

# St. John the Evangelist

Roman Catholic Church



February 4, 2024

*The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

“Praise the Lord, who heals the broken hearted”

Psalm 147: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6



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 10<sup>th</sup>

5:00 PM - Fr. Patrick  
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 11<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM - Msgr. Walden  
10:00 AM - Msgr. Walden  
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.*

### 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 Felix Akpabio**  
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
- Carolyn Lapham**  
Director of Family Ministries
- Michelle Pirraglia**  
Director of Faith Formation
- Katie Spellman**  
Coordinator of Parish Social Ministry
- Katie Waller**  
Director of Operations

### 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](http://www.olqany.org)
- Dawn Waller**  
Principal  
[dwaller@olqany.org](mailto: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 Father Felix...

***If today you hear his voice, harden not your heart...***

It is an iconic story, popular even among unbelievers and agnostics. It's been a favorite subject for artists across the centuries. It does not matter how many times we have read it; it never loses its power to move us. It is Jesus' famous parable of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32). This is why many scripture writers said that Jesus taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes (Mark 1:22). This Lent, we should take an in-depth look at this parable to see what Jesus wants to teach us, both about ourselves and about our heavenly Father. As we reflect on the actions of the two sons and the father in this story, it can lead us to examine our hearts. We should ask ourselves these two questions: Are there obstacles that are keeping us from fully experiencing the immensity of God's love and mercy? Are there attitudes or assumptions that need to change so that we can draw closer to the Lord?

The first reading for Ash Wednesday is always taken from the prophet Joel: "Return to me with your whole heart" (Joel 2:12). Lent is a season for returning to the Lord, so let's use this special time to reflect on Jesus' parable of the prodigal son and return to God our heavenly Father. The parable begins with a young man asking for his share of his father's inheritance (Luke 15:12). Take note, he was essentially acting as if his father was already dead. Here was a son who no longer wanted his father in his life; he only wanted his inheritance. The younger son did not appreciate what the father had provided to him. He became so restless in life.

He wanted a free life without the responsibilities and duties that were required of him in his father's house; he could do whatever he wanted, whenever he chose to do it. This young man was a son, with all the rights and responsibilities that come with a relationship. Rather, he chose not to follow the right way of life. He left his father and went to a distant country, where he lived an immoral life. It happened that he became a slave to his desires. We forget sometimes that there is no permanent condition in life. Little did he know about life. After his money was gone and famine struck, he "hired himself out to one of the local citizens who sent him to his farm to tend the swine" (Luke 15:15). He was almost literally a slave, someone who was so hungry that he longed to eat the pods that were fed to the pigs (Luke 15:16). We know that all of us are sons and daughters of God. Yet, there are times when we forget and act as if we were slaves. We see our Christian responsibilities as burdensome and do them out of duty, not love. We allow idols to take the place of God in our lives and, in effect, become slaves to those things.

Coming to his senses, the young man was in desperate straits. He had only one option, that was to return home to his father. He had cut himself off from his father. Jesus tells us that the young man even rehearsed the plea he would make when he returned. "Father, I have sinned against heaven and you. I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers" (Luke 15:18-19). It took abject poverty and famine for this man to acknowledge his sin; he had offended both God and his father. He knew that his decision to leave home with his father's money to sustain an immoral lifestyle was a grievous mistake. It had hurt both him and his father as well.

Jesus told us this story so that we would understand that whatever wrong we have done, however far gone we feel, it is never too late to "come to our senses" and return to our heavenly Father. It is never too late to begin the journey back to our Father's house. There is no better time than this season of lent for us to repent and return to the Lord. Jesus' parable is reassuring. We may stray from God our Father at times, but the mark of baptism never leaves us a bit. We don't forfeit our relationship as sons and daughters of God even when we sin. He will always restore us to our rightful place in His family, as the father did in Jesus' parable, when we return to him with our whole hearts. One thing is certain that the younger son's repentance is real and that he now takes up his responsibilities in his father's house with gratitude and joy. We would also like to think that the older son lets go of his anger and comparison, and truly welcomes his brother back with an open heart. Above all, we would like to see their relationship with their father fully restored so that they can experience all the blessings and responsibilities of their sonship.

That is the ending that God envisions for all of us no matter how we have strayed from him. Each of us must decide for himself or herself how we can return to God our Father. "If today you hear his voice harden not your hearts." (Ps 95:8)

# Masses for the Week...

## Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> Weekday

- 5:00 PM June Conboy
- 7:30 PM *Spanish* Special Intention-Rui Rego

## Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup> Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:00 AM Joseph Santoro
- 10:00 AM Deceased Members of Kudmac Family
- 12:00 Noon Mary Jane Cramer
- 6:00 PM Robert Stepankewich

## Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup> Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr

- 7:00 AM Special Intention-Peggy and Pete Formisano
- 12:00 Noon Special Intention-for the Stevens Family

## Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup> Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

- 7:00 AM Philomena Vigliotta
- 12:00 Noon Anne Failla

## Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> Weekday

- 7:00 AM Grant Parsons
- 12:00 Noon Rosemary Curtin

## Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> Weekday

- 7:00 AM James Elias Sikora
- 12:00 Noon Al Chandanais

## Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup> Weekday

- 7:00 AM Frankie Stabile
- 12:00 Noon Rosemary Curtin

## Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> Saint Scholastica, Virgin

- 8:00 AM Daniel Dem Jr.
- 5:00 PM People of the Parish
- 7:30 PM *Spanish* Special Intention—Bryan Stevens

## Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:00 AM Goncalo Rego
- 10:00 AM Jenno and Suzanne Szvetecz
- 12:00 Noon Angelina Vigliotta
- 6:00 PM Marian Denyse



PARISH WEEKLY DONATIONS			
Average Weekly from January 1, 2024 to present.			
Year	Total	# of Weeks	Average Weekly
2024	\$89,584	4	\$22,396
2023	\$67,688	4	\$16,922

2023 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL		One Family - Journeying together in Communion, Participation, and Mission	
	2023	2022	
Parish Goal	\$115,100.00	\$115,100.00	
Number of Donors	311	300	
Total Pledged to date	\$116,993	\$115,673	
Avg. Gift	\$376	\$386	
Percent of Goal	102%	100%	

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 goal!

Our Parish

SJE  
Family Life  
Ministry

# MARDI Gras

THIS Sunday, February 4th

1:00 - 3:00 P.M.

in the Parish Auditorium

Come one and all! Enjoy the food, festivities and fun as a parish family. Jazz straight from New Orleans! Games for the kids! Burning of the palms for Ash Wednesday. Famous King Cake! Tons of food and fun for everyone! Together we'll feast before we fast!



# Praying For and With One Another

## Remember

Carol Mazza  
Catherine Schiano  
William Stork

*"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

John Fitzpatrick, Frank Macchia

*"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](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org).

## Our Military

### US Army

SGT Sean Casey  
PVT Joseph Cestare  
SPC Michael Garcia Jr  
PVT Anthony Koch  
CPL Aidan O'Neill  
SPC Daniel Sisco  
PFC David Smith  
Steven Valentin

### US Navy

E43CPO Jason Abbatiello  
STGCS Brian Holzmacher  
MMN2 Christopher J Esposito Jr  
ETVSN Angel Gabriel Montoya Rivera  
ET3 Jeremiah Nolan, Jr

### US Coast Guard

BM3 Brendan J. Bernath  
CPT Keith Donohue

### US Marine Corps

LC Michael Abbatiello  
CPL Evan Berkemeyer  
PFC Sean Brady  
SGT Quentin Montemarano  
PVT Charles O'Connor  
E-1 Christian Raeihle  
2<sup>nd</sup> LT Christopher Walther  
PAC Kevin W. Deshler II

### US Air Force

SSGT David Giese  
SSGT Jason M Hermes  
PFC Kyle Kerstiens  
SSGT Ryan Kerstiens  
SSGT Timothy Kerstiens  
A1C Jared T. Rosato  
MAJ Salvatore Sferrazza

If you wish to place someone on the Military prayer list, please call the rectory at 631.878.0009 or e-mail to [rectory@sjecm.org](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org).

## Remembering Our Loved Ones

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

### *In Memory of the Deceased of the Parish*

This week, the Saint Joseph Candle will be lit:

### *In Memory of Jack Dyer*

*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)*

### 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.  
For the month, an offering of \$150 is requested.

### Votive Candles/Altar Candles

A number of votive candles enlighten the beautiful statues in our church. You may have a particular devotion to one of these saints. These candles are next to the statues of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph, St. Teresa, St. Gerard Majella and the Sacred Heart of Jesus. They bring a certain light to the statues and, hopefully, inspire some deeper times of prayer and reflection.

**Altar Candles - \$25.00 per week.**

# Don't Forget Your Baby Bottle!

On the weekend of **February 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>**, once again St. John the Evangelist Parish will be hosting a Baby Bottle Fundraiser to benefit the Life Center of Long Island. Last year our parish raised over \$12,000 through the Baby Bottle Fundraiser.

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



- Free pregnancy test kits + Free sonogram + Maternity housing w/eligibility requirements referrals
- Medical care referrals + Male advocates available to speak with fathers
- Material aid including car seats, cribs, clothing, diapers, and many other needed baby items

We are asking that you pick up a baby bottle and fill it with your donation.

**(Please make checks payable to the Life Center of L.I.)**

**PLEASE RETURN THE BOTTLES ON FEBRUARY 24<sup>TH</sup> & 25<sup>TH</sup>**

Most importantly, we are asking you to recite the prayer attached to the baby bottle. Prayers bring 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 our consultants at the Life Center to say just the right words a mother or 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!*



**LIFE CENTER OF LONG ISLAND**  
*A Voice for the Unborn on Long Island*

February 4, 2024

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

## Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7 | 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23 | Mk 1:29-39

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

Why me? It could be a flat tire, a lost job or a serious illness. When inconvenient, unpleasant or even downright horrible things happen, it is understandable to wonder why God allows it. I know that is what goes through my head in extreme adversity. God can do all things, so why wouldn't he change "this thing" for me? In the Gospel, we see Jesus curing Simon Peter's mother-in-law of her illness, but many of us don't have our prayers answered like that. Instead, we may relate more to Job in today's first reading when he says life is a "drudgery" and he "shall not see happiness again." The reality is that God's ways are not our ways, so we can't know why some people endure hardship while others receive miracles. But we can change how we respond to those hardships when they arrive. Just as this passage from Job is understood better within the context of the whole book, discrete events in our lives are part of something larger than ourselves. Praying with Scripture, including reading more of Job, can help us understand how God is molding, refining, and yes - always loving us.

### **GO EVANGELIZE**

#### PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

When we are tempted to feel like Job is a good time to embrace the age-old practice of "offering it [suffering] up." As a child, my parents explained that offering it up meant I was telling God I would happily suffer in exchange for it helping someone else. What does this really mean? Everything stems from our being united to Christ in our baptism and being participants in his priestly, prophetic and royal office. We offer ourselves, our whole being, including our worship, praise, joy, gratitude, bodies and even sufferings to God as sacrifice. So, to "offer it [suffering] up" is a powerful way of taking a bad situation and allowing it to be used for something good; to give our inconvenience, pain and grief to the Lord and ask him to unite it to Christ's suffering for the good of others. It is a redemptive act, a form of love-in-action. St. Paul is a great example of someone who suffered gladly, and in today's second reading he shares that "to the weak [he] became weak, to win over the weak."

**PRAY** Offering up our sufferings and difficulties is a way to participate in the redemptive work of Christ. It is a simple way to pray and can keep our focus on God throughout the day. There isn't any one specific prayer for doing this. Instead, when something unpleasant or painful happens, take a moment to acknowledge it and give it to the Lord. It can be as simple as saying, "Lord, I am happy to endure this for the benefit of others." You may want to insert a specific intention or offer it for the souls in purgatory. It's not always easy - especially when your suffering is great - but give it a try this week.

The Healing of Peter's Mother-in-Law by James Tissot, CCO





St. John the Evangelist

# ASH WEDNESDAY

## *MASSES*

**FEBRUARY 14th**

## *& Services*

7:00 AM Mass  
10:30 AM Service  
12 Noon Mass  
2:00 PM Service  
4:30 PM Service  
7:00 PM Mass

### 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.

# A Message from Msgr. Walden...

Recently I started reading a book by Senator Ted Cruz from Texas, “Unwoke, How to Defeat Cultural Marxism in America”. His family came from Cuba and escaped from the government Fidel Castro set up when he came to power. One of the people working with Castro was Che Guevara, a noted revolutionary. Cruz writes, “In the late 1950s, when Fidel Castro and his fellow revolutionaries were still hiding in the mountains Guevara often murdered people suspected of being loyal to the revolution. He did so without giving these men a trial or allowing them to speak in their own defense. He would simply make the man in question kneel, say a few words, and then fire single shot into the back of his head.” How gruesome, unjust, and inhumane. Of course Guevara was preceded by countless people in history who murdered their fellow citizens: Hitler, Stalin, and Mao were much more lethal. How can a society survive when murder is used to bring about what the leaders want and promote?

A terrible parallel to this jumped out to me when I read this headline in the Wall Street Journal a number of days ago: Biden Backs Abortion Rights In First 2024 Campaign. As leader of our nation he is promoting the killing of children in the womb so people will vote for him. How can we be so blind to history repeating itself when it is right in front of us. Guevara, Hitler, Mao, and Stalin are dead, but the havoc, suffering, and chaos they unleashed and promoted caused unbelievable suffering death to countless innocent people.

Let say clearly I am not seeking to tell anyone how to vote or who to vote for. My thoughts are not to condemn politicians or a political party. My concern is the moral issue of what responsibility we take on when we support candidates with the platform of abortion. People in our nation get elected because we have the power, right, and responsibility to vote for them. When a candidate openly supports, promotes, and seeks to codify abortion into law where does the support of that candidate leave those who vote for him or her? Two very clear Scripture passages come to mind:

Matthew 18:6-7: “Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. Woe to the world because of things that cause sin! Such things must come, but woe to the one through whom they come!” Ezekiel 3:17:21: “Son of man, I have appointed you a sentinel for the house of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, you shall warn them for me. If I say to the wicked, You shall surely die—and you do not warn them or speak out to dissuade the wicked from

their evil conduct in order to save their lives—then they shall die for their sin, but I will hold you responsible for their blood. If, however, you warn the wicked and they still do not turn from their wickedness and evil conduct, they shall die for their sin, but you shall save your life. But if the just turn away from their right conduct and do evil when I place a stumbling block before them, then they shall die. Since you did not warn them about their sin, they shall still die, and the just deeds that they performed will not be remembered on their behalf. I will, however, hold you responsible for their blood. If, on the other hand, you warn the just to avoid sin, and they do not sin, they will surely live because of the warning, and you in turn shall save your own life.”

The gift of life comes with responsibility to use the freedom we have to do good and avoid evil. Jesus faced evil head on, suffered for it, and rose above and beyond it. But He died with a clear conscience. Following Jesus in the Catholic Church is a true gift to be shared for our own good and the good of all people. Peace of mind comes only when we seek, know, and live the truth of who we are as Catholics in the world today. There will be opposition, ridicule, and derogatory remarks and accusations.

Jesus spoke these challenging and encouraging words to us at the Last Supper (John 15:18:27): “If the world hates you, realize that it hated me first. If you belonged to the world, the world would love its own; but because you do not belong to the world, and I have chosen you out of the world, the world hates you. Remember the word I spoke to you, ‘No slave is greater than his master. If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. And they will do all these things to you on account of my name, because they do not know the one who sent me. If I had not come and spoken to them, they would have no sin; but as it is they have no excuse for their sin. Whoever hates me also hates my Father. If I had not done works among them that no one else ever did, they would not have sin; but as it is, they have seen and hated both me and my Father. But in order that the word written in their law might be fulfilled, ‘They hated me without cause.’ “When the Advocate comes whom I will send you from the Father, the Spirit of truth that proceeds from the Father, he will testify to me. And you also testify, because you have been with me from the beginning.”



# Family Ministry

## Sandwich Sunday

Next Sunday, February 11th  
11:00 AM in the school cafeteria

Grab a loaf of bread and your family and friends and come have some fun while helping to feed the hungry in our area. Students can earn volunteer service hours!

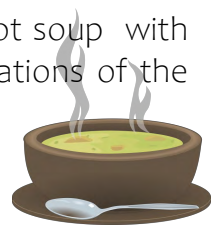
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## Lenten Soup Suppers

Fridays, March 11th at 6:00 PM and  
Friday, March 22nd at 6:00 PM

Come enjoy a delicious bowl of hot soup with friends and family followed by Stations of the Cross at 7:00 PM.



## Children's Holy Week Prayer Services!

Middle School and High School students (and adults) needed to help with our Palm Sunday Egg Hunt, Holy Thursday reenactment of the Last Supper and Good Friday-Passion of Our Lord Pageant.



Email [Clapham@sjecm.org](mailto:Clapham@sjecm.org) if you would like to help!



The Catholic Faith Network (CFN) will continue our immense Telethon tradition this year! This exciting event will commence on **Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup> from 2 PM and continue through Monday, February 26<sup>th</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 a 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, and Apple TV.



# Faith Formation

Phone: 631-878-0009

Website: <https://sjecmff.blogspot.com/>  
[faithformation@sjecm.org](mailto:faithformation@sjecm.org) / [mpirraglia@sjecm.org](mailto:mpirraglia@sjecm.org)



**Family of Faith**  
(Grades 1-6) -Next Sessions  
(Parent/Student - Attend One):  
**Tuesday, February 6 and**  
**Thursday, February 8**  
at 5 PM or 7 PM in the Church.

During last month's "Family of Faith" session (Grades 1-6), students learned about the Holy Spirit and the fruits of the Holy Spirit, with special guest speaker Msgr. Walden working with our families!



**Level 7** students learned about the saints and the Sacrament of the Eucharist during their last two sessions (John 6). Special thanks to the Legion of Mary for donating "Digital Disciple: Carlo Acutis and the Eucharist" - a new comic book about Blessed Carlo who used modern technology to spread the faith and teach about the True Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

### Level 7: Next date

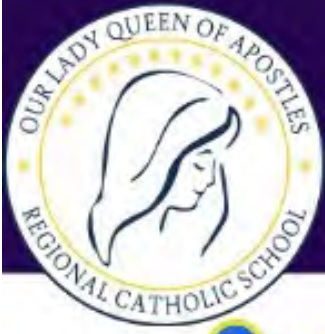
Monday, February 12 @ 7:15 PM, Church

**Level 8** students learned about the Rosary and the Blessed Mother through reflection on the Wedding Feast at Cana (John 2). Many thanks to the Leavy family, who made rosaries for all 130 of our Level 8 students!

### Level 8: Next date

Tuesday, February 13 @ 7:15 PM, Church





Our Lady Queen of Apostles  
Regional Catholic School

Contact Us!

631-878-1033

olqany.org

Scan QR Code



# See What We've Been Up To!

## Catholic Schools Week

**OPEN HOUSE:** We were happy to kick off Catholic Schools Week with our Open House on Sunday, January 28, following the 10AM Mass at St. John the Evangelist. We're grateful for all who came! If you are interested in finding out more about our Catholic in Center Moriches, contact us via the information above or scan the QR Code for a tour!

## OLQA: "A Family of Families"



# Parish Social Ministry

## SJE Thrift Shop Wednesdays - 9 AM - 12 Noon

Are you are looking for a great deal? St. John's Thrift Shop is the place for you and your family. Everyone is welcome!

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 that are left in the green bins in the school parking lot. 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.



### ***Closet Cleanout!***

St. John's Street Ministry is in need of:

- **Men's Winter Coats**
- **Men's Sweatshirts**
- **Men's Jeans**
- **Blankets**

Donations can be left in Fellowship Hall of the Church.

Thank you for your support of our Outreach Ministry!

## Ernie's Place

The items listed here are items that Ernie's Place is in most need of this week. These items can be left at the doors of the church or at the bin, outside of Ernie's Place.

### Pantry Shopping List

- Oatmeal
- Small Bags of White Rice
- Red Beans (cans or bags)
- Pancake Mix
- Pancake Syrup
- Pasta
- Chicken
- Cereal



## Street Ministry



Are you a great cook? Or perhaps a social butterfly who enjoys engaging with others in the community? Maybe you prefer to work behind the scenes? Do you love to fold clothes and organize things? ***Come use the awesome gifts that God gave you to serve those in need in our local community!***

Our Street Ministry is an amazing community of volunteers who provide hot meals and clothing to individuals and families every Thursday night, many of whom are homeless or unable to receive other supporting services. Whether you are interested in working in our donation room, cooking hot meals, making

PB&J sandwiches, or participating in our van runs, Street Ministry has a place and a job for everyone! To get started or for more information contact Victoria Papparatto at [streetministry@sjecm.org](mailto:streetministry@sjecm.org)

February 4, 2024

## St. John the Evangelist R.C. Church

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*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 helps many with the healing process.*

### **Bereavement Support Group**

**Saturday mornings, thru the end of April.**

**10:30 am to 12 noon**

**First floor meeting room in the Barn.**

The Barn is the blue building located in the rear school parking lot.

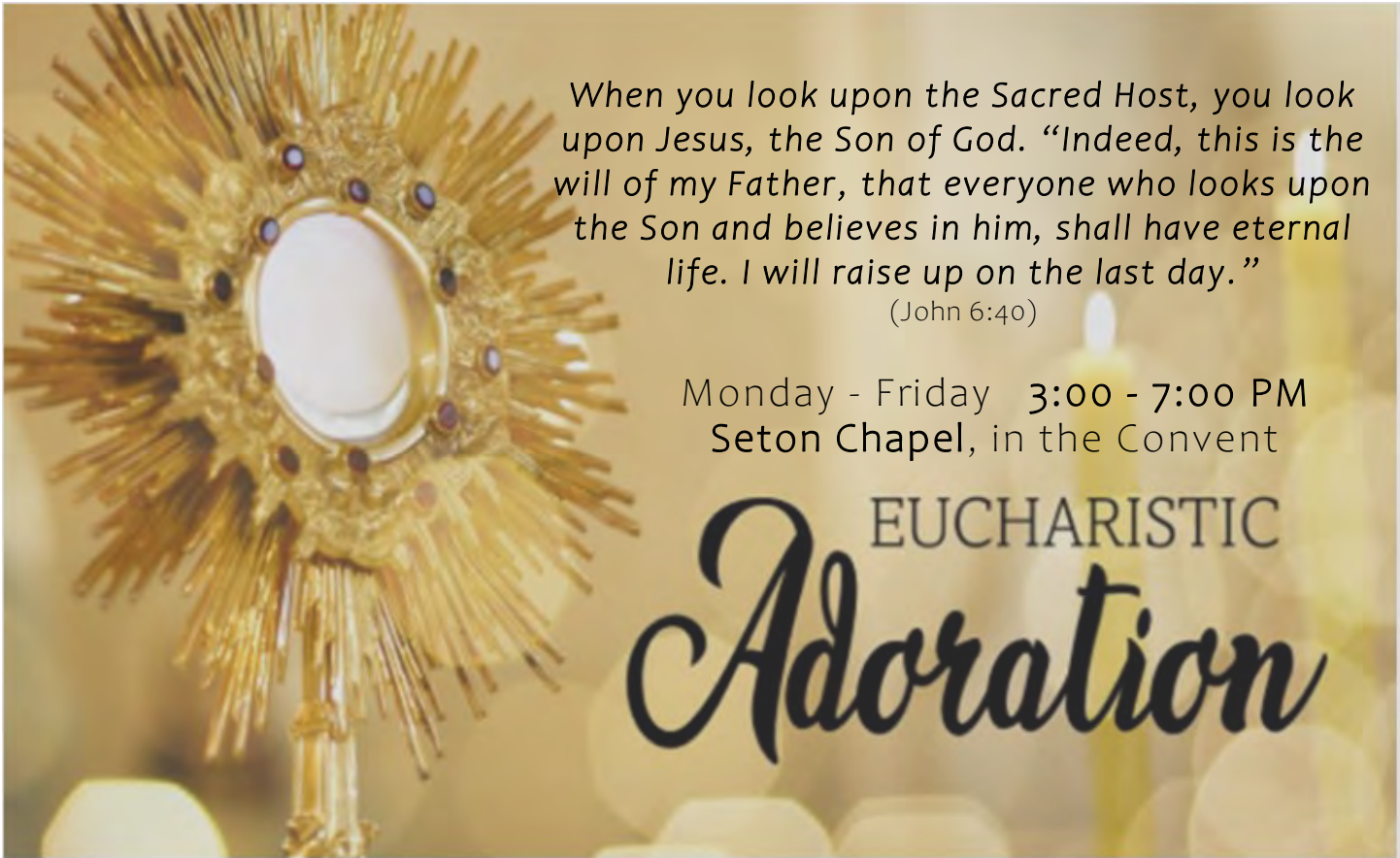
*Grief never ends but it changes. It is a passage, not a place to stay.*

*It is not a sign of weakness, nor a lack of faith.*

*Grief is the price of love.*

Contact the Rectory office to Register, 631.878.0009 or email [rectory@sjecm.org](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org)

Facilitators:  
Maureen Harney &  
Loretta Gallagher  
\$10 donation for the workbook.



When you look upon the Sacred Host, you look upon Jesus, the Son of God. "Indeed, this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks upon the Son and believes in him, shall have eternal life. I will raise up on the last day."

(John 6:40)

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

# EUCHARISTIC *Adoration*

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.



**Marriage:**  
*freely entered,  
faithful,  
fruitful,  
for life.*

**National Marriage Week**

*February 7-14*



DIOCESE of ROCKVILLE CENTRE

**Office of Human Life,  
Family and Bioethics**



Queen of All Hearts  
Knights of Columbus



**VALENTINE'S**

# *Dinner*

**FEB 10th**

**\$30**

Buffet dinner, dessert  
and soft drinks included.

per person.  
You may bring your  
own adult beverage.

DJ Dancing & Door Prizes

For Tickets  
Contact George 631.786.1459 or Bill 516.458.6448

February 4, 2024

# Give from the heart

February is American Heart Month.

Case depended on blood during heart surgery and in recovery.

**DONATIONS  
SAVE LIVES**



## BLOOD DRIVE

# St. John the Evangelist

2 St. John's Place, Center Moriches  
**OLQA School Auditorium**

**Saturday, February 24, 2024**

**9:00am – 3:00pm**



**To make an appointment:**

**Scan the QR code**



call 1-800-933-2566, or email Melissa at [mgatto@nybc.org](mailto:mgatto@nybc.org)

**WALK-INS ARE WELCOME**

Appointments are preferred however walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits. Please remember to eat, drink, and bring your ID with your name and photo. Mask requirements may change depending on CDC guidelines. Visit [nybc.org/coronavirus](https://nybc.org/coronavirus) for complete COVID-19 safety protocols.



800.933.BLOOD • [nybc.org](https://nybc.org) #nybloodcenter

SJE Parish Lenten Mission 2024

# A PILGRIMS JOURNEY OF *Faith*

To fall in love with God is the  
greatest *romance*; to seek him  
the greatest *adventure*;  
to find him, the greatest  
human *achievement*.

- St. Augustine of Hippo -

Monday, March 18th  
A Journey of Forgiveness with the Saints

Tuesday, March 19th  
A Journey of Protection with Mary

Wednesday, March 20th  
A Journey of Love with the Eucharist

7:30 PM in the Church

Presented by:

Father Gary George C.Ss.R.

# 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 Sabados a las 7:30 PM en la Iglesia.

Te invitamos a compartir la Palabra de Dios en el Grupo de Oracion, todos los Viernes a las 7:30 PM en la Capilla del Convento de la Parroquia. Ven a enriquecer tu vida espiritual orando

## MINISTERIOS Y SERVICIOS

**Bautismos:** Segundo Domingo a las 2 PM en la Iglesia.  
Clases pre-bautismos es el tercer miércoles de cada mes.

Favor de traer el certificado de nacimiento del niño dos meses antes del bautismo.

### Requisitos:

1. Certificado de nacimiento del niño o/de la niña.
2. Certificado de inscripción de su Parroquia (padres y padrinos)
3. Los padres deben traer estos documentos a la oficina de San Juan para fijar las fechas de charla pre-bautismal (OBLIGATORIA para padres y padrinos) y la fecha del Bautismo.

### Matrimonios:

Parejas que planean su matrimonio, deben hacer una cita con uno de los sacerdotes antes de su boda. De este modo tendrán suficiente tiempo para recibir las instrucciones prematrimoniales y obtener los documentos necesarios. Para más información llame al oficina.

El personal de la oficina estará disponible para hablar en español de 6 a 8 PM los martes! Asegúrese de venir a visitarnos y permítanos servirle! por favor llame a la oficina de la rectoría 631-878-0009 o envíe un correo electrónico al ministerio español a

[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 come and visit and allow us to serve you!

¡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!

## Safe Environment Updates...

All volunteers and employees at SJE are **required** to participate in a VIRTUS training course and to go through a background check. You can sign up for the VIRTUS classes by visiting [www.drvc.org](http://www.drvc.org) or clicking here: <https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/>

### REMINDERS FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS

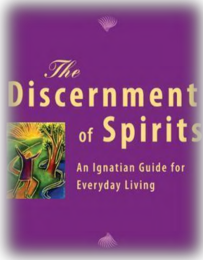
All SJE employees and volunteers must wear their SJE badge while serving in ministry. Please also check your email regularly to complete monthly updates. (Be sure to check your "spam" or "Junk" folder.)

### PASTORAL INTERVENTION TEAM

The dedicated telephone line for reporting allegations of sexual abuse (516-694-9063) continues to be available. If the caller does not reach someone directly, messages can be left on an answering machine connected to the phone. Those messages will be retrieved by a member of the Intervention Team and returned as soon as possible. All appropriate steps will be taken to protect the reputation and privacy of those involved. For more information on the Charter for the Protection of Children / Young People, please visit [drvc.org](http://drvc.org).

## Women's Group...

Fr. Timothy Gallagher's book on The Discernment of Spirits, lists St. Ignatius' 14 rules for discernment, then goes through each rule a chapter at a time, describing how to apply it in our lives. In the ups & downs, consolations and desolations of our spiritual life, we go through times of pure joy to "Where are You Jesus?"



St. Ignatius (1491-1556), recuperating from war wounds was given reading material on the life of Christ & the saints. As he thought about what he read, he became aware of his thought patterns, how the thoughts affected his feelings, and how the good feelings remained with him. When he had worldly thoughts, although he felt good while thinking them, he noticed that afterward the feelings left him empty. He continued reading spiritual books, growing in wisdom. God was leading him, fulfilling His Plan for him to be a great saint & to teach us. God's plan for us is the same, the *process is slow*.

As women who love Jesus, we need & want to learn to recognize Jesus' voice & grow closer to Him. At times we feel inadequate, wondering is this Jesus speaking, me or the enemy? In our group we begin to see we're all equal, with the same problems, emotions, weaknesses, confusion, strengths, desires, fears, doing the best we can, we don't have to be perfect. Jesus consoles us through our love for each other. If you feel desire to come but are fearful, we understand because we've been there & at times still are, so just come as you are, no rules or requirements, you don't have to read or share. We respect the privacy of others, sharing is *anonymous!*

We meet **every other Monday** from 10:00 - 11:30 AM in the IHM room, white house (convent) between school & rectory.

**Dates:** February 5, 26\*,  
March 4, 18, April 8\*, 15, 29,  
May 13, 20\*, June 24 (summer break).

*Dates with \* are makeup dates.*

**Facilitators:** Carol Ketcham, Anita Luccari.

For additional information, please call the rectory office at 631-878-0009 . Or... **just show up!**

## 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, call the rectory office at 631-878-0009.

## 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 2024 by inviting them to attend one of the Masses below for a special blessing.

**Sunday, April 21, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.**

The Cathedral of St. Agnes, Rockville Centre  
Celebrant: Most Reverend Andrzej Zglejszewski  
**Registration must be received by Tuesday, April 16, 2024**

**Sunday, May 5, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.**

Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Patchogue  
Celebrant: Most Reverend Robert J. Coyle  
**Registration must be received by Tuesday, April 30, 2024**

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



The 2024 Sunday's Word books have arrived ...  
A donation of \$5.00 is requested  
but not required.

## Sunday's Word 2024



These books contain all of the Sunday readings as well as the psalm and antiphons for Daily Mass. They can be picked up at the rectory office.

### Important DRVC Information...

Information regarding a new deadline to file proofs of claim for victims of sexual abuse who were over 18 or older when the alleged conduct occurred and the forms to use can be found by clicking on the following link to the Diocese's bankruptcy website and scrolling down the page: <https://dm.epiq11.com/drvc>

### 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? Not only that, our parish receives a part of the advertising commission. 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 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024

- 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
- 7:00-8:00 PM Holy Hour to Pray for Priests - SC
- 7 PM Narcotics Anonymous-Men only - BMR

## Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR
- 3-7 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - SC
- 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR
- 7 PM Divine Will - Front Mtg Rm - Auditorium

## Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR
- 9 AM-12 Noon Thrift Shop Open - Thrift Shop
- 3-5 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - SC

## Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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

## Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR
- 3-7 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - SC
- 7:30 PM Knights of Columbus - Bingo Night - Auditorium
- 7 PM Narcotics Anonymous - BMR
- 7 PM Spanish Prayer Group - SC

## Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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

## Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR

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