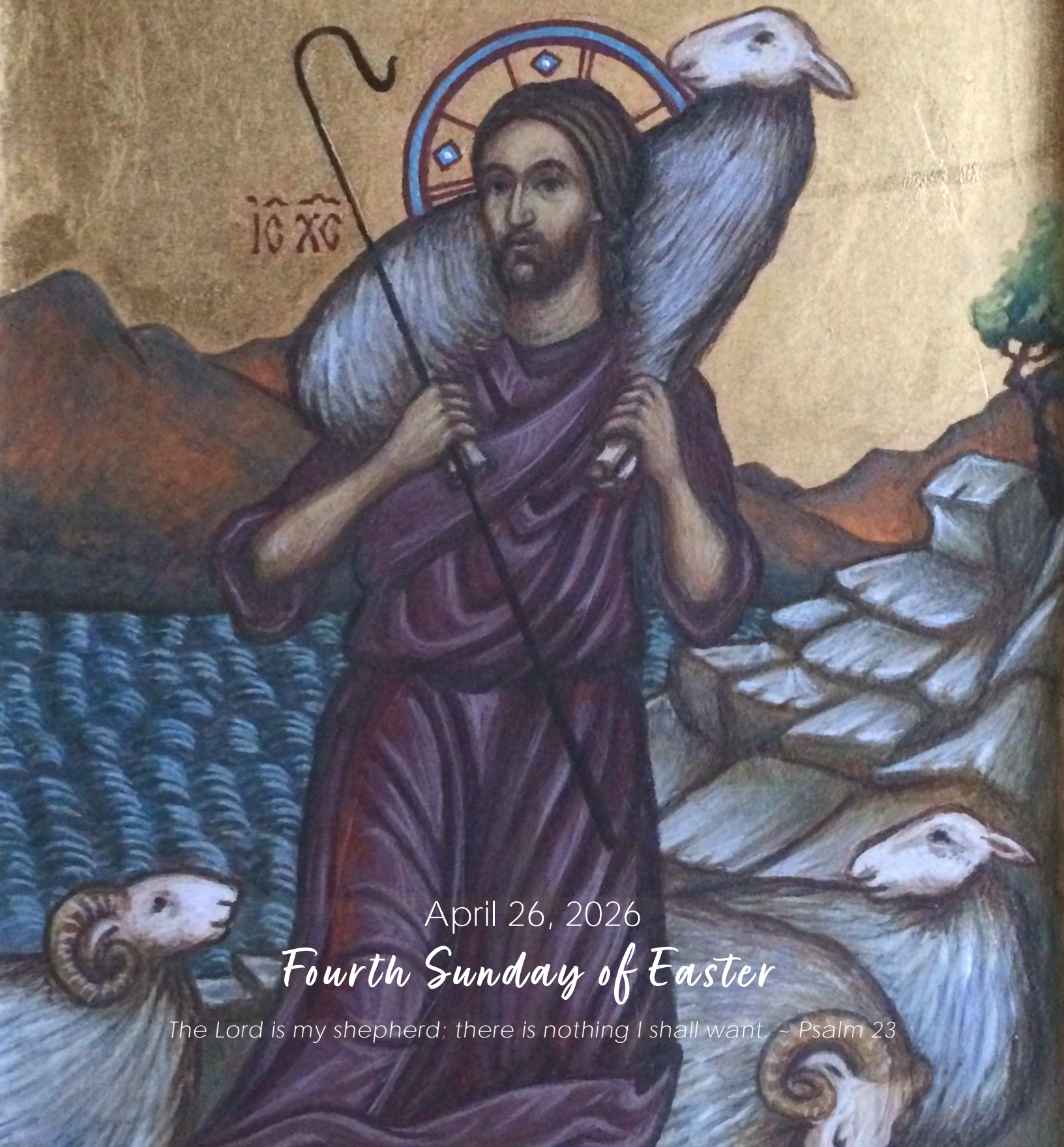


St. John the Evangelist

THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Roman Catholic Church



April 26, 2026

Fourth Sunday of Easter

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. ~ Psalm 23



April 26, 2026

25 Ocean Avenue, Center Moriches, New York, 11934-3968
631-878-0009 | rectory@sjecm.org

OUR PARISH MISSION

Inspired by our Patron, St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church in Center Moriches seeks to bring the light of Christ to a world in need, so that as Christ has done, we may also do. From the celebration of the Eucharist, we are sent forth to serve God and neighbor through ministries of formation, education and outreach.

-Mission Statement

Church Hours

Monday through Friday 6:30 AM - 2:45 PM
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
in Seton Chapel (Convent)
Monday through Friday
3:00 - 7:00 PM

Next Weekend's Schedule

Saturday, May 2nd
5:00 PM - Msgr. Walden
7:30 PM (Spanish) - Fr. Charlince
(Saturday Evening 5 PM Mass will be livestreamed.)

Sunday, May 3rd
8:00 AM - Msgr. Walden
10:00 AM - Fr. Francis
12 noon - Fr. Jerry
6:00 PM - Fr. Patrick

*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

Heather Crayne
Director of Parish Social Ministry

Carolyn Lapham
Director of Family Ministries

Michelle Pirraglia
Director of Faith Formation

Angela Werner
Director of Music Ministry

OLQA

Our Lady Queen of Apostles
Regional Catholic School (on the campus of SJE)
2 St. John Place
Center Moriches, NY 631.878.1033 (ext. 201)
www.olqany.org

Dawn Waller, Principal
dwall@olqany.org

Office Hours

Office Hours

Monday: 9 AM - 3:00 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.

Mass Schedule

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 our Pastor, Fr. Patrick...

4th Sunday of Easter ~ Good Shepherd Sunday



We know from the scriptures alone that we can refer to Jesus in so many different ways. It is clear in all the four gospels that Jesus identifies Himself through words and images that we can easily identify with. Images that are uplifting and reassuring—images that really define who He is. For example, Jesus says in John's Gospel chapter 8:12 that He is the Light of the World. He goes on to say elsewhere, that He is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. He is the Living Bread, the Bread of Life. He proclaims to the world, "I am the Resurrection and the Life. I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, whoever believes in Me and remains in Me will live forever!" He also identifies Himself as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. He makes it clear in so many ways that He is our hope and joy in this ever-changing world. He alone has the words of everlasting life. In Matthew's Gospel, chapter 11, Jesus says, "Come to me all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me because I am meek and humble of heart, and you will find rest."

Yet as comforting and as important as these sayings and images are, probably the most comforting image that we can refer to Jesus with is the image of the Good Shepherd. He says in John's Gospel chapter 10, "I am the Good Shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep...my sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish." Here in John's Gospel, Jesus reassures us that He and the Father are one. Together they bring us eternal life. Like a good shepherd who tends to his sheep, Jesus is the one who laid down His life for us so that we can have eternal life. He prepared the way for eternity! If we hear His voice and harden not our hearts, we too can be led to green pastures, life everlasting. We too can live in full communion with God and with one another with Jesus as our Supreme and Eternal Shepherd.

It is clear from today's gospel all we have to do to attain eternal life is to hear His voice—the voice of the Good Shepherd who loved us to the very end, and who lives and remains forever in communion with God. It is up to us to follow Jesus—to walk in the newness of life with our Risen Lord. It is up to us to stay close to Jesus because He alone has the words of everlasting life. He alone can satisfy our hungry hearts. He leads us to new life whenever we hear His voice.

For the early church, during the era of great persecution, the early Christians relied on this image, the image of the Good Shepherd more than anything else. For them, it brought them great hope and comfort. What inspired them the most in persevering

in their faith was not the crucified Christ. Instead, it was the image of the Good Shepherd—that gentle image that reassured them of God's embracing love through Jesus. For us today, it is the crucified Lord that surpasses all images of Christ that brings us great hope and one that we adore in our churches. Yet, back in the early church, when so many Christians were being crucified for their faith, the Good Shepherd was the image they wanted to see. For them, the image of the crucified Lord hanging from the cross was the furthest from their mind because it only reminded them of their own pain and suffering from the authorities trying to suppress Christianity.

Down in the Catacombs in Rome, Italy, the main image one sees engraved in stone, where so many gathered to worship for liturgy in hiding, is the image of the Good Shepherd. No wonder this image was venerated the most in the early church, because of the reassurance it brought so many people who were enduring great hardships in the public forum for their faith and love for Jesus. It reminded them how much God loved them and how much God wanted to embrace them for their faith and trust in the lordship of Christ.

There is no question how relevant this image of the Good Shepherd is for us today. We too have our own hardships and fears to deal with. Most images, if not all images of the Good Shepherd bring us great comfort because it captures for us and sums up for us the great and tender love that Jesus has for us and for all of humanity. It illustrates for us kind of love that God has for us when we listen attentively to His voice and respond faithfully to His commands. The image of the Good Shepherd captures the level of compassion and concern that our Lord has for His flock of all ages—that He comes to lift us up and raises us to new life. His love for us is all embracing and everlasting.

This simple image shows us the pathway to happiness, to new and eternal life. It brings us peace of mind and forgiveness of the heart. It reassures us of God's presence in our lives. This image of the Good Shepherd brings us new hope. It captures for us the true meaning of Easter—that Jesus is alive and truly risen! This sacred image reassures us that Jesus is among us to show us the way to all truth and understanding. The iconic image of the Good Shepherd says it all. It reminds us just how special we are in relationship to Christ and of God's all-embracing love for humanity!

Masses for the Week...

Saturday, April 25th Saint Mark, Evangelist

- 8:00 AM Steve Poulos
- 5:00 PM David DeRhodo
- 7:30 PM (Spanish) People of the Parish

Sunday, April 26th Fourth Sunday of Easter

- 8:00 AM Avelino Manuel Goncalves
- 10:00 AM Myrna Stabile
- 12:00 Noon Verna Sikora
- 6:00 PM Carol Dale

Monday, April 27th Easter Weekday

- 7:00 AM Sharon Palagonia
- 12:00 Noon Mary Ann Healy

Tuesday, April 28th Easter Weekday

- 7:00 AM Emma Feldman
- 12:00 PM Marta Montufar

Wednesday, April 29th Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin & Doctor of the Church

- 7:00 AM Phyllis Kober
- 12:00 Noon Patrick Rooney

Thursday, April 30th Easter Weekday

- 7:00 AM Special Intention-Ava Stevens
- 12:00 Noon James Paulsen

Friday, May 1st St. Joseph the Worker

- 7:00 AM Kevin Kret
- 11:00 AM** Dolores O'Brien

Saturday, May 2nd St. Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

- 8:00 AM Vivien Cordeiro
- 5:00 PM David Cruz
- 7:30 PM (Spanish) People of the Parish

Sunday, May 3rd Fifth Sunday of Easter

- 8:00 AM Gaetano Lupo
- 10:00 AM Salvatore A. Buscemi
- 12:00 Noon Brian and Virginia Hayden
- 6:00 PM William Hope



Mother's Day Novena envelopes are available at the exits of the Church for our nine-day Novena of prayer. Entrusting our intentions to the loving intercession of the Blessed Mother, we will remember all mothers, both living and deceased.

Kindly return your envelope to the Rectory Office on or before Thursday, **May 7th**, so that your intentions may be included.



Easter Appeal

Please join in supporting our **Annual Easter Appeal**. We rely on your generosity to continue the mission of the Church here at St. John the Evangelist. We as a parish provide many ministries and services to our community including the food pantry and Street Ministry. Have a blessed Easter Season!

EASTER DONATIONS		
Year	Total	As of
2026	\$61,483	to date
2025	\$58,605	Final

PARISH WEEKLY DONATIONS			
Average Weekly from January 1, 2026 to present.			
Year	Total	# of Weeks	Average Weekly
2026	\$282,600	16	\$17,662
2025	\$278,443	16	\$17,403



As of 4/21/2026	2026	2025
New Parish Goal	\$120,855	\$115,100
Number of Donors	113	130
Total Pledged to date	\$53,285	\$61,845
Percent of Goal	44%	54%

Supporting the CMA helps to support SJE! We receive back 20% of whatever is raised below the goal. If we go above the goal, we also receive 80% of all monies that are raised above the goal!

Please help us go above the goal!



HELP US TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Every year through the support and commitment of individuals and organizations, we are able to serve more than 600,000 people in our Long Island community. The Catholic Ministries Appeal enables our Church to continue to form our youth and adults in the faith, promote the dignity of life, provide quality education to our young people, feed the hungry, and foster vocations to the priesthood. Your generosity helps to make all of this, and so much more, possible!

Thank you for your support.

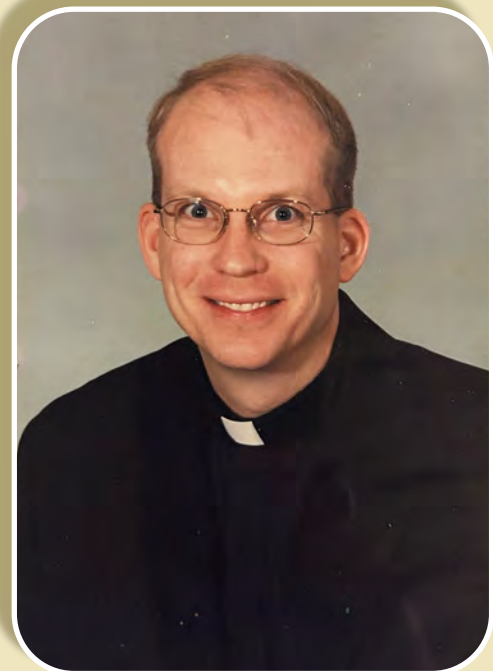
*Please join us as we celebrate
25 years of priesthood
for our pastor,*

Fr. Patrick

*Mass of Thanksgiving
Sunday, June 7, 2026
at 12 Noon, In the church*

*Reception and Jubilee Blessings to
follow in the Parish Auditorium.*

*Together, let us celebrate this joyful
occasion with grateful hearts for
twenty-five years of faithful service,
spiritual leadership and devoted ministry.*



Ordination: June 9, 2001

April 26, 2026

Prayers for the Faithful Departed of Our Parish

Please keep in your prayers the following parishioners and loved ones who have recently passed away

Patricia Melillo + Laura McNeil
Josephine Diane Arroyo Rivera
Roseanne Grace Fanelli

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them

Prayers for the Sick of Our Parish

We ask God's healing presence and loving care for our parishioners and loved ones who are ill.

May the Lord grant them comfort, strength, and healing:

Fr. Peter D'Abele	James Patrick Lapham
Charles McIntosh	Diane Valero
Bill Hasper	Linda Slater
Mark Havens	

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.

Prayer and Remembrance

At SJE, we offer parishioners many ways to remember loved ones or honor someone living through the offering of votive and altar candles, as well as altar bread and wine. These offerings create a visible sign of prayer and devotion while supporting the life of our parish.

Votive candles illuminate the beautiful statues throughout our church, including the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph, St. Teresa, St. Gerard Majella, and the Sacred Heart of Jesus. As these candles burn, they bring light to our sacred space and invite quiet reflection, inspiring deeper moments of prayer and trust in God.

Both **votive candles** and **altar candles** may be offered for **\$25 per week**. Altar bread and wine may be offered for **\$250 per month**. The names of those remembered or honored through these offerings will be listed in the parish bulletin during the month.

To make an offering, please visit or contact the Parish Office at **631.878.0009** or email rectory@sjecm.org. May these candles be a sign of hope, remembrance, and prayer for all who gather in our church.

Altar Bread & Wine Intentions

For the month of **April**, the altar bread and wine are offered for the repose of the soul of:

Eileen Mary DeRicco

Altar Bread & Wine Intentions

For the month of **May**, the altar bread and wine are offered for the repose of the soul of:

Robert Dunn

Sanctuary Candle Intention

This week's sanctuary candle is offered in prayer for:

James Patrick Lapham

May the light of this candle be a sign of our prayers, asking God's blessing, protection, and peace.



Senior Luncheon

Our Lady Queen of Apostles
Mission Middle School Academy
invites you to an afternoon celebrating
the wisdom of our senior citizens

Friday, May 1, 2026

Mass at 11AM at St. John the Evangelist Church followed
by lunch and activities in the school auditorium as we
celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker.

email ghalversen@olqany.org or call 631-878-1033
to rsvp by Friday, April 24th
25 Ocean Ave, Center Moriches
(No children are permitted to the luncheon)

WHAT'S THE MISSION?

The Mission Middle School Academy at Our Lady Queen of Apostles School was established in 2018. This innovative approach to middle school education challenges students to academic excellence in the context of a faith filled environment. Steeped in respect and dignity of the human person, students are given a strong foundation to excel as leaders and missionary disciples in high school, college, and beyond.

We pray for our Service Members

We honor and remember the following men and women for their service, dedication, and sacrifice.

Lord, hold our troops in Your loving care. Protect and bless them and their families for their selfless service. We give thanks for all veterans and pray for those currently serving at home and abroad.



If you would like a loved one to be remembered in our **Military Prayer List**, please call the rectory at **631.878.0009** or email rectory@sjecm.org. We will lift their intentions to God, asking for protection, strength, and peace for all who serve and their families.

United States Army

Monaghan, Justin — Private Second Class

Smith, David — Private First Class

Valentin, Steven — Private First Class

Williams, Cara — Private

United States Marine Corps

Abbatiello, Michael — Lance Corporal

Berkemeyer, Evan — Lance Corporal

Brady, Sean — Private First Class

Casey, Sean — Sergeant

Cestare, Joseph — Sergeant

Deshler II, Kevin W. — Corporal

Montemarano, Quentin — Sergeant

O'Neill, Aidan — Second Lieutenant

Toscanini, Kyle — Private First Class

Walther, Christopher — Second Lieutenant

United States Navy

Casey, Andrew R. — Engineman Third Class

Esposito Jr., Christopher J. — Machinist's Mate Nuclear First Class

Montoya Rivera, Angel Gabriel — Electronics Technician Seaman

Nolan Jr., Jeremiah — Electronics Technician Second Class

Paduana, Michael — Seaman

Raeihle, Christian — Seaman

Ruggiero, Ralph J. — Ensign

Taylor III, Thomas — Seaman Apprentice

Walsh, Jack Patrick — Seaman

United States Air Force

Auciello, Anthony — Senior Airman

Casey, Andrew R. — Technical Sergeant

Giese, David — Technical Sergeant

Hayes, Brenden M. — Airman First Class

Hermes, Jason — Technical Sergeant

Hermes, Sabrina — Technical Sergeant

Kerstiens, Claudia — Staff Sergeant

Kerstiens, Kyle — Staff Sergeant

Kerstiens, Ryan — Staff Sergeant

Kerstiens, Timothy — Technical Sergeant

McCauley II, William E. — Staff Sergeant

McGrath, Claire — First Lieutenant

Pfister, James — Airman First Class

Rosato, Jared T. — Senior Airman

Sferrazza, Salvatore — Lieutenant Colonel

Traina, Peter A. — Airman First Class

United States Coast Guard

Bernath, Brendan J. — Boatswain's Mate Third Class

Donohue, Keith — Captain



A Patriotic Rosary for Our Nation

1776
250th Anniversary
2026

Join us as we come together in faith and gratitude to celebrate the 250th anniversary of our country (1776-2026) on the First of July with a special Patriotic Rosary.

As a parish family, we will lift our hearts in prayer for our nation giving thanks for the blessings of freedom, remembering those who have sacrificed for it, and entrusting the future of our country to God's providence. Through the intercession of Our Blessed Mother, we will pray for unity, peace, and a renewed commitment to live out the Gospel in our land.

One Nation Under God. God Bless America.

All are invited to take part in this meaningful and prayerful celebration of faith and country.

If you would like to assist in planning or participating in this special event, please contact the Rectory at rectory@sjecm.org.

More details to follow.

OUR LADY QUEEN OF APOSTLES PRESENTS



THE LITTLE
MERMAID
Jr.

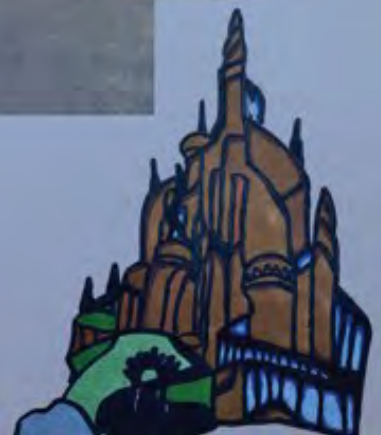


TICKETS:
\$10 - ADULTS
\$5 - CHILDREN

TICKETS
AVAILABLE
APRIL 13TH-
APRIL 30TH
IF NOT SOLD OUT

2 ST. JOHN'S PLACE
CENTER MORICHES,
NY 11934
(631)878-1033

JOIN US
UNDER THE SEA
ON MAY 8TH 6PM
AND MAY 9TH 1PM



OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

Phone: 631-878-0009, ext. 5
Website: <https://sjecmff.blogspot.com/>
faithformation@sjecm.org / mpirraglia@sjecm.org
Office Hours: By Appointment Only



First Graders / New Students: Registration Begins In JUNE

St. John the Evangelist's Religious Education program serves our parish youth, beginning in First Grade, and their families as they grow in faith and prepare for the Sacraments. Registration for the 2026-27 academic year will begin in mid-June. Those who are entering Grade 1, as well as those with children who may not have been in religious education for awhile, are welcome to register this June. A new online registration form for the 2026-27 academic year will be posted. Keep an eye on the bulletin and our Social Media for exact dates!



2025-26 FAITH FORMATION UPCOMING EVENTS

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

LEVEL 7 (Confirmation Prep Year 1):

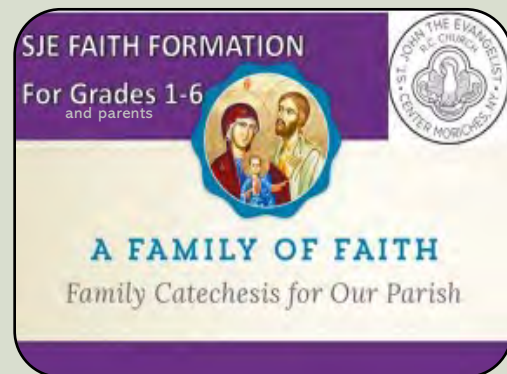
Sponsor/Candidate Night

Monday, June 1 at 7:00 PM in the Church

LEVEL 8 (Confirmation Prep Year 2):

Fall 2026 Confirmation Prep & Sacrament Dates

TBA by Summer 2026



- Tuesday, May 7 & Thursday, May 12 at 5 PM ONLY (no 7 PM session) in the Church



Get ready for an
unforgettable
adventure!

Join us AS We Journey Deep into the
Heart of the Rainforest, where Roaring
Waterfalls, Wild Creatures, and God's
Amazing Love come to Life!

July 13 – July 17, 2026

For Children entering Kindergarten
through Grade 5 (September 2026)

Visit the Parish website or scan the QR code below to register.
Registration is limited and will close on May 31st or when all
spots are filled, so don't wait, come join the adventure at
Rainforest Falls before the trail fills up!



CAMPER QR CODE



**Come explore
RainForest
Falls—where
faith grows wild!**



VOLUNTEER QR CODE



PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

PSM Office 631.878.0009 ext. 120

Email: socialministry@SJECm.org

THRIFT SHOP

Our shop is open every Wednesday from 9 AM - 12 PM. We feature new and gently used clothing, housewares, toys and more at fantastic prices. Please visit and find an amazing gift for someone or something special for yourself! The proceeds are used to support SJE parish social ministry outreach programs benefiting those in need.

At this time, we are especially appreciative of any jewelry donations. Monday or Tuesday mornings are the best time to donate directly to the shop. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you!



Are you interested in volunteering for any of our ministries? Join amazing people giving of their to help those in need! All you need is your SJE issued volunteer badge, please call the PSM office to get started. Currently we are in great need of help in our vegetable Garden Ministry, weeding and harvesting starting in May. Thank you for your consideration!

A huge thank you to Scout Troop 414 for the food drive they held benefitting Ernie's Place food pantry last Saturday! We are grateful for the food, diapers, toiletries, and gift cards they brought to help families who are fighting food insecurity. We are blessed to have their help and for all the donations.

Our Community Meal is being held Monday 4/27 at 6 PM in the Parish Auditorium. Are you able to cook, serve, clean up or pray for us? Do you know of a family in need that you could invite? It is a beautiful time shared feeding the less fortunate in our community.

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!



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. Our donation bin is located in Fellowship Hall at the entrance of Church. If you'd like to be a part of our Street Ministry team or help sort and organize donations, we'd love to have you to join us! Please call the Parish Social Ministry office to get started.



Street Ministry donations requested:

- ♥ Face/Washcloths
- ♥ Feminine hygiene products
- ♥ Men's and Women's new underwear
- ♥ Men's and Women's new tube socks
- ♥ Single razors and small shaving cream
- ♥ Travel size shampoo and small bar soap



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.

A photograph of a garden scene. In the foreground, a shovel with a wooden handle and a metal blade is stuck into the soil. To the right, there are several potted plants, including a large grey pot with a green plant, a smaller terracotta pot with a green plant, and a black pot with purple flowers. The background shows more greenery and flowers.

Join SJE Holy
Grounds Ministry



HELP US GROW

It's time to kick off another beautiful season with the SJE Holy Grounds Ministry!

Thank you to all who poured so much love, time, and care into our parish gardens last year. The church grounds looked absolutely stunning — a true testament to your dedication and stewardship.

Once again, we're inviting families, ministries, individuals, and friends to take part in this joyful work by planting and maintaining a small area of our parish grounds. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just looking for a simple, meaningful way to serve, we welcome you!

As we begin assigning garden spots, please remember:

- If you cared for a spot last year and would like to keep it, you must contact us to confirm before beginning any planting.
- If you're new or would like to take over a garden area, we'd love to hear from you.
- All volunteers must contact the parish office or email garden@sjecm.org before doing any planting.

This helps us assign areas properly and ensure the whole parish is beautifully cared for.

Let's grow something beautiful together — in faith, in service, and in love for our parish home.



Discover OUR LADY QUEEN OF APOSTLES SCHOOL



ADMISSION OPEN NOW!

2026-27 ACADEMIC YEAR



One Journey Through Faith and Education

Pre-K - 8th Grade

Our Lady Queen of Apostles School is a faith-based school where children grow academically, spiritually, and socially.



Visit us and see what makes our school community so amazing!



631-878-1033



olqany.org



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

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

- Five First Saturdays
- Make a good Confession to be in a state of grace.
- Receive Holy Communion with the intention of Reparation for the sins against the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The Communion of Reparation is the central act in making the Five First Saturdays.
- Pray the five decades of the Rosary with the intention of Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.
- Keep Jesus and Mary company for 15 minutes while meditating on one or more mysteries of the Rosary.

Who Can Be a Godparent? A Simple Guide—and an Invitation

Being asked to serve as a **godparent** (or **sponsor**) is a beautiful honor in the life of the Church. It means you are being entrusted with helping someone grow in faith—not just on the day of Baptism or Confirmation, but for a lifetime. Because of this sacred responsibility, the Church asks that sponsors meet a few important requirements. These aren't meant to exclude, but to ensure that those who stand as witnesses are ready to truly live and share the faith.

You may hear this described as part of *Canon Law*. That might sound a little intimidating—but don't worry, it's not as complicated as it sounds! Canon Law is simply the Church's way of keeping things ordered and meaningful—think of it as a guidebook that helps us live our faith well and care for one another in the right way.

According to the Church's law, a sponsor must:

- Be at least 16 years old
- Be a **Baptized Catholic** who has received **First Holy Communion** and **Confirmation**
- Be living a life in harmony with the faith and the role they are taking on
- If married, be **married in the Catholic Church**
- Not be the parent of the person being baptized or confirmed

At first glance, this may feel like a high bar—but it's really an invitation. The Church wants sponsors who can confidently say, *"Yes, I strive to live what I believe."*

If you find that you don't meet one or more of these requirements right now, please don't be discouraged. There are simple and welcoming ways to "make things right," and we are here to walk with you every step of the way.

Missing Confirmation? If you are a baptized Catholic who has not yet been confirmed, our parish offers Adult Confirmation classes. A new session will begin right after Easter—this is a wonderful opportunity to complete your sacraments and deepen your faith.

Married outside the Church? If your marriage was not celebrated in the Catholic Church, it can be "convalidated" (recognized by the Church). This process is often simpler than people expect, and it brings great spiritual peace.

Wherever you are in your journey, know this: the Church's doors are open to you. These requirements are not barriers—they are pathways into a fuller life of grace.

If you have questions or would like to begin any of these steps, please reach out to the parish office. We are here to help.

"Encourage one another and build one another up, as indeed you do." (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

That is what a sponsor does—and what we are all called to do for one another.

Would you like to get connected at St. John's


If you are interested in volunteering here at St. John's, but not sure what you'd like to do, just scan the QR code below and provide us with some basic information and someone from our pastoral team will contact you. You can also email us at connect@sjecm.org or call the Parish Office (631) 878-0009 and leave your name and phone number and we will call you back.

- Faith Formation
- Altar Linens
- Thrift Shop
- Lectors
- Holy Grounds - Garden Ministry
- Street Ministry
- Community Meal
- Family Life Ministry
- Martha & Company
- Eucharistic Adoration
- Ministry of Consolation
- Ernie's Place (Food Pantry)
- Children's Liturgy of the Word
- Altar Servers and more!



Adoration

of the Blessed Sacrament



*Monday - Friday from
3:00 - 7:00 PM
Seton Chapel + In the Convent of
St. John the Evangelist*

Support the Catholic School Difference!



Second Collection Weekend 2026



On the weekend of May 2-3, all parishes in the Diocese of Rockville Centre will hold a second collection in support of Catholic elementary schools. Your generosity helps sustain the vital mission of Catholic education on Long Island. Thank you for supporting the *Catholic School Difference* — where faith, academic excellence, and values come together to shape tomorrow's leaders. For parishes with schools, the funds support their own school; for parishes without schools, the funds provide scholarships through the Tomorrow's Hope Foundation.



Experience the Catholic School Difference. Use the QR code to take the next step!

www.drvcschools.org



Department of Education, Diocese of Rockville Centre

Bereavement Support...

Grieving is a natural process each of us goes through after the death of a loved one. While no one can take away our sadness, others can help by listening and caring. Sharing our feelings with others who have experienced the death of a loved one help many people begin the healing process.

*Grief never ends but it changes.
It is a passage, not a place to stay.
It is not a sign of weakness,
nor a lack of faith.
Grief is the price of love.*

Saturday mornings - 10:30 AM to 12 Noon
First floor meeting room in the Barn.

REGISTRATION: Contact the Rectory at 631.878.0009 or via email at Rectory@sjecm.org
\$10 donation for the workbook.

A Message from Monsignor Walden...



We began our celebration of Easter three weeks ago using the exultant word - Alleluia. This word expresses the wonder, joy, and gratitude the presence of the Risen Christ brings to us and all people. He is the ultimate source of absolute joy. Is this joy just experienced at our liturgical celebrations or does it lift our minds and hearts in all we say, do, and encounter everyday? We live in a world that all too easily and almost constantly bombards us with information that causes fear, frustration, confusion, and tension. How did these four factors affect the apostles when Jesus was crucified? How do we rise above fear, frustration, confusion, and tension? It is not *where* is the light of hope but *who* is the light of hope. Jesus rose above fear, frustration, confusion, and tension over and over again during His earthly ministry. He knew He was who He said He was - the Way, the Truth, and the Life - and refused to stop being who He truly was - Our God and Savior in whose image we have been created.

Jesus is the one who transforms and strengthens our hearts to trust Him and allow Him to walk with us in all we say and do each day. Is that not what happened to the apostles when they were embraced by the Risen Christ? Their joy, wonder, and gratitude literally transformed them to live in the very image in which we are created. Wonder, joy, and gratitude are the result of living in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. How good it is when our relationships with one another are founded on wonder, joy, and gratitude! We do not worry about whether or not we are understood or what it will cost but begin to experience the wonder, joy, and gratitude of Jesus and the apostles.

If we do not and cannot trust God and have faith in Him, we can never find peace in our hearts and peace with one another. God's love accepts us as we are at this very moment, saving us from all that is negative, and enriching us with joy and hope. Only in union with our God, whose love is seen not only in creating us in His very image, but in His coming over and over again to forgive, enrich, and walk with us. His love is the epitome of love. He never ceases

hoping we will open our minds and hearts to Him. God does not negotiate with us but opens our minds and hearts to Him and the power of His love. It is challenging at times to live through, with, and in Him. The distractions are many, but in the end there is no other way to peace in our hearts and peace with one another.

“Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.” (2 Corinthians 6:2). We cannot erase our doubts, fears, and sins. All we have to do is raise our minds and hearts to the goodness of God in our prayers everyday. May we come to find the joy expressed by St. Paul in his words from 1 Corinthians 13:1-13:

“If I speak in human and angelic tongues but do not have love, I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal. And if I have the gift of prophecy and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge; if I have all faith so as to move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away everything I own, and if I hand my body over so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, [love] is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing; if tongues, they will cease; if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing. For we know partially and we prophesy partially, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I used to talk as a child, think as a child, reason as a child; when I became a man, I put aside childish things.

At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but then face to face. At present I know partially; then I shall know fully, as I am fully known. So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love.”

Knights of Columbus

BINGO

Night

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

\$3000 IN PRIZES

SJE Parish Auditorium

Fatima Day

WEDNESDAY *13* MAY

10:30 am Solemn arrival and entronement of the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima

11:00 am Rosary

11:30 am Mass
Procession following Mass

1:30 pm Conference

3:00 pm Solemn chanting of the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary

SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF THE ISLAND
258 Eastport Manor Rd, Manorville, NY
631-325-0661

CALLING ALL CATHOLIC MEN 18 AND OLDER

CONSIDER JOINING THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS.

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LONG ISLAND CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS
AGES 21-35

Deepen Your Faith | Surrender Yourself to Christ

JUNE 6TH-7TH, 2026

NUNC COEPI NOW I BEGIN

2-day Catholic Young Adult Retreat

INSPIRING TALKS | SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS | MASS | ADORATION | CONFESSION | ROSARY | FELLOWSHIP

SCAN THE QR FOR PRICING & ADDITIONAL DETAILS

SEMINARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION • HUNTINGTON, NY

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: NCIARAVINO1@GMAIL.COM



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.

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: April 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**

Comunidad Hispano...

La Comunidad Hispana de nuestra Parroquia en Centro Moriches te invita a celebrar la Santa Misa en español los sábados a las 7:30 PM en la Iglesia.

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

MINISTERIOS Y SERVICIOS

BAUTISMO:

Por favor traiga el certificado de nacimiento del niño dos meses antes del bautismo.

Requisitos:

1. Acta de nacimiento del niño o niña.
2. Certificado de registro de su Parroquia (padres y padrinos)
3. Los padres deben traer estos documentos a la oficina de San Juan para fijar las fechas de la charla prebautismal (OBLIGATORIO para padres y padrinos) y la fecha del Bautismo.

Segundo domingo a las 14 horas en la Iglesia. Las clases de prebautismo son el tercer miércoles de cada mes.

CASAMIENTO:

Las parejas que planean casarse deben concertar una cita con uno de los sacerdotes antes de la boda. Esto les dará tiempo suficiente para recibir las instrucciones prematrimoniales y obtener los documentos necesarios. Para más información llame a la oficina.

El personal de la oficina estará disponible para hablar en español de 6 a 8 PM los martes. Asegúrese de llamar antes de venir a visitarnos.

espanol@sjecm.org

Office staff will be available to speak in Spanish from 6 to 8 PM on Tuesdays. Be sure to call before you come and visit.

¡Dejanos ayudarte!

DESPENSA DE ALIMENTOS DE ERNIE

Abierto - Lunes 6:30 PM a las 7:30 PM

Jueves 3:00 PM a las 4:00 PM.

TIENDA DE SEGUNDA MANO

Miércoles - Granero

Miércoles de 9:00 AM a las 12:00 PM.

COMIDA COMUNITARIA

Último lunes del mes 6:00 PM

auditorio de la escuela

MINISTERIO DE CALLE

Jueves - Estación de tren Mastic-Shirley

7:15 PM (aproximadamente)

Se encuentran disponibles comidas y ropa sencillas.

También necesitamos voluntarios para ayudar a traducir para quienes lo necesiten. Necesitamos voluntarios bilingües para nuestra despensa de comida. ¡Avísanos si puedes ayudar!



**Make this a summer
to fall in love again!**



Are you ready for
more growth and
happiness in your
marriage or
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Next Long Island Weekend
June 26-28, 2026
Immaculate Conception Seminary
Lloyd Harbor, NY

Legion of Mary invites you to the 17th Annual Women's Retreat

Reflections Throughout
Retreat



Holy Sacrifice
of the Mass

Silence
following
Friday 8 PM Mass
until start of
dinner on
Saturday

Eucharistic
Adoration
throughout
the night

Sacrament of
Confession

“BEHOLD THY SON”

Calling **ALL** women! Come ponder “Motherhood” in your heart after the example of Mary.
We invite you to come pray with Mary especially for children and for priests.
Come and receive strength to become the “perfect women” we are called to be:

“Thus the ‘perfect woman’ (Prov 31:10) becomes an irreplaceable support and source of spiritual strength for other people, who perceive the great energies of her spirit. These ‘perfect women’ are owed much by their families, and sometimes by whole nations.” Mulieris Dignitatem (The Dignity of Women -St. John Paul II)

Friday, 8 May 2026 – Saturday, 9 May 2026

Held at the beautiful Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, 440 West Neck Road, Huntington, NY
Check in Friday between 1 – 6 PM ~~~ Ends Saturday 7 PM

Cost: \$200 per person

Includes dinner Friday, 3 meals Saturday, private room w/ shower
No registrations can be accepted after April 27th

Please send form below with check payable to St. Patrick Parish to:
St. Patrick R.C. Church, 280 East Main Street, Smithtown, NY 11787 Attn: Legion of Mary

NAME _____ EMAIL _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE # _____

PARISH _____ Special dietary needs? _____ Approx. arrival time _____

For addition information email: Beholdthyson09@gmail.com or call Lana Maggio at 631-374-1116 or Corinne Addiss 631-804-7222



Weekly Calendar

Monday, April 27th, 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, April 28th, 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, April 29th, 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, April 30th, 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, May 1st, 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 - AUD

Saturday, May 2nd, 2026

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

Sunday, May 3rd, 2026

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR

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

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