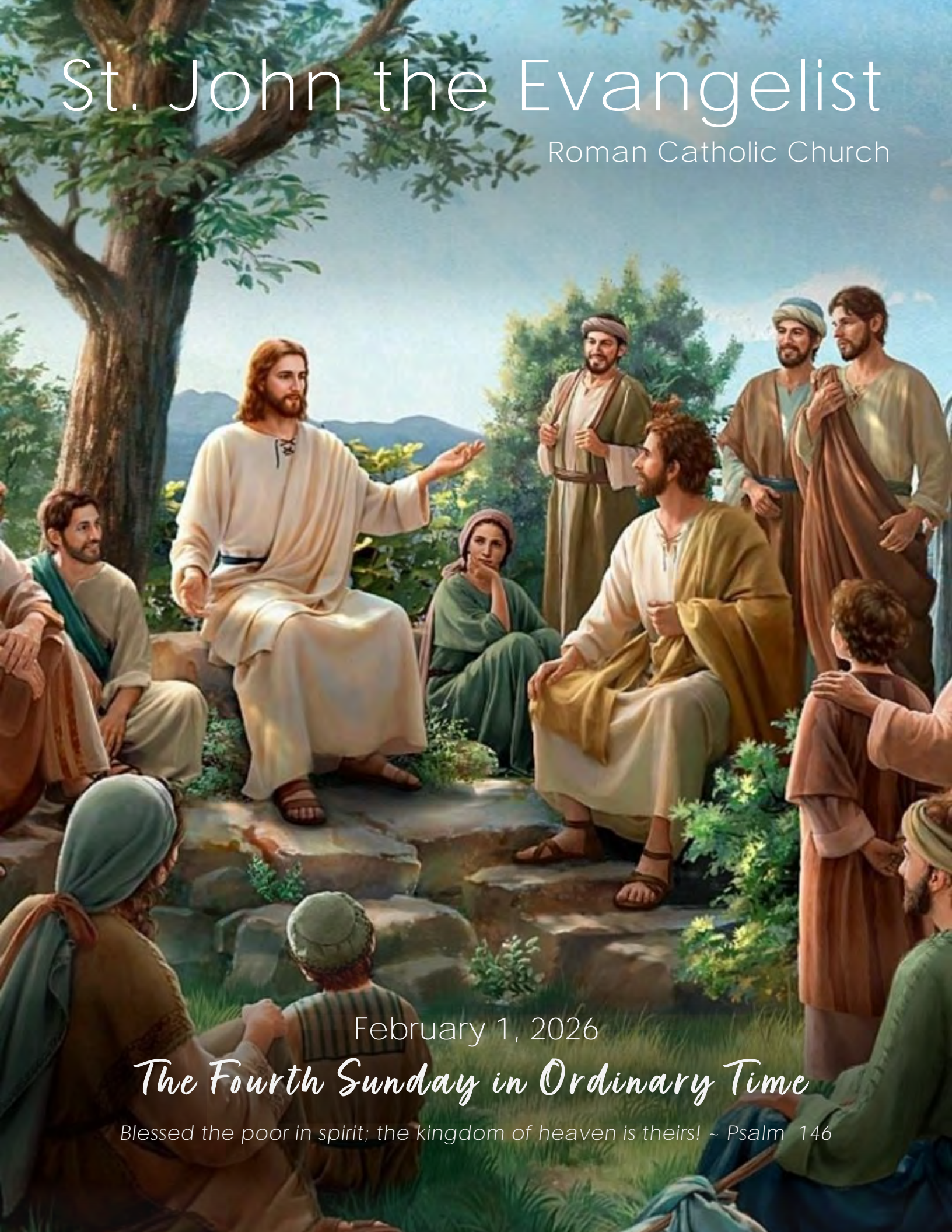


# St. John the Evangelist

Roman Catholic Church



February 1, 2026

*The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*Blessed the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! ~ Psalm 146*



February 1, 2026

25 Ocean Avenue, Center Moriches, New York, 11934-3968  
631-878-0009 | [rectory@sjecm.org](mailto: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 7<sup>th</sup>

5:00 PM - Fr. Francis

7:30 PM (Spanish) - Fr. Francis

(Saturday Evening 5 PM Mass  
will be livestreamed. Videos remain  
on Facebook after the live broadcast.)

### Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM - Fr. Patrick

10:00 AM - Fr. Patrick

12 noon - Msgr. Walden

6:00 PM - Fr. Jerry

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

## Pastoral Team

**Reverend Patrick M. Riegger**  
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

## 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](http://www.olqany.org)

**Dawn Waller**, Principal  
[dwaller@olqany.org](mailto:dwaller@olqany.org)

## Office Hours

### Office Hours

**Monday:** 9 AM - 3:30 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 Reflection from Deacon Ed Grieb ...

## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time



What a beautiful Gospel passage this weekend!

Some scripture scholars have said that the Beatitudes are a 'lesson in humility, love and justice.' Each Beatitude starts with phrase, a humility, and then is followed by a glory/blessing that will follow if we can submit to the humility with God's assistance.

I've watched some of the episodes of television series 'The Chosen' (although I admit I'm not an avid viewer). One of the earlier episodes I more vividly remember (I looked it up, it was in season 2), was when Jesus delivered the Beatitudes. That episode, and a few earlier ones, were building up to Jesus giving His great Sermon on the Mount. In this episode, Jesus wakes Matthew early one morning and asks him to take notes as he prepares for the great Sermon. He then goes on to reflect and slowly recite the beatitudes, while on screen we see flashbacks to several of the disciples experiencing these humiliations in prior episodes. We then see how Jesus had comforted them through the difficult times and then together had made it through their experiences. The most impactful line comes at the very end of the scene when Jesus tells Matthew, 'if someone wants to find me, these are who they should look for.' I found it to be a very moving episode, in particular the reaction you see in Matthew's facial expression as he is beginning to understand this new Law of Love that Jesus is trying to explain to His early followers (full disclosure, The Chosen is 'based' on the Gospels, and not meant to be a precise re-telling; there are story lines written around the Gospel passages).

As we heard in last week's Gospel, the central message of Jesus' preaching is the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven and our need for repentance - a change of heart, attitude and behavior, on the part of those who hear God's call. This message resonates as much today with each of us as it did when Jesus first spoke these words, and as millions have listened over the past 2000 years.

The first and second readings we hear today

convey that same message of humility. The prophet Zephaniah was a contemporary of Jeremiah, preaching the coming judgment on Judah and Jerusalem, but he also prophesized a restored Jerusalem - the hope of what will come to the Jewish people. We hear about this latter part of his prophesy today as he tells of those who escape God's wrath of judgement:

*"But I will leave as a remnant in your midst, a people humble and lowly, who shall take refuge in the name of the LORD: the remnant of Israel."*



In our second reading from his Letter to the Romans, St. Paul reminds us that it's a humble heart that hears God's call. And by putting aside our own ego, we can honestly ask ourselves if we've gotten too caught up conforming to the message we hear in society about prioritizing comfort and wealth, and as a result, we find ourselves neglecting Jesus' call to serve others.

*"God chose the weak of the world to shame the strong, and God chose the lowly and despised of the world, those who count for nothing, to reduce to nothing those who are something, so that no human being might boast before God. 'Whoever boasts, should boast in the Lord.'"*

Our minds may think sometimes that it's those who are rich, have no need to grieve, are free of enemies and troubles, or appear to be most admired in the media that are truly blessed among us. But Jesus flips this around and reminds us that when we deal with our difficulties and challenges with God's guidance and help, it is then we are truly blessed. Because we can boast in the Lord knowing our trust is in Him.

We will continue to hear from Matthew's account of the Sermon on the Mount over the next several weeks, as Jesus announces His message on the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven and our need for repentance.

And that will lead us right into the beginning of Lent (!) at the end of the month.

Peace. And Blessings.

Deacon Ed

# Masses for the Week...

**Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM Kristen Bigora

10:00 AM Delores Hughes

12:00 Noon Kevin Radigan

6:00 PM Louis LaNasa

**Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> The Presentation of the Lord**

7:00 AM Robert Salomone

12:00 Noon Special Intention-Adelaide Rego

**Tuesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> Weekday**

7:00 AM Eleanor O'Neill

12:00 PM Joanne Cavalieri

**Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> Weekday**

7:00 AM Maria DePinto

12:00 Noon Goncalo Rego

**Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup> Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr**

7:00 AM Special Intention– Rui Rego

12:00 Noon Joanne Cavalieri

**Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup> Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs**

7:00 AM Anna M. Failla

12:00 Noon Philomena Vigliotta

**Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup> Weekday**

8:00 AM Frank Sikorski

5:00 PM Gerard Sigismondi

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

**Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup> The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

10:00 AM James Anthony Taylor

12:00 Noon James Elias Sikora

6:00 PM Special Intention-Bryan Stevens

## 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 18<sup>th</sup>**. 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 15<sup>th</sup>** —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	\$74,545	4	\$18,636
2025	\$76,036	4	\$19,009

## 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!

February 1, 2026

St. John the Evangelist Parish...

# MARDI GRAS

*Celebration*

Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup>

1:00 pm

in the Parish Auditorium

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



Interested in lending a hand?  
There are plenty of ways to help!  
Reach out to us at [familylife@sjecm.org](mailto:familylife@sjecm.org)



February 1, 2026

# Praying For and With One Another

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## Remember

**Dorothy Ann Rocco**  
**Allen Murphy**

*"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

<b>Eileen &amp; Chuck DeRicco</b>	<b>Daniel Treadwell</b>
<b>Michael Campanello</b>	<b>Valentino Liuzzi</b>
<b>Bill Hasper</b>	<b>Alessandra Veloso Valentim</b>
<b>Rev. Matthew Considine</b>	<b>Mark Havens</b>
<b>Fr. Peter D'Abele</b>	<b>Suzan Fitzpatrick</b>
<b>Michael Lankau</b>	<b>Robert Maldonado</b>

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](mailto: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  
2<sup>nd</sup> 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  
2<sup>nd</sup> LT 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](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org).



# Remembering Our Loved Ones

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

*Louis J. Tuttle*

### 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](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org)

February 18<sup>th</sup>

# Ash Wednesday

## 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

# OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

In January, our "Family of Faith" program presented an interactive lesson about the Sacrament of the Eucharist. Children enjoyed a session with "Mass & Church Show-and-Tell," as well as two videos to help explain Old and New Testament connections to the Eucharist. Parents remained in the Church for an educational session on the Eucharist and a prayer reflection. Thank you to all our volunteers who made this such a beautiful session for all!



## 2025-26 FAITH FORMATION UPCOMING EVENTS

CALENDARS for all our programs are available on the Faith Formation page of our parish website. [sjecm.org](http://sjecm.org), (click on "Faith Formation")

### LEVEL 7 (Confirmation Prep Year 1):

**Next Class Session:**

**Monday, February 9 at 7:15 PM in the Church.**

*Please remember to bring your Breakthrough Bibles*

### LEVEL 8 (Confirmation Prep Year 2):

**Next Class Session:**

**Tuesday, February 10 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 6 Mass: Sunday, February 8 at 12 Noon**
- **RESCHEDULED Grade Level 5 Mass: March 22 at 12 Noon**  
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 Lady Queen of Apostles  
Regional Catholic School

**Contact Us!**

631-878-1033

olqany.org

# SEE WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO!



From hands-on learning experiences and service projects to field trips and faith-filled activities, we've had a wonderful first half of the school year for Pre-K thru 8th grade at OLQ A! Come and see the difference a Catholic education can make!



SCAN QR CODE TO SCHEDULE A TOUR! | 2 ST. JOHN'S PLACE, CENTER MORICHES, NY 11934

# PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

PSM Office 631.878.0009 ext. 120

Email: [socialministry@SJECm.org](mailto:socialministry@SJECm.org)

## THRIFT SHOP

We are open every Wednesday from 9 AM-12 PM and feature great items at fantastic prices! The proceeds from our shop are used to support SJE outreach programs that benefit those in need. Come visit and find an amazing gift or something special for yourself!

Donations are accepted in the green bins in the school parking lot in front of the shop. We greatly appreciate your support!



## STREET MINISTRY

Every Thursday night our Street Ministry team provides a hot meal, bagged lunch, toiletries, clothing, coats, blankets and shoes to those in great need. Please see our list of items requested if you are able to donate. Our donation bin is located in Fellowship Hall at the entrance of Church. Especially requested at this very cold time of year are coats, sweatshirts, sweatpants and blankets. Thank you for your generosity!

If you'd like to get involved or help sort, organize, and fold donations, we'd love you to join us! Please call the Parish Social Ministry office to get started.



## 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



- ◆ 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



## FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS

*On the First Saturday of every month,  
the Church invites all to come and take part in  
a special time of prayer and devotion.*

7:30 AM Fatima prayers and Holy Rosary

8:00 AM Mass

Confession and continuation of rosary after Mass

The Five First Saturdays devotion, requested by Our Lady to Sister Lucia on December 10, 1925, in Pontevedra, Spain, is an act of reparation for blasphemies and ingratitude against her Immaculate Heart. The promise includes assisting those at the hour of death with graces necessary for salvation who, for five consecutive months, confess, receive Holy Communion, pray five decades of the Rosary, and meditate for 15 minutes on the mysteries with the intention of reparation.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org) or call the Parish Office at 631.878.0009.



February 1, 2026

## Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Zeph 2:3; 3:12-13 | 1 Cor 1:26-31 | Mt 5:1-12a

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

There have been many times when I have experienced “imposter syndrome” in my work, where I doubt my own ability. In these times, I often looked to others to try to determine if I was doing enough. But instead of giving me the validation and encouragement I was seeking, this act of comparison frequently led to dissatisfaction. I began to wish I was more like others — more outgoing, more disciplined, more organized. But who I am and the gifts that I have to offer are exactly what I am being called to give in my vocation. Saint Paul reminds us in his First Letter to the Corinthians that we were not called because we possess a specific talent or personality; we have been called to bear witness to the work Christ is doing in us. And this witness comes from living our vocation authentically, with the gifts we naturally possess. When we not only accept but love and value our unique qualities, we give glory to the One who so lovingly and perfectly created us.

**GO EVANGELIZE****PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT**

In proclaiming the beatitudes, Christ reveals that those who will experience the rewards of heaven aren’t those we might consider “blessed” by human standards. What our culture values as markers of success and happiness are not always what is valued in the kingdom of God. Indeed, the joys of life in the kingdom are deeper than those here on earth; we were created for fulfillment greater than what this world can offer. Therefore, we must live confidently in the hope of Christ’s promises instead of comparing ourselves to others who might appear more successful. And as we live our vocation, we are called to live out the countercultural message of the beatitudes — a radical trust in the eternal promises of God in spite of earthly poverty, grief, or persecution. In doing so, we invite others to see and experience the joy of the abundant life that Christ proclaims.

**REFLECT**

As we go through life, there can be times when we feel unprepared for the vocation God has called us to. Consider how these feelings of inadequacy may be an invitation for us to rely more fully on Christ working within us. Bring this to prayer and ask the Lord to reveal how he may be using this particular circumstance to draw us closer to him.



The Catholic Faith Network (CFN) will continue our immense Telethon tradition this year! This exciting event will commence on **Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> from 2 PM and continue through Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8:30 AM**. Guaranteed to be the most engaging telethon to date, the entertainment will continue with many surprise guests along with our on-air family that you have come to know. Please join the excitement and consider pledging! The process is easy; you can pledge securely online by visiting [www.CFNtv.org](http://www.CFNtv.org) or by scanning the QR Code below, using smartphone or any smart device. We know we can continue to count on you, as we always have! CFN is available throughout the Tri-State Area on Optimum, channel 29/137; Verizon FiOS TV channel 296; Spectrum, channel 162/471. Additionally, you can tune in nationwide on the following streaming services – Amazon Fire TV, Samsung Smart TV, Roku, Android TV, and Apple TV.



# *St. John the Evangelist Parish*

## **BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN TO BENEFIT LIFE CENTER OF LONG ISLAND**

The Baby Bottle Campaign to benefit the Life Center of Long Island will be completed with collection of the filled bottles on the weekend of:

# **FEBRUARY 7<sup>TH</sup> & 8<sup>TH</sup>**



*Please continue to say the prayer attached to the bottle.*

Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support. Be assured it is making a **BIG, POSITIVE DIFFERENCE** with the mothers and fathers served by our pregnancy care centers!



## 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.

## Sundays at the Seminary

*Explore and Adore*

On Sunday, **February 22, 2026**, from 1 to 3 PM, the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington, NY, invites you to "Explore and Adore!" in the Seminary Crypt Chapel.

This special program includes a tour of the twelve Crypt Chapels, each a gem of artistic and spiritual beauty. Sunlight through red, blue, and violet glass illuminates the intricate marble altars, each dedicated to a saint or figure and enclosed behind wrought iron grillwork. The tour concludes with Benediction, followed by light refreshments in the Refectory.

Msgr. Charles R. Fink, celebrating 50 years of priesthood, will guide visitors through the chapels' history. A former pastor, Seminary rector, and spiritual director, Msgr. Fink continues to serve the Diocese of Rockville Centre through retreats and reflections, and is a regular contributor to *The Catholic Thing*.

Pre-registration is requested. Tickets are \$25 for Friends of the Seminary and \$35 for non-members; seminarians and students are free. For information or to register, contact [bmalone@icseminary.edu](mailto:bmalone@icseminary.edu) or call (631) 423-0483, ext. 102. Visit [www.icseminary.edu/Events](http://www.icseminary.edu/Events).

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



## 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:** 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

# A Message from Monsignor Walden...



There is a lot of attention today with regard to artificial intelligence. While many good things can be done with it, we must first of all remember that it is only a tool that has been invented by human research and intelligence. Like any other tool, it can be used to do good or to do harm. The Gospel for today's Mass (Matthew 5:1-12) proclaims the fruit of what divine intelligence summarized in the Ten Commandments is all about. In my reflection book from Pope Benedict XVI that offers a thought for each day of the year, there is this thought: "If the Ten Commandments, as expounded by rational understanding, are the answer to inner demands of our nature, then they are not at the opposite pole to our freedom but are rather the concrete form it takes. They are then the foundation for every law of freedom and are the one truly liberating power in human history." In other words, in the Ten Commandments we have everything we need for the moral foundation of our lives as individuals, families, communities, states, countries and the world we live in.

In proclaiming the Beatitudes in today's Gospel, Jesus lays out the inner dynamics of how our attitudes and actions emanate from our thoughts, words, and actions. "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." In the first beatitude proclaimed, we see that we do not wallow and wander in confusion when we live in the light of faith. It is not every person for himself or herself, but every person coming to see ever more clearly how much peace, hope, courage, humility and wonder lead to the light of fulfillment that we have been created and blessed to live in as God's sons and daughters. We are blessed to mourn the evil and injustice we experience and are exposed to because we have the light, vision, and Spirit of God guiding us. Being meek does not mean we are pushovers but that we are empowered by the wonder and strength of God's Holy Spirit in all things. We hunger and thirst for righteousness

sustained by God's truth and justice. In a world that can be so harsh and merciless, we experience the freeing effects of God's mercy and in that process become vehicles of that mercy ("forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us"). To be pure or clean of heart means we are seeking not only what is good for us personally but for all whose lives we touch. In a society that embraces competition and entertains itself with countless games and sporting events, we rise above the desire to win to seek what will reconcile and make us one with each other and live in an atmosphere of pure peace. The final beatitude makes it clear that this will not be easy. How sorely the world and our society need human beings created and living in the image and likeness of God! We are chosen, invited and blessed, and everyday is another opportunity and challenge to be all we have been created to be.

## Genesis 1:26-31:

*"Then God said: Let us make human beings in our image, after our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the tame animals, all the wild animals, and all the creatures that crawl on the earth. God created mankind in his image; in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them and God said to them: Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things that crawl on the earth. God also said: See, I give you every seed-bearing plant on all the earth and every tree that has seed-bearing fruit on it to be your food; and to all the wild animals, all the birds of the air, and all the living creatures that crawl on the earth, I give all the green plants for food. And so it happened. God looked at everything he had made, and found it very good. Evening came, and morning followed—the sixth day."*

## 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 matrimoniales 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](mailto: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 Basilica Parish  
of the  
**SACRED HEARTS OF JESUS AND MARY**



**THE CELTIC TENORS** | **MON MAR 02** | **BASILICA PARISH OF THE SACRED HEARTS**

Monday, March 2, 2026 at 7PM  
Tickets are on sale - General Seating \$45  
[celtictenors26.eventbrite.com](https://celtictenors26.eventbrite.com)

**MUSIC AT THE BASILICA: THE CELTIC TENORS**

## The Diocese of Rockville Centre GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASSES

### Honoring Couples Married Fifty Years

The Diocese of Rockville Centre would like to honor those couples who celebrated Fifty Years of Marriage in 2026 by inviting them to attend one of the Masses below for a special blessing.

**Sunday, April 19, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.**

Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Patchogue

Celebrant: Most Reverend Robert J. Coyle

Registration Deadline: Thursday, April 9, 2026

**Sunday, April 26, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.**

The Cathedral of St. Agnes, Rockville Centre

Celebrant: Most Reverend Andrzej Zglejszewski

Registration Deadline: Thursday, April 16, 2026

Register online at [drcv-faith.org](https://drcv-faith.org)

For questions, please contact Lisette Robustelli, Associate Director at (516)678-5800 ext. 200 or via email at [lrobustelli@drcv.org](mailto:lrobustelli@drcv.org)





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.



## 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 2<sup>nd</sup>, 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, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 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, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 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, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 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, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 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, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026

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

## Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR

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