

St. John the Evangelist

Roman Catholic Church



February 16, 2025

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Blessed are they, blessed are they who hope in the Lord. Psalm 1



February 16, 2025

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, February 22nd

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, February 23rd

8:00 AM - Fr. Patrick

10:00 AM - Fr. Jerry

12 noon - Fr. Abin

6:00 PM - Fr. Abin

*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

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
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.

Mass Schedule

Confession Schedule

A Message from the Director of Faith Formation...

When I was little, my parents would tuck me and always made sure to say my night prayers with me. I have a vivid memory of one of those evenings, when I decided to have my favorite doll—a Kermit the Frog plush toy—pray with me too. As I moved “Kermit” into a kneeling position with prayer hands and started to say the “Our Father” in my best “Kermit” voice, my dad smiled and said, “Let’s have Kermit pray silently with us tonight.”

This memory came to mind as I looked over the readings for this Sunday. You may be wondering why (with good reason!). Well, when I was in college and helping out with youth ministry here at St. John’s, we did a whole lesson on “F.R.O.G” - which stood for “Fully Rely On God.” We had frog decorations, frog bracelets, and “Kermit” even showed up to teach us more about how we can fully rely on God!

When we listen to the First Reading and the Psalm, we are reminded that our hope is in the Lord, and that all our trust needs to be in Him. At some point in our lives, it’s likely we’ve experienced being let down or hurt by someone we trusted. That’s a painful experience, and hopefully not something that happens too often. But we are human—we have our faults and failings. And sometimes we put too much emphasis on one particular human figure or ideology. While we should have expectations, and work to be someone people can trust, Scripture reminds us that God is ultimately the only One we can fully rely on. This is why it’s important to remember that Jesus founded the Church; it is not merely a human institution. The Church is made up of human beings (who at times may falter), but God is in charge!

In the Gospel, we hear Luke’s account of the “Sermon on the Plain,” which is different from the “Sermon on the Mount” and the Beatitudes we read about in the Gospel of Matthew. In Luke’s Gospel, Jesus had just chosen the twelve Apostles, and He

immediately challenges them (and us). He reminds us that we live in a reality which often can be unjust and divided between the “have’s” and the “have nots.” While in Matthew’s Gospel Jesus spoke of the

“poor in spirit,” in Luke’s Gospel Jesus is also speaking to the physical social issues we face in the world. He does so to explain that the Kingdom of God is not like this world—that there will be justice for the poor and those who weep, hunger will be no more and the focus is not on who has the most, but on loving God and others. Our goal is to bring that Kingdom of Heaven to earth—to work on our own generosity, trusting that God will provide; to encounter God in those

moments of mourning and trust that He has a plan and will see us through.

So as we move closer to the Lenten Season, let’s do our best to “F.R.O.G.” -Fully Rely On God!”

Our Faith Formation families in our “Family of Faith” program (Grades 1-6) are learning about trust in God this year as they learn about the Apostles Creed. This month, we were blessed to have youth and adult volunteers share the story of the Paschal Mystery through a visual presentation!

In Level 7, students learned about John 6 and the Sacrament of the Eucharist, followed by an opportunity to participate in Eucharistic Adoration.

Our Level 8 students learned about the Rosary, with Tess Austin, director of Catholic Identity and Mission for the diocese, coming out to speak

on John’s Gospel account of the Wedding at Cana and the beautiful devotion to the Rosary. Students were each given a Rosary (hand-made by the Leavy family!) and challenged to begin praying the Rosary at home.

We are so grateful to our volunteers and families who bring such a great spirit to our sessions! If you have any questions, please contact us at

faithformation@sjecm.org.



-Michelle Pirraglia

Masses for the Week...



Saturday, February 15th Weekday

5:00 PM Mary Ellen Mitchell

7:30 PM (Spanish) Jesus Dario Risco

Sunday, February 16th Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

10:00 AM Jennie and Anthony Ponzio

12:00 Noon John Immel

6:00 PM Frank Pirro

Monday, February 17th Weekday

7:00 AM Special Intention - SJE Woman's Group

12:00 Noon Peter Young

Tuesday, February 18th Weekday

7:00 AM Joseph Sinclair-Marino

12:00 PM Louis Kaleb

Wednesday, February 19th Weekday

7:00 AM Christopher Bowman

12:00 Noon Saverio Giambalvo

Thursday, February 20th Weekday

7:00 AM Dot Walsh

12:00 PM John Robert Klaus IV

Friday, February 21st Weekday

7:00 AM Dolores Provancano

12:00 Noon Theresa Cartolano

Saturday, February 22nd The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle

8:00 AM Paul Donohue

5:00 PM Liz DellaRatta

7:30 PM (Spanish) Rose E. Portillo

Sunday, February 23rd Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM People of the Parish

10:00 AM Matthew Rankel

12:00 Noon George Napolitano

6:00 PM Eileen Clowry

PARISH WEEKLY DONATIONS			
Average Weekly from January 1, 2025 to present.			
Year	Total	# of Weeks	Average Weekly
2025	\$04,310	6	\$17,385
2024	\$124,010	6	\$20,668



As of 1/6/2025	2024	2023
Parish Goal	\$115,100	\$115,100
Number of Donors	272	311
Total Pledged to date	\$117,306	\$116,993
Avg. Gift	\$434	\$376
Percent of Goal	101.9%	101.7%

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.

How Can You Help?

Don't Forget Your Baby Bottle!!

Once again St. John the Evangelist Parish is 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 reminding everyone to **return** the baby bottle filled with your donations on **the weekend of February 22 & 23**. 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

Gwendolyn DiMiceli + John Fitzpatrick

“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

Samantha Ramsay + Mary & Norman Auger
Christopher Peck + Anthony Luciano
Janet Penney + Janice Chivelly

*“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. Bernath
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
SSGT William E. McCauley II
1st Lt. Claire McGrath

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 February has been donated in memory of:

Joseph A. and Betty Mazarella

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 \$200 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

Blood Emergency



St. John the Evangelist

2 St. John's Place, Center Moriches
Parish Auditorium

Saturday, February 22nd
9:00am – 3:00pm

To make an appointment:

- [Click Here](#)
- Scan the QR Code - - >
- Contact Melissa at mgatto@nybc.org

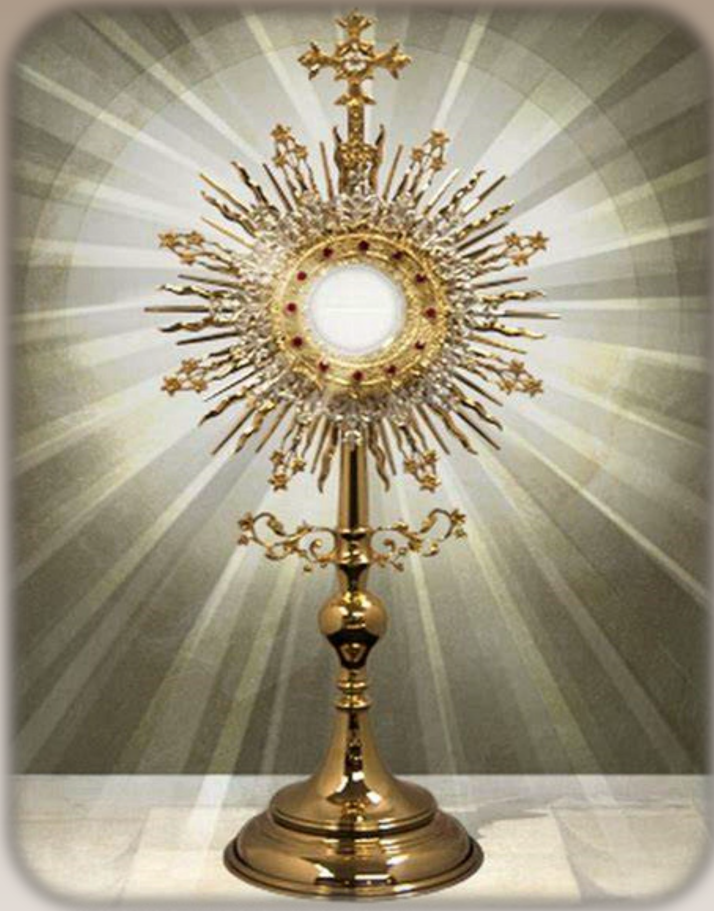


For medical eligibility information:

- Scan the QR Code
- Call 800.688.0900
- Go to nybc.org/can-i-donate



Diocesan Holy Hour at St. John the Evangelist



The First Friday of Lent
March 7th at 7:30 PM
in the Church

*We invite all to come
together and pray for
vocations for Priests
and Religious as a
parish family!*

We hope you can join us!

Stations of the Cross are normally held on Fridays in Lent at 7:00 PM, but on this Friday, March 7th, Stations will be held after the 12 Noon Mass.

February 16, 2025

St. John the Evangelist Parish...

MARDI GRAS



Celebration

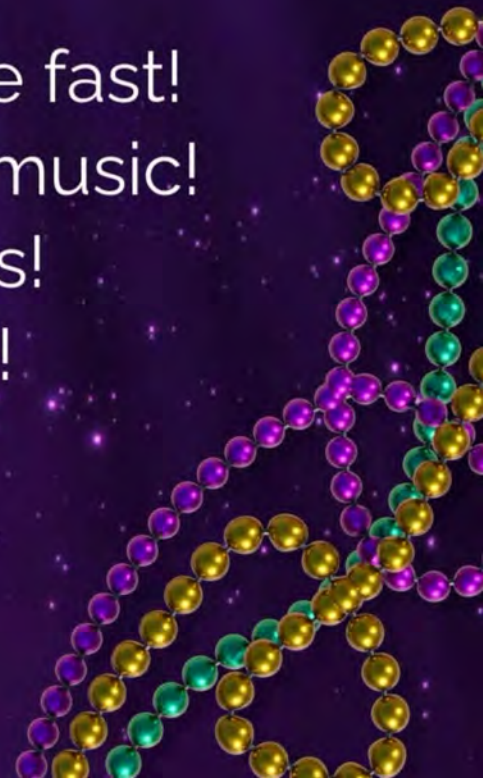
Sunday, March 2ND

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

in the Parish Auditorium

Come feast before we fast!
Delicious food! Great music!
Games for the kids!
All are welcome!

Plenty of ways to help!
Just email us at:
familylife@sjecm.org



Faith Formation

Phone: 631-878-0009, ext. 5
Faith Formation Website: <https://sjecmff.blogspot.com/>
Email: faithformation@sjecm.org / mpirraglia@sjecm.org
Office Hours: By Appointment Only (Mon-Thu - BARN, Upstairs)

This month in our Family of Faith program for Grades 1-6, we were very grateful to have our middle and high school youth volunteers, as well as some of our adult team members, help families learn about the Paschal Mystery through a special acting presentation. Families also worked on a Scripture activity and learned about the Last Judgment.



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):

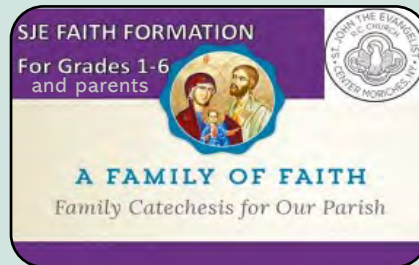
Next Session:

Tuesday, February 25th at 7:15 PM in the Church
Don't forget to bring your Breakthrough Bibles!

LEVEL 8 (Confirmation Prep Year 2):

Next Session:

Monday, February 24th at 7:15 PM in the Church
Don't forget to bring your Breakthrough Bibles!



Next Sessions:

Tuesday, March 11 & Thursday, March 13
@ 5 PM & 7 PM in the Church.

February 16, 2025

Ash Wednesday

March 5th

ABSTINENCE & FASTING

All Catholics who have reached their fourteenth (14th) year are bound to abstain entirely from meat on all the Fridays of Lent.

All Catholics between the ages of eighteen (18) and fifty-nine (59) inclusive are also bound to observe the law of fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This means limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Two other light meals, which together do not equal a full meal, may be taken during the day. Those whose work or health would be impaired are excused from fast and abstinence.

Individual conscience should decide proper cause for excuse. A more serious reason is required to excuse oneself from the Ash Wednesday and Good Friday fast and abstinence.

Masses & Services

7 am - Mass

10:30 am - Service

12 noon - Mass

2 pm - Service

4:30 pm - Service

7 pm - Mass (Bilingual)

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

Ecclesiastes 3:20

The Office of Family Ministry

Family Life Ministry at St. John's is gearing up for an amazing season of fun, faith-building family events and service projects. To help out with these events, please email us at clapham@sjecm.org.

See what's coming up in our parish in the days and weeks ahead...



St. John's Parish Mardi Gras

Sunday, March 2, 2025 from 1-3 PM in the Auditorium.
Enjoy food, fellowship and fun as we feast before we fast!

There are plenty of ways to help. We need chefs and bakers!
Whether traditional Mardi Gras fare or a family favorite, add your culinary masterpiece to the table of plenty.

Don't cook? Don't bake? Don't worry!
We need people to set up, people to serve and people to clean up!

To volunteer, email familylife@sjecm.org or call the Office of Family Ministry at 631-878-0009 x-124

Lenten Soup Suppers



Mark your calendars!! Our Family Life Ministry will be sponsoring two Soup Suppers during Lent. The Soup Suppers will be held on **Friday 3/21** and **Friday 4/4** at **6:00 PM** in the school cafeteria, followed by the **Stations of the Cross @ 7:00 PM**. Additional information will be listed in the bulletin in the weeks ahead!

Family Holy Week Prayer Services

Our Family Holy Week Prayer Services will be held on **Holy Thursday, 4/17** at 4:30 PM, **Good Friday, 4/18** at 12 noon, and **Holy Saturday, 4/19** (time TBD). Our parish Egg Hunt will be held on Holy Saturday this year! If you would like to volunteer to help, please email Clapham@scjecm.org or call the Family Ministry Office at 631-878-0009 x-124.





Our Lady Queen of Apostles
Regional Catholic School

Contact Us!

631-878-1033

olqany.org

Scan QR Code



Catholic Schools Week 2025



From a Living Wax Museum of the Saints featuring Grades 5-8 and a Carnival created by our 6th-grade students in science class to our Brain & Body Bowl Challenge, Talent Show and VIP Day, our faculty, staff and students participated in several fun and educational activities during Catholic Schools Week! For our annual volleyball tournament, our 8th graders faced off against their teachers, who were were joined by SJE's clergy - Fr. Patrick (pastor), Msgr. Walden and Fr. Abin - as well as members of the Suffolk County Police Department. The Class of 2025 played a great game, but our teachers came out on top, remaining undefeated!

Parish Social Ministry

Once again we have been selected for **Stop & Shop's Bloomin' 4 Good Program!**



Ernie's Place Food Pantry will receive a \$1 donation for every specially-marked \$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good bouquet sold during all of February at: 999 Montauk Highway, Shirley NY

Please think of us for your floral needs when you visit Stop & Shop this month!

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
- Pancake Mix
- Tomato Sauce
- Pancake Syrup
- Mac & Cheese
- Dry Red Beans
- Dry Black Beans
- Raman Noodles
- Shelf-stable Milk
- Cooking Oil

Thrift Shop

Wednesdays from 9 AM - 12 Noon

When you visit our Shop, you'll see lots of new and gently used clothes, pocketbooks, shoes, jewelry, housewares, and lots of great toys, all at great prices. The proceeds from the weekly sales at the shop are returned to our Parish Outreach programs and used to assist our neighbors in need in our parish and the local community. The success of our Thrift Shop relies on the generous donations from our community.

Please place your donations in the green bins in the school parking lot, located in front of the thrift shop. The best times to donate are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings between 9 AM-10:30 AM.

If you are looking for a great way to give back to our Parish community, consider donating your new or gently used clothes, or those toys your children have outgrown.

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, are 18 or over and would like more information, please contact:

socialministry@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!

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
- ◆ 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

Our Lady Queen of Apostles Regional Catholic School Spring Basket Auction and Food Extravaganza



Saturday, March 29th
6:00 PM
Doors open at 5:30

Tickets \$40 each

(Ticket price includes food to try from various restaurants)

**CALL TO PURCHASE
YOUR TICKETS!**

Tickets available till March 7th
or we are sold out

**NUMEROUS BASKETS
TO CHOOSE FROM !**

(Basket raffle tickets purchased
separately at the event)



(631) 878-1033

www.olqany.org

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



Adoration
of the Blessed Sacrament
at
St. John the Evangelist

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

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.



February 16, 2025
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jer 17:5-8 | 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20 | Lk 6:17, 20-26

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

"It is so good to be poor, to have nothing, to await all from God!" These sentiments of the humble French religious sister St. Jeanne Jugan sum up the spirit of Jesus' words in today's Gospel. Jesus praises poverty, hunger, sadness, and rejection, but certainly not as ends in themselves; God does not take pleasure in our suffering! He does use our suffering, however, to awaken us to our need for him. Poverty can spur us to pursue heavenly goods, and thus Jesus assures the poor, "the kingdom of God is yours." Hunger can cause us to seek God who alone can truly satiate our desires, and thus Jesus says to the hungry, "you will be satisfied." Those who weep will laugh, Jesus says - so long as their sadness inspires them to seek happiness in the service of God and the joys of eternal life. For all of us, no matter our means or our circumstances, today's Gospel is a reminder to allow everything - including our difficulties, disappointments, and unfulfilled desires - to turn our hearts to God and rely on his loving care.

ACCOMPANY

Is there someone in your life who is struggling with fear, loneliness, anxiety, or sadness? Take time to pray with that person and, together, try to discover God's invitation to a deeper reliance on him in the midst of the distress. These moments of suffering are never occasions for us to get "preachy." Instead, accompany your friend and be a reminder of the hope we have in God.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

It can be difficult to practice the spirit of the Beatitudes (as the "blessings" in today's Gospel are called) in the moment. Suffering, distress, and confusion easily divert our attention from God as we attempt to "make the problem go away." Sometimes we are even tempted to give up, to turn aside from God, and to seek consolation in other things. This is exactly the opposite of what he wants for us, and for good reason! God knows that it is best for us to always rely on him. This is why, as today's first reading explains, the man who trusts in the Lord is secure - "like a tree planted beside the waters ... it fears not the heat when it comes" - and fruitful - "its leaves stay green." For those who trust in the Lord, help comes from the all-powerful, infinitely loving Creator of the universe. When we entrust ourselves to him, we have nothing to fear.

A Message from Msgr. Walden...



Whenever we celebrate the feast of a saint who is a religious, there is this passage from the Song of Songs 8:7 in the Old Testament in the breviary to contemplate: "Deep waters cannot quench love, nor floods sweep it away. Were one to offer all he owns to purchase love, he would be roundly mocked." As we know all too well but can easily forget or not recognize in the present moment, God's love is seen and so clearly present through, with, and in Jesus. As children we innately trust our parents. What a beautiful simple example to contemplate! As we grow and mature, we seek opportunities to love and be loved in return. So the questions to ponder and be enriched and challenged by are: "Who is part of my life and whose lives am I part of? Who lives in my mind and heart, and whose heart and mind do I live in? In the Gospel from last Sunday's Mass (Luke 5:1-11) we see that "aha" moment in the life of St. Peter. Jesus had just finished preaching from Peter's fishing boat because the crowd was large and he needed room to speak to all on the shore. When Jesus finished preaching He looked at Peter and told him to take the boat out and lower the net for a catch. Peter, the man who made a living fishing was not optimistic as he said to Jesus, "Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets." Peter's reluctance is quickly changed to wonder and unworthiness as they net so many fish they can scarcely haul in the net. He fearfully and humbly responds to this wonder by saying to Jesus, "Depart from me Lord, for I am a sinful man." Notice the two forms of address Peter uses. First he calls Jesus 'master' when he follows the directive to lower the net to catch fish. Once Peter sees the wonder of the catch, he no longer calls Jesus 'master', but 'Lord', as he says, "Depart from me Lord, for I am a sinful man."

What we see here is the love of God that cannot be conquered by our lack of faith, response, or wonder. The key is to come to the vision of Peter and see God's patience, wisdom, mercy, and all powerful love. No one's love is ever earned, for then it would not

be love. Love can only be a pure gift or else it cannot be the essence of what love is. Pope Benedict XVI has this observation in the book *Benedictus, Day by Day* with Pope Benedict XVI on February 9th: "At the very heart of sin lies human beings' denial of their creatureliness, inasmuch as they refuse to accept the standard and limitations that are implicit in it. They do not want to be creatures, do not want to be subject to a standard, do not want to be dependent. They consider their dependence on God's creative love to be an imposition from without... Human beings who consider dependence on the highest love as slavery and who try to deny the truth about themselves, which is their creatureliness, do not free themselves; they destroy truth and love. They do not make themselves gods, which in fact they cannot do, but rather caricatures, pseudo-gods, slaves of their own abilities which drag them down."

Psalm 63 and prayer:

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.

February 16, 2025

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!

THE CATHOLIC FAITH NETWORK TELETHON

will take place the weekend of **Saturday, February 22nd** from **2:00 – 10:00 PM** and on **Sunday, February 23rd** from **12:00 – 10:00 PM** respectively.

CFN is available throughout the Tri-State Area on Optimum, channel 29/137; Verizon FiOS TV



channel 296; Spectrum, channel 162/471.

It will be broadcast live from our studios in Uniondale.

If you are able, and can support us, please email LTangredi@CFNtv.org, or scan the QR code to make your donation. Thank you for your generous support.



Queen of All Hearts Knights of Columbus

St. Patrick's Dinner Dance

Saturday, March 15th

313 Frowein Rd. Center Moriches

Buffet Dinner - Corned Beef & Cabbage
Bangers & Mash 🍀 Soft Drinks & Dessert

STARTS AT 7 PM

Bring your own adult beverage

\$35 Per Person

Door Prizes

For Tickets- Call: Jim 631.838.0271

or Frank 516.639.6245

Pilgrimage to Poland:
In the Footsteps of St. John Paul II, St. Faustina & St. Maximilian Kolbe






August 27 – September 4, 2025
\$5,133 per person
from Newark (EWR), New York (JFK), or Portland (PDX)
All prices based on double occupancy. Pricing available from any airport. www.206tours.com/airports

Spiritual Director:
Fr. Peter Dugandzic

Group Leader:
Sandra Koceja



Optional Post-Tour to Medjugorje
September 4 – 12, 2025 | \$2,276 per person
Accommodations at Ivan Dragicevic's Family Home

Book Now:
www.206tours.com/koceja/poland
Booking Code: SK082725

Follow Us @206tours!






Contacts:
Sandra: romevilla11@gmail.com
Cat: cat@206tours.com






June 1 – 9, 2025
Rome & Assisi

Spiritual Director:
Fr. Francis Pizzarelli



Contact: cara@206tours.com dominic@206tours.com
silvia@206tours.com (800) 206-8687

Diocese of Rockville Centre Eucharistic Pilgrimage

During those days, Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to the town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. Luke 1: 39-40

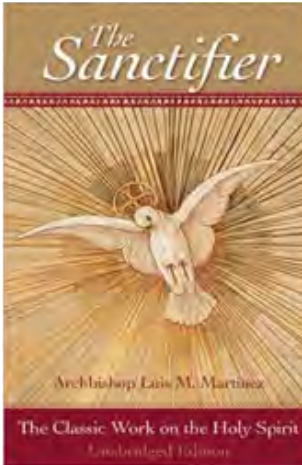
Beginning on May 31, 2025, the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, two nine-day Eucharistic Pilgrimages will embark across Long Island, both culminating at St. Anthony's High School on Sunday June 8, 2025, for the celebration of our local Diocesan Eucharistic Congress. The Western Route will journey from St. Agnes Cathedral (Rockville Centre) through Nassau County, while the Eastern Route will journey from the Parish of Saint Therese of Lisieux (Montauk) through Suffolk County.

The Holy Eucharist will be carried in procession across the Diocese through many of our towns, schools, hospitals, cemeteries, and parishes. During this pilgrimage, there will be opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration, the celebration of Mass, Eucharistic Catechesis, Praise and Worship, public processions, and other Eucharistic celebrations. The People of God will be invited to walk with Jesus, truly present in the Holy Eucharist, pray in the pilgrim churches, and proclaim the Gospel to bystanders as Jesus passes through their towns.

DIocese OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS
BEHOLD 2025
SAVE THE DATE
PENTECOST SUNDAY
LOCATION
ST. ANTHONY'S HIGH SCHOOL
SOUTH HUNTINGTON, NY
JUNE 8
WWW.DRVC.ORG/CONGRESS




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,

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: February 24th,

March 3rd, 24th, & 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.





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, February 17th, 2025 (Parish Offices Closed)

- 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, February 18th, 2025

- 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, February 19th, 2025

- 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, February 20th, 2025

- 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 AI-Anon - BMR

Friday, February 21st, 2025

- 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, February 22nd, 2025

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

Sunday, February 23rd, 2025

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR

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