

# St. John the Evangelist

Roman Catholic Church



March 10, 2024

## *The Fourth Sunday of Lent*

“Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you”

Psalm 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6



March 10, 2024

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, March 16<sup>th</sup>

5:00 PM - Fr. Gary

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, March 17<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM - Fr. Jerry

10:00 AM - Msgr. Walden

12 noon - Fr. Patrick

6:00 PM - Fr. Gary

\*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 the Director of Faith Formation...

**“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.” ~John 3:16**

We hear one of the most well-known Scripture verses in this week’s Gospel. Perhaps you’ve seen “John 3:16” on posters at sporting events or on a bumper sticker. The depth of “John 3:16” should be a cause for great rejoicing—God’s love knows no limits! It also remind us that even in the Season of Lent we are meant to rejoice. That is what this Sunday—Laetare Sunday—is all about!

We’ve reached the half-way point of Lent. It’s a good time to take a look at how our Lenten observances are going—have we been growing closer to God through our sacrifices or have we been distracted or discouraged? The good news is that, if we have been struggling, there’s still time to get it right! I don’t know about you, but for me sometimes Lent can feel more like a test of willpower as I try to “push through” the penitential season. But God calls us to instead rely on His strength, grace and mercy. Pope Francis recently spoke about this beautifully on social media:

**“Fasting, experienced as a form of self-denial, helps those of us who undertake it in simplicity of heart to rediscover God’s gift and to recognize that, created in His image and likeness, we find our fulfillment in Him.”**

God is “rich in mercy,” as we hear in St. Paul’s Letter to the Ephesians today. And Jesus tells us in today’s Gospel that He did not come to condemn us but to save us. Hopefully this can help us be less critical of others and perhaps be gentler with ourselves when we fall short, knowing God is always there to help us start again, if only we would respond to His invitation. We rejoice because we have a God who loves us beyond measure!

This month in our Faith Formation program, we have been reflecting on God’s love and mercy through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This week, our Level 2 students will receive this Sacrament for the first time! Our Levels 7 and 8 Penance Services also will take place this week, with students and family members given the opportunity to go to confession. (Our Grade 3-6 students and families will be offered the opportunity to go to Reconciliation on April 11).

We were also blessed to welcome Fr. John Crozier, associate vocations director for our diocese, come out to speak to our Level 8 students about vocations and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

During our Family of Faith (Grades 1-6) sessions, parents and students experienced Eucharistic Adoration and learned about different ways to pray with Scripture during Lent. Special thanks to Deacon Michael Hoonhout, who taught our families about the Eucharist and presided at Adoration.

Finally, we have two students seeking full initiation into the Catholic Church through our RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation of Children)



**Fr. John Crozier, associate vocations director for the Diocese of Rockville Centre, spoke to our Level 8 students.**

program. They will be received into the Church at the Easter Vigil - please keep them in your prayers. In addition to our normal classes, our RCIC volunteer Lorraine Hickey has been meeting with them once a month to help them prepare for their Sacraments.

I am deeply grateful to all our volunteers who give witness to our faith and generously dedicate their time in service to our families. Thank you to all our Faith Formation families for making the faith a priority in the lives of your children.



**Our RCIC and RCIA candidates and their families at the Rite of Election at St. Anne’s in Brentwood.**

-Michelle Pirraglia

# Masses for the Week...

## Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> Lenten Weekday

5:00 PM Crescenzo Vigliotta  
7:30 PM Spanish Manuel Huerta

## Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM The Grandparents of Isabel Stevens  
10:00 AM Leokadia Zurawski  
12:00 Noon People of the Parish  
6:00 PM Kristen Bigora

## Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup> Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM Emma Feldman  
12:00 Noon Special Intention-Joan Murphy

## Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM Theresa DeSantis  
12:00 Noon Sally Neuberger

## Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup> Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM Arlene Grossjung  
12:00 Noon James Paulsen

## Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup> Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM Lorraine Theresa Hickey  
12:00 Noon Corinne Christiansen

## Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup> Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM Liz DellaRatta  
12:00 Noon Thomas Spellman

## Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> Lenten Weekday

8:00 AM Joan Pouch  
5:00 PM Jennifer Sciara  
7:30 PM Spanish Special Intention-Kyle and Bryan Stevens

## Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney  
10:00 AM Charles J. Peters  
12:00 Noon Rosemary Curtin  
6:00 PM People of the Parish



**Easter Novena & Mass Remembrance** envelopes are now available at all of the exits of the church. These will be the intentions for all of the Easter Masses. All intentions will remain on the altar throughout the Easter Octave. Please return the envelopes to the rectory before Easter.

## Catholic Relief Services Collection



This weekend, March 9 & 10, our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's love to those most in need. Learn more about the collection at [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief).

PARISH WEEKLY DONATIONS			
Average Weekly from January 1, 2024 to present.			
Year	Total	# of Weeks	Average Weekly
2024	\$172,283	9	\$19,143
2023	\$149,726	9	\$16,636

**2024**  
CATHOLIC  
MINISTRIES  
APPEAL  
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

*Revitalizing our Faith -  
Renewed by the Eucharist*

<i>As of 3/5/2024</i>	2024	2023
Parish Goal	\$115,100.00	\$115,100
Number of Donors	33	44
Total Pledged to date	\$15,250	\$17,660
Avg. Gift	\$462	\$401
Percent of Goal	13%	15%

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!



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.

# Praying For and With One Another

## Remember

Clayton Huey, Robert Allingham,  
Thomas Barnes

*"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, Tony Variale,  
Joseph Stillitano

*"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  
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 March has been donated:

*In Memory of Liz DellaRatta*

This week, the Sacred Heart Candle will be lit:

*In Memory of Kelin Calabria*

*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.**



SJE Parish Social Ministry

# Easter

# Sponsor-a-Family



Our parish is so generous and so good during the times of Christmas and Thanksgiving. How can we not reach out to our sisters and brothers in need during the greatest feast of the years.

## Here is how it works!

We ask you and your family to consider sponsoring a family for an Easter Meal as well as a family Easter basket. We will have family information; including number of children, coming in over the next few weeks. Please also include a prayer or some other religious Easter article.

Consider what you might like to have for an Easter dinner and prepare that for a family in need. We ask you to drop off your donations in reusable shopping bags, or a box and we will take care of it from there.

To prepare the baskets, we need help the following dates and times

Saturday, March 23rd	8:00am to 9:00am	Prepare Baskets
Saturday, March 23rd	8:45am to noon	Basket Distribution

Please complete the form below and drop in the collection basket or email it to [Easter@SJEcm.org](mailto:Easter@SJEcm.org) BEFORE March 16th

- Yes! We can help to sponsor a family of (circle one) 2, 4, 6 or more for Easter!
- Yes! I can help with set up on Saturday March 23rd at 8:00 am
- Yes! I can help with basket Distribution Saturday, March 23rd 8:45 am
- I can not help on campus this year, please accept the following donation.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Best Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Please respond by March 16





March 10, 2024



Our Lady Queen of Apostles  
Regional Catholic School

# ADMISSION OPEN FOR **2024-25** Academic Year

## ABOUT US...

- Grounded in our Catholic Faith & Service
- Small, Individualized Educational Program
- Special Education Program
- Before & After Care
- Financial Aid

AND MORE...



Want to learn more?  
Visit our website:  
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a Tour!**



**Scan the  
QR Code**



**631-878-1033**



**2 St. John's Place  
Center Moriches, NY 11934**



# Faith Formation

Phone: 631-878-0009, ext. 5

[faithformation@sjecm.org](mailto:faithformation@sjecm.org) [mpirraglia@sjecm.org](mailto:mpirraglia@sjecm.org)

Office Hours: By Appointment Only

## Confirmation Preparation (Levels 7 & 8)

We were blessed to welcome Fr. John Crozier, associate vocations director for the Diocese of Rockville Centre, who spoke to our Level 8 students about Vocations and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

### Parent/Student Reconciliation Services:

Level 7: Monday, March 11 @ 7:15PM

Level 8: Tuesday, March 12 @ 7:15 PM



### Family of Faith (Grades 1-6)

Our Level 2 students prepared for the Sacrament of Reconciliation at a special event last week, with Msgr. Walden, Michelle Pirraglia and Carolyn Lapham leading the session.

### Next Sessions:

Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> and Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 5PM or 7 PM in the Church





# Family Ministry

**A special thanks to Family Life Ministry and to all who attended our Lenten Soup Supper.**

It was a beautiful (and delicious!) evening for all. Msgr. Walden gave a heartfelt blessing and then everyone enjoyed a variety of homemade soups and delicious dinner rolls. Following the meal, we went outside to pray the Stations of the Cross in the Prayer Garden. The older children lead us in prayer while the young children attentively listened and shone their flashlights on each station. When our prayer concluded, we went back inside for some hot chocolate and a simple dessert. It was truly a gift to all.

**Our next Lenten Soup Supper is March 22 at 6:00 PM in the school cafeteria. Please join us.**

There is no charge and nothing to bring. Just come, enjoy and pray.



There are still two weeks left of this beautiful season of Lent. Here at St. John's, we are offering many opportunities to pray, to fast, to give, to serve. We invite you to make the following events part of your family's Lenten journey.



### 3/10 Sandwich Sunday

**Sandwich Sunday is TODAY at 11:00 in the school cafeteria.** Come make sandwiches to feed the hungry!



### 3/26 Moms on the Journey

7:00 PM Upper Room of the Barn. Come enjoy a simple meal, read scripture and share a Lenten reflection with other busy moms. Step away from the busyness of life and spend the evening with Jesus and your sisters in faith during this most holy week.



### 3/22 Soup Supper

6:00 PM in the school cafeteria. Come enjoy a simple Lenten meal including a variety of meatless soups and bread. After the meal, all are invited to pray the outdoor Stations of the Cross in the prayer garden (weather permitting).



### 3/28 Holy Thursday Family Prayer Service

4:30 PM in the church. Come experience the beauty of Holy Thursday through a prayer service designed for the families of our parish.



### 3/24 Palm Sunday Egg Hunt

After the 10:00 Mass, our parish children will search for candy-filled eggs on the Great Lawn. Bring your baskets.



### 3/29 Good Friday Family Prayer Service

12:00 noon in the church. Come and experience the Passion of Christ as presented through the eyes of those who were there.



# 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.

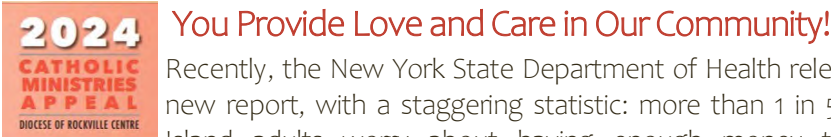
## Ernie's Place

Here is a list of items we will be collecting to help fill our Easter baskets. These items can be left at the doors of the church or at the bin, outside of Ernie’s Place.

### Pantry Shopping List

- Pancake Mix
- Pancake Syrup
- Pasta
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Corn
- Mashed Potatoes
- Cake Mix Icing
- Biscuit Mix
- Canned Pineapple
- Easter Chocolate
- Peeps
- Jelly Beans

## CMA Spotlight...



Recently, the New York State Department of Health released a new report, with a staggering statistic: more than 1 in 5 Long Island adults worry about having enough money to buy nutritious meals. And while it is heartbreaking that so many of our neighbors worry about the cost of food, the reality is that food is only one piece of the puzzle for someone struggling to make ends meet.



The excessive cost of housing, heating costs, especially during this extremely chilly winter, gas prices, and healthcare costs also add a heavy burden on a family’s budget. It is certainly challenging to live on Long Island. Many families turn to our Parish Social Ministries to supplement their source of food and for relief to some expenses for their families. The PSM is a partnership between Catholic Charities and the parishes in our Long Island faith community. The ministry is rooted in the gifts of the people of God, enabling those within the parish community to receive spiritual nourishment by serving and supporting those in need. These PSM operate robust and incredibly active programs.


We recently spoke with Katie Spellman, Coordinator of the PSM of St. John the Evangelist, Center Moriches. Here is what she shared about the program at this parish. “We provide services across many avenues. We started with a food pantry in the 70s, and then a thrift shop. We are always looking to add programs. We have a Street Ministry that goes to the railroad station in Shirley serving folks on the street with hot meals, and clothing. There is a community of people who come for the welcome and love that volunteers share. We have a Chicken Ministry, so we get fresh eggs for the food pantry. The Garden Ministry, known as Heaven’s Harvest grows tomatoes and green, eggplant and cucumber beans, radishes, and summer squash. The plants all started as seedlings and the harvest will go into early October.

We have a monthly community hot meal dinner; volunteers make meals at home and people come to share this meal. This builds community and hospitality by bringing people together and allows volunteers to share talents in different ways.

The needs have grown immensely in the last year, there has been a continual need for food. The increase was so great that we had to tighten our parameters to have food for everyone. In the pantry, clients can serve themselves to get exactly what they want. We can never have enough food. One night we served 37 families in one hour. With the high price of food, the needs in the community are growing especially in our Spanish community so we try to get bilingual volunteers to help these families.

To hear more about this program, go the parish website [SJECM.ORG](http://SJECM.ORG)

If you or anyone you know needs assistance, please seek out the assistance of your local Parish Social Ministry.



Eucharistic Adoration is the most necessary mission in the Church, which has even more need of prayerful souls, then of powerful preachers, or men of eloquence. ~Saint Peter Julian Eymard

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.

**What is FASTING?**  
The **limitation** of food and drink – typically to one main meal and two smaller meals, with no solid foods in between  
*But remember to drink enough fluids!*

**When do we fast?**  
Ash Wednesday & Good Friday\*

\*Paschal Fast: Good Friday and Holy Saturday are days of prayer and quiet reflection. We honour the suffering and death of Jesus and prepare to share in the joy of his resurrection at Easter.

**What is ABSTINENCE?**  
**Avoiding** certain kinds of food or drink, typically meat or other desirable foods

**When do we abstain?**  
Catholics are obliged to abstain from **meat every Friday** throughout the year (except solemn feast days)

**TIP: Instead of abstaining, you may substitute special acts of charity or piety on Fridays**

**Why fast?**  
It helps us to **pray better**: an empty stomach can lead to more attentive prayer

**Why abstain on Fridays?**  
It's the **day of Christ's saving death** on the cross; we abstain to share in His work of saving the world

**Who has to fast?**  
Catholics aged 18 to 60  
Those with impaired health should not fast in any way.

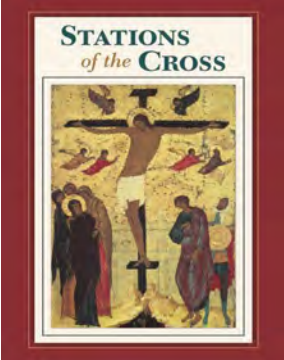
**Who has to abstain?**  
Catholics aged 14 and older

**ALL ABOUT Fasting & Abstinence**

**During Lent, the money we save on food while fasting and abstaining should be given to others in alms**

SOURCE: \*Keeping Friday\* and \*Living Lent\* from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops www.cccb.ca

## Stations of the Cross



We invite you to join us for the Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 7:00 PM in the church, and Stations in Spanish at 8:00 PM.

*It is a beautiful opportunity for prayer and reflection on the great sacrifice Jesus made for humanity.*



# A Message from Msgr. Walden...



There are two very different ways to understand the concept of seeing through another person. Negatively, it means seeing that their words and actions are not in sync. They say one thing but believe another or live in contradiction to what they say. Out of fear of controversy or non-acceptance, they say what makes them acceptable. Positively seeing through another person means learning or seeing what we did not see before or totally understand.

In the Gospel for today's Mass that is optional to use (John 9:1-41), we have the account of Jesus healing a man who was born blind. As wonderful and awesome that miracle was, the religious leaders who did not accept Jesus tried to discredit Him. They questioned the man himself and his parents. They assured the religious leaders that he was born blind. Then they tried to discredit Jesus by saying He did it on a Sabbath, a day when no "work" is allowed. What becomes clearer and clearer in their displeasure, non-acceptance, or rejection of Jesus is how they missed the miraculous power of God to not only cure blindness and be present in their very midst.

Jesus communicated the love and goodness of God in all He said and did. To take His presence and words to heart is to find peace, hope, truth, and love that is the center and core of who we are. The way people speak to us and treat us reveals what they think of us. What I find particularly disturbing in our nation at this time is the attitude of politicians and those who support them, and what that shows about how they see us.

Under the Biden administration, there is absolute promotion and defense of abortion. What is that saying about us? It says we are not capable of controlling our sexual appetite or taking responsibility for the consequences of our sexual activity. That is compounded by the legality of an unbelievable onslaught of pornography readily accessible through the internet, through our phones, wherever we are. The phrase that is at times attributed to Marie Antoinette when told the peasants have no bread, "let them eat cake" is now, "Do what you want sexually and we will help free you of any responsibility because of your actions." Sexuality is a gift from God. When used in the context of marriage between a man and a woman, it expresses love, bonds them ever closer, and opens the

possibility for a new life. We are all the result of that act. Thank you, mom and dad! To vote for and support such politicians as we have in office now is to enable them to promote what is morally detrimental, harmful and, in the end, sinful.

There was big controversy when President Biden wanted to fund abortions for those in our military. How ironic to provide those who commit themselves to putting their lives on the line to defend us to enable them to take the lives of the innocent they have brought into being!

The other sexual issue that is pushed into our faces is the promotion of same sex marriage and the option of enabling young people to be surgically transformed from male to female or female to male. In the end, they wind up neither. How sad to read accounts of young people who recognize they made a mistake. Same sex attraction is a reality. How to live with that in a healthy and peaceful way is not easy. We as a Church do not condemn these people. They are sons and daughters, brothers and sisters. As the Church, we have two very helpful ministries for those with same sex attraction and their families. COURAGE is a group that meets with same sex attracted people and works with them to get beyond sexual activity. Abstaining is not easy, but is there any other way inner peace? We also have ENCOURAGE, which is a ministry that meets with families of those who are struggling with same sex sexual activity. You can get more information about these organizations by going on the internet. You can also see a very good presentation of three people who have struggled with same sex attraction by watching on the internet the film: "Desire of the Everlasting Hills."

Yes, we are human being who are sexual beings. How we choose to live enables us and others to see through us in the best and in the worst sense possible.

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.



March 10, 2024



# St. Patrick's Dinner Dance

Honoring SJE Faith Formation Leaders

*Suzan Fitzpatrick*, Former DRE  
and

*Michelle Pirraglia*, Current DRE

**Saturday, March 16th**

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

**\$30 per person**

Bring your own adult beverage

**STARTS AT 7 PM**

For Tickets- Call: George 631-786-1459  
or Bill 516-458-6448

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313 Frowein Rd. Center Moriches  
Queen of All Hearts Knights of Columbus



Queen of All Hearts Council 4126

# Palm Sunday

## Pancake Breakfast

Pancakes, Sausage,  
Coffee, Tea & Juice

### March 24th

SJE Parish Auditorium

After the 10am Mass



Knights of Columbus  
Queen of All Hearts Council #4126

## FRIDAY NIGHT'S

Doors Open at 6:30 PM  
Games Begin at 7:30 PM

### \$ 3000 IN PRIZES

For more information  
[kofc4126.com](http://kofc4126.com)



# 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](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!



## Estaciones de la Cruz

Te invitamos a unirte a nosotros para el Vía

Crucis todos los viernes durante la

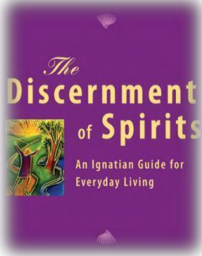
Cuaresma a las 8:00 p. m. en la iglesia.

Es una hermosa oportunidad para la oración y reflexión sobre el gran sacrificio que Jesús hizo por la humanidad.



# 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: March 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 [drvc-faith.org](http://drvc-faith.org)

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







### 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, March 11<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, March 12<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, March 13<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, March 14<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, March 15<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, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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

## Sunday, March 17<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