March 9 & 23; April 13 & 27; May 11 & 18; June 1, 15 & 29.

(Summer break July & August; resumes in September.)

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

SUNDAYS at the SEMINARY

Sunday
February 22nd
2026



Seminary
Crypt Chapel
1 to 3 pm

"Explore and Adore!"

Tour of the Crypt Chapels & Benediction

The crypt under the Main Chapel is a hidden treasure trove of artistic distinction. It houses twelve small chapels, each a gem of exquisite beauty. Sunlight filters into this area through glass roundels of deep red, blue and violet. Each chapel is enclosed behind wrought iron grill work; each altar is of marble, designed to fit the saint to whom the particular chapel is dedicated. Join Msgr. Charles R. Fink as he explores the history of these chapels and offers a detailed description of each. The program will conclude with Benediction followed by light refreshments in the Refectory.



Msgr. Charles R. Fink

Celebrating almost 50 years of priesthood, Msgr. Fink is a former pastor, Seminary spiritual director, and Seminary rector. Currently living in retirement from administrative duties at Notre Dame Parish in New Hyde Park, he is well known throughout the Diocese of Rockville Centre for his retreat work and days of recollection. He is a regular contributor to *The Catholic Thing*.

Pre-registration Requested • \$25 Member of Friends • \$35 Non-Member of Friends
(No charge for seminarians or students)

Sponsored by the Friends of the Seminary

bmalone@icseminary.edu ♦ (631) 423-0483x102 ♦ www.icseminary.edu/Events

Seminary of the Immaculate Conception
440 West Neck Road
Huntington, NY 11743





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 26th, 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 27th, 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 28th, 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 29th, 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 30th, 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 31st, 2026

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

Sunday, February 1st, 2026

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR

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