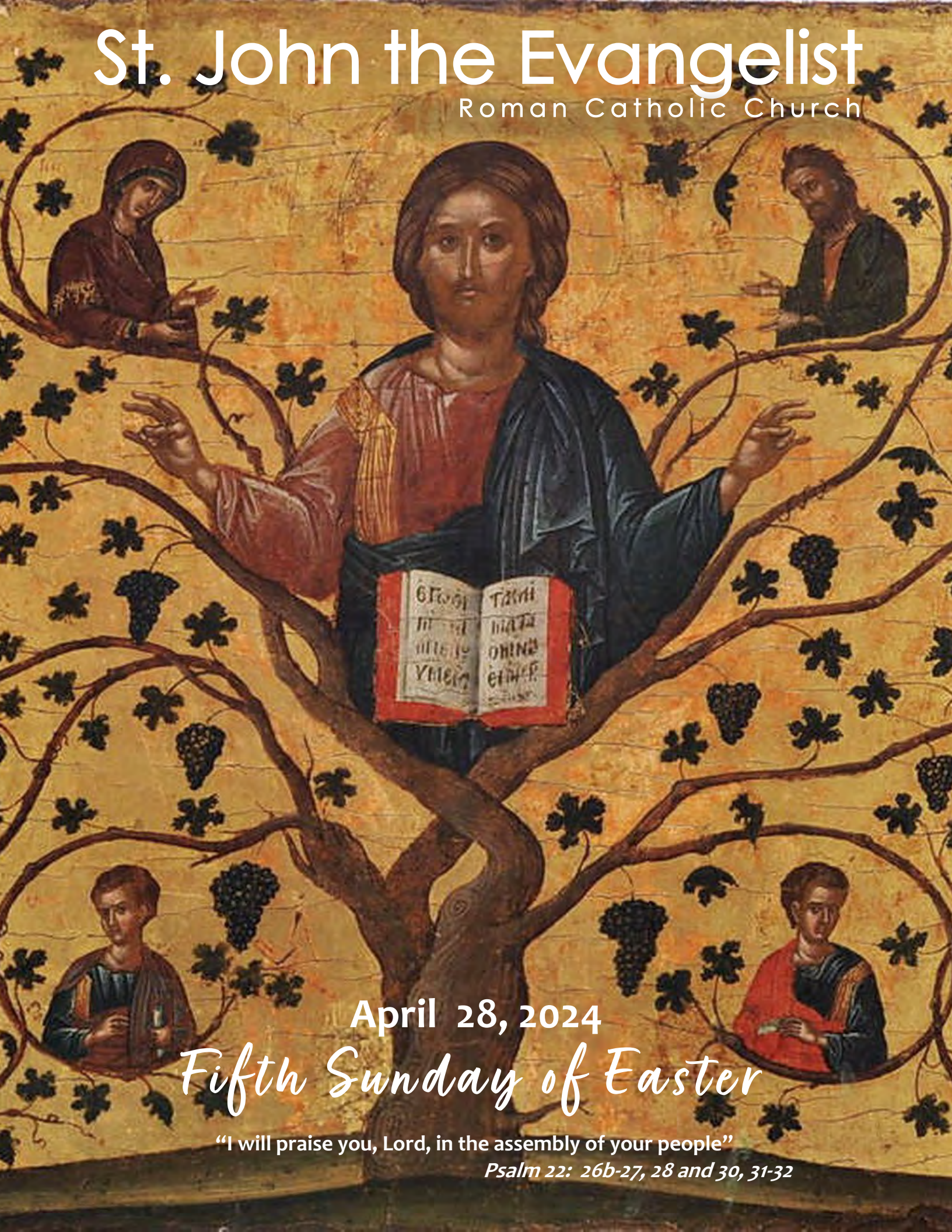


# St. John the Evangelist

Roman Catholic Church



April 28, 2024

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

“I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people”

*Psalm 22: 26b-27, 28 and 30, 31-32*



April 28, 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, May 4<sup>th</sup>

5:00 PM - Fr. Jerry

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, May 5<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM - Msgr. Walden

10:00 AM - Fr. Felix

12 noon - Fr. Patrick

6:00 PM - Fr. Patrick

\*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 Deacon Michael...



It is now four weeks since we celebrated the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead on Easter Sunday, with three weeks more until Pentecost. Fittingly, the Easter Season is the longest liturgical season in the Church's calendar because Christ's victory over death is the greatest and most important event in our Christian faith. The one characteristic that marks the Easter Season more than any other is: *JOY*. The joy of the season is expressed in numerous ways. The Gospel of the Second Sunday of Easter contains the line, "The disciples rejoiced when they saw the risen Lord." The Gospel for the Third Sunday of Easter describes the apostles as "still incredulous for joy." The Marian hymn for the Easter Season, *Regina Caeli*, sings, "Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, Alleluia! For the Lord has truly risen, Alleluia!" And every Easter Preface in the Mass dares to say that "every people" in "every land" is "overcome with paschal joy"!

A month later into the season, *are you still rejoicing?* You should be! Christians are called to be a joyful people precisely because of our Easter faith. Jesus Christ rose triumphant from the dead, and *His Resurrection changes everything*. The Resurrection should change us, as it changed the apostles from cowering behind locked doors to boldly proclaiming the Resurrection and "rejoicing because they had been counted worthy" for being flogged by the Sanhedrin for proclaiming it (Acts 5:41). The Resurrection changed "the great and terrible day of the Lord" (Joel 2:31) when Jesus died into *Good Friday*, and the cross into the Tree of Life. The Resurrection changed human death from a permanent demise into the way that leads to eternal life and glory.

In order to be able to rejoice in the Resurrection continually throughout the long Easter season, it is crucial to realize that spiritual joy is not a human *emotion*. St. Paul tells us to: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice!" (Philippians 4:4; 1 Thes

5:16). No one can feel happy all the time. The apostles were not happy in being flogged, but they rejoiced in the beatitude and reward of being persecuted on account of Christ (Matt 5:12). Christian joy can be sustained because it is not so much feeling or a certain gaudiness, but more like the dawning realization of the awesome magnitude of what God has done and will do for us. Christian joy is rejoicing in the great truths of salvation: Jesus lives! The very "Son of God loved me and gave himself up for me" (Gal 2:20). "He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:54). If you really think about it, these truths, these *facts* of our faith, are really too good to be true, *and yet they are true*. Amazement and wonder leads to thankful joy and praise.

Whatever you are feeling now, do not let it be an excuse not to rejoice in the Resurrection of our Lord from the dead. If, for good reason, you are feeling sad, you can still rejoice, because who Jesus is and what he has done for us *is still true and will be forever true*. If you are happy because things are going well right now, do not think that that contentment is equivalent to Christian joy, for the good feelings will pass, but there is no reason our Christian joy must fade. Unless we let it fade by losing focus, by being forgetful. We can let things like fear, ingratitude, a sense of entitlement, and distractions prevent us from standing upon and rejoicing in the Rock who is the risen Lord Jesus Christ, "the stone rejected by the builders that has become the cornerstone" (Psalm 118:22). We lose our joy in the Lord when we lose our center in Christ, when we fail to remember that what He has done triumphs over everything else that has or could happen to us. Instead, turn to your risen Lord, open your heart to the Love that has conquered death for you, and rejoice!

# Masses for the Week...

## Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> Easter Weekday

- 5:00 PM Patricia McElroy
- 7:30 PM (Spanish) People of the Parish

## Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> Fifth Sunday of Easter

- 8:00 AM Katy Dyer and her brother Jack Dyer
- 10:00 AM Rosemary Curtin
- 12:00 Noon Nicholas Joseph DeMaro
- 6:00 PM Jack Dyer and his sister Katy Dyer

## Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup> Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

- 7:00 AM Patricia Cuff
- 12:00 Noon David Linguiti

## Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup> Easter Weekday

- 7:00 AM Robert Salomone
- 12:00 Noon Jim, Ron, John and Bobby Paulsen

## Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> Easter Weekday

- 7:00 AM Kevin Kret

11:00 AM (time change due to Senior Luncheon) Robert Salomone

## Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

- 7:00 AM Vivian Cordeiro
- 12:00 Noon Dolores O'Brien

## Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> Saints Philip and James, Apostles

- 7:00 AM Theresa Pirro
- 12:00 Noon Fred L. Meyer Jr.

## Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> Easter Weekday

- 8:00 AM Robert DeLuca
- 5:00 PM Jack Dyer and his sister Katy Dyer
- 7:30 PM (Spanish) People of the Parish

## Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> Sixth Sunday of Easter

- 8:00 AM Katy Dyer and her brother Jack Dyer
- 10:00 AM Salvatore and Grace Rondone
- 12:00 Noon Mary Ellen Mitchell
- 6:00 PM Kristen Bigora

# Mother's Day Novena...

Enroll your loved ones in our **2024 Mother's Day Novena of Masses**

Envelopes are available at the doors of the church.

Those names that are included on the envelopes will be remembered during the Mother's Day Novena Masses that begin on

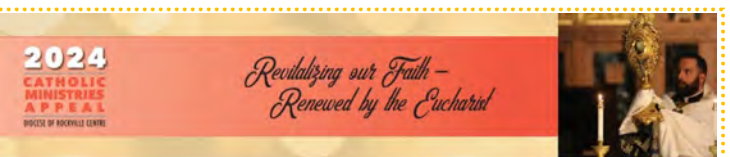
**Mother's Day, May 12<sup>th</sup>.**

Envelopes can be placed in the collection basket or dropped at the rectory office by **May 8<sup>th</sup>.**



EASTER DONATIONS		
Year	Total	As of
2024	\$59,691	4/22/2024
2023	\$59,789	Final

PARISH WEEKLY DONATIONS			
Average Weekly from January 1, 2024 to present.			
Year	Total	# of Weeks	Average Weekly
2024	\$292,717	16	\$18,295
2023	\$278,220	16	\$17,389



As of 4/23/2024	2024	2023
Parish Goal	\$115,100	\$115,100
Number of Donors	120	150
Total Pledged to date	\$57,255	\$58,600
Avg. Gift	\$477	\$390
Percent of Goal	50%	51%

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!

Our Lady Queen of Apostles  
Mission Middle School Academy  
invites you to...

*An* afternoon celebrating the  
wisdom of our senior citizens



# *Senior Luncheon*

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

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.

(No children permitted to the luncheon)

email [ghalversen@olqany.org](mailto:ghalversen@olqany.org) or call 631-878-1033 to RSVP  
25 Ocean Ave, Center Moriches

## 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.

CALL 631-878-1033 TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MISSION

# Praying For and With One Another

## Remember

Virginia O’Connell + Mary Odietus  
+ Tyler John Paczkowski +

*"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

Tony Variale, Laura Boge, Ray Galpin, Kathleen  
Fontaine, Christopher DeStefano, Frank Macchia,  
Roy Cloughen, Marion Maison, Frank O’Boyle

*"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  
ENS Ralph J. Ruggiero

### 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 April has been donated:

*In Memory of Jerome Dempsey*

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

*In Memory of Stephen Hession*

*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 Family Life Ministry Presents...

# VACATION BIBLE Camp

July 15th - 19th, 2024

9 AM - 12 noon

Children Grades K-5

(in September 2024)

VBC is an awesome way to dive deeper into your faith, make new friends and have an unbelievably fun-filled week!

Just go to the parish website and click on VBC and complete the Camper registration form, or use the QR Code!



Camper QR Code



Volunteer



We are in **DESPERATE** need of adult volunteers! Please consider climbing aboard!

Youth volunteers are also needed. Students in 6th grade and older are most welcome to join the VBC crew. All volunteers can register via the parish website. Just click on VBC and complete the volunteer registration form. or use the QR Code!

For more information please email [Clapham@sjecm.org](mailto:Clapham@sjecm.org)

The Office of Family Ministry  
invites you to join our

# Martha & Co. Ministry

(a.k.a Hospitality Ministry)

## WHAT'S THIS MINISTRY ALL ABOUT?

It's just what it sounds like. This ministry is being developed in order to provide opportunities for fellowship in conjunction with weekend Masses, prayer services and special events. The Hospitality Ministry will plan, shop, set-up, provide light refreshments and clean up.

## WHEN?

The beauty of joining this ministry is that you do **what you can, when you can**. There is no major time commitment. We will keep a list of who's on board and when an event comes up, we will email everyone on the list. If you can help...great! Just respond to the email. If you can't- no worries. You'll remain on the list and we'll email you for the next event.

## WHO?

We We need doers. All of you "Marthas" out there, this ministry is for you. We need bakers, table and chair movers, "fussers" to create our various environments, shoppers, organizers and cleaner-uppers. All are welcome to join. Our hope is that this ministry will be a multi-generational sharing of talents and wisdom, fun and faith.

## HOW?

To sign up please email [Clapham@sjecm.org](mailto:Clapham@sjecm.org). Please include your name and phone number in the email.





April 28, 2024 | Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:26-31 | 1 Jn 3:18-24 | Jn 15:1-8

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

“Where do they get their energy!” Maybe you’ve said that about your children as they run around the yard while you’re trying to wrangle them inside for bedtime. Jokes about how sugar and caffeine are what keep most adults going, but we know it’s proper nutrition, exercise, and rest that enable us to do well whatever it is we do. That is all relevant to us physically. What about spiritually? Bishop Barron, writing on the Gospel, says, “Jesus declares that he is the vine and we are the branches. He is the power and energy source in which we live.” (*Word on Fire Bible*, 548) Just as we see the effects of sugar and caffeine on people, we see the supernatural effects of Jesus’ love on, and in, people. As he nurtures us with his perfect love, and that flows into us who are grafted onto him, it changes us. It transforms us and converts us away from sin and toward God. We fill up on that spiritual fuel in the sacramental life of the Church and become a witness to it in how we go about our days – loving one another.

**GO EVANGELIZE**

**PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT**

“Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.” These words from John in our second reading provide the perfect bridge between the ministry of Paul, about whom we heard in the first reading, and Christ’s message in the Gospel. With Jesus as “the power and energy source in which we live,” we not only can profess the truth, but live it. We not only give our own account of Christ working in us, as Paul did, who came to them speaking out “boldly in the name of the Lord,” but we stand beside one another, as Barnabas did, vouching for Paul to the Apostles. We are united in baptism, in love, in profession of faith, and in communion with one another. When we consistently act in a Christian manner toward others and keep God’s commandments, John says, we “remain in him, and he in [us], and the way we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit he gave us.” In other words, those who remain in Christ “will bear much fruit” – a tangible sign that easily answers the question, “where does he/she get her energy?”

**PRAY**

Is there anything in your life that is an obstacle to Jesus being the power and energy source in which you live? Are your days fueled more by anger, frustration, or ambition than his love? Pray this week in thanksgiving to God for where he has given you conversion of heart, and ask him for the grace to see where improvement is needed and the will to make it happen.



# CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

**June 2, 2024**  
**after the 12 Noon Mass**  
**Stay tuned for more details....**

*An event like this brings blessings to our church and community!!!*



# Faith Formation

## "FAMILY OF FAITH" (GRADES 1-6)

Families learned more about the Communion of Saints and the Battle of Prayer during our last Family of Faith sessions! We look forward to seeing everyone at one of our closing prayer services in May!

**NEXT SESSION:** Closing Prayer Service

Tuesday, May 14 @ 5PM or Thursday, May 16 @ 5PM

\*NOTE: There are no sessions at 7 PM for the closing prayer services.



## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024 CANDIDATES

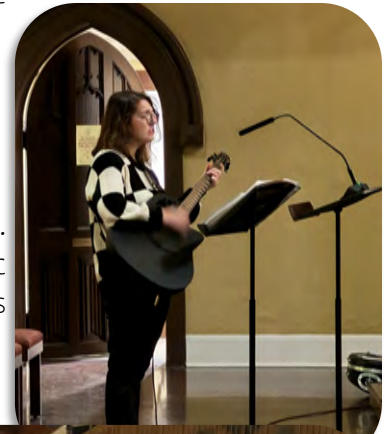
**RETREAT:** Participating in crafts, song, video presentations and more, our First Communion candidates and their families learned more about the Eucharist and being the Body of Christ in the world at our retreat on April 13. Special thanks to all our volunteers who made the retreat so special!



**OFFERING:** For those scheduled to receive First Holy Communion this May (2024), we have posted our First Communion offering (\$50) online. Check your email for more information. You can also scan the QR code here to make the offering. Questions? Email us at [faithformation@sjecm.org](mailto:faithformation@sjecm.org)

## CONFIRMATION PREP

**LEVEL 7** - Our Level 7 students experienced Eucharistic Adoration with Msgr. Walden presiding. Guest speaker and musician Tess Austin, director of Catholic Identity and Mission for the DRVC Department of Education, explained this ancient and beautiful form of prayer and provided the music during adoration.



**NEXT LEVEL 7 SESSION:**

Sponsor/Candidate Night - Monday, June 3 @ 7PM, Church

**LEVEL 8** - Our Level 8 students broke open the story of the Man Born Blind, discussing spiritual blindness, bullying and human dignity, with guest speaker Carolyn Lapham, our parish's coordinator of Family Ministries.



**NEXT LEVEL 8 SESSION:**

FALL 2024 - "FEARLESS" PROGRAM (TBA)

# Faith Formation

## Registration Begins In JUNE

### First Graders / New Students

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 2024-25 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 2024-25 Academic Year will be posted. Keep an eye on the bulletin and our Social Media for exact dates!



## A Prayer to St. Joseph, Defender of Life



Dearest St. Joseph,  
at the word of an angel,  
you lovingly took Mary into your home.  
As God's humble servant, you guided  
the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem,  
welcomed Jesus as your own son  
in the shelter of a manger,  
and fled far from your homeland  
for the safety of both Mother and Child.

We praise God that as their faithful protector,  
you never hesitated to sacrifice  
for those entrusted to you.  
May your example inspire us also  
to welcome, cherish, and safeguard  
God's most precious gift of life.

Help us to faithfully commit ourselves  
to the service and defense of human life –  
especially where it is  
vulnerable or threatened.  
Obtain for us the grace  
to do the will of God in all things.  
Amen.

# Parish Social Ministry

## 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 Paparatto at [streetministry@sjecm.org](mailto:streetministry@sjecm.org)

### Street Ministry Shopping List

- ◆ *Men's/Women's light weight coats, medium, large and extra large*
- ◆ *Men's/Women's t- shirts, all sizes*
- ◆ *Men's/Women's sweatshirts, medium, large and extra large*
- ◆ *Men's/Women's sweatpants, small, medium and extra large.*
- ◆ *Men's Jeans size 32, 34 and 36.*



## Ernie's Place

Here is a list of items needed for our pantry. These items can be left at the doors of the church or at the bin, outside of Ernie's Place.

### Pantry Shopping List

- Pancake Mix
- Pancake Syrup
- Jar Tomato Sauce
- Pasta
- Flour
- Mayo
- Mustard
- Ketchup



## 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.

\*We strongly encourage donations be dropped at the Thrift Shop Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday Mornings between 9am and 11:30 AM when volunteers are present.

# A Message from Msgr. Walden...

Back in 1990 I had the joy of taking two of my nephews who were eight and ten years old to Disney World. It amazed me to see their excitement, wonder, and joy. At the end of the day we would go back to the hotel and found a restaurant with an all you can eat buffet. They were absolutely mesmerized by the selections and quantity, especially the ice cream machine. That experience comes to mind as I have recently read comments by Cardinal Gregory in Washington, D.C. about cafeteria Catholics. Cafeteria Catholics are those who pick and choose what commandments and teachings they accept and disregard those they don't want to follow or deal with.

Sadly in our nation there are moral issues that are put up for public approval and acceptance - abortion and sex change operations for children and adults are constantly in the news. What do we do when we find ourselves wanting to dismiss church teaching by supporting those who promote abortion and sex change operations for children. Does political "loyalty" take precedence over Catholic teaching, morals, and values? Our ability to make choices is a gift we have because we have free will. We are virtuous or sinful through the choices we make. Sinful choices first and foremost separate us from God and one another. In the Gospel for today's Mass (John 15:1-8) Jesus says, "Remain in me, as I remain in you.

Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine,

so neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit,

because without me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me will be thrown out like a branch and wither; people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

When a moral issue such as abortion is put forth as a legal choice we have crossed the line. To dismiss the Fifth Commandment, Thou shall not kill, for political purposes is to separate us from God. Jesus is very clear about that in the above Gospel passage. The line from the movie Shawshank Redemption comes to mind where the prisoner Andy Dufresne hears from a fellow prisoner that he knows Andy did not kill his wife and knows who did. When Andy approaches the Warden Norton with this information he is dismissed and says to the Warden, "How can you be so obtuse?" How can we

be so obtuse with the abortion issue? Until it is seen for what it is, the killing of children in the womb, it will continue to divide and separate us from one another and, even more, God! The choice to abort a child and the support of that "right" will continue to cause separation, hatred, and tension. A cafeteria Catholic is not an option for peace in our hearts, our nation, and a heavenly assurance when we die. Jesus will always forgive our sins, all we have to do is confess them, receive absolution, and have a firm purpose of amendment to not commit them again. This is a moral issue, not a political issue. A state separates and its citizens separate themselves from God and one another when that happens.

I offer these verses from Psalm 22 for your prayerful reflection and also invite you to prayerful read the whole Psalm.

You who fear the Lord give him praise;  
all sons of Jacob, give him glory.  
Revere him, Israel's sons.

For he has never despised  
nor scorned the poverty of the poor.  
From him he has not hidden his face,  
but he heard the poor man when he cried."

You are my praise in the great assembly.  
My vows I will pay before those who fear him.  
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.  
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.  
May their hearts live for ever and ever!

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,  
all families of the nations worship before him;  
for the kingdom is the Lord's, he is ruler of the nations.  
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;  
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust.

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.  
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,  
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:  
These things the Lord has done. Glory...

Psalm Prayer: Father, when your Son was handed over to torture and seemed abandoned by you, he cried out to you from the cross and death was destroyed, life was restored. By his death and resurrection, may we see the day when the poor man is saved, the downtrodden is lifted up and the chains that bind peoples are broken. United to the thanks that Christ gives you, your Church will sing your praises.

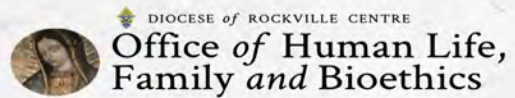




*“For as the bread, which is produced from the earth, when it receives the invocation of God, is no longer common bread, but the Eucharist, consisting of two realities, earthly and heavenly. so also our bodies, when they receive the Eucharist, are no longer corruptible, having the hope of the resurrection to eternity.”*

- St. Irenaeus

### **April, Month of the Holy Eucharist**



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

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.

## *Bereavement Support Group...*

*Grieving is a natural process each of us goes through after the death of a loved on. 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.*

**WHEN:** Saturday mornings, beginning April 27, 2024

**TIME:** 10:30 AM to 12 Noon

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

*The Barn is the blue building located in the back of the school parking lot.*

**FACILITATORS:** Maureen Harney and Loretta Gallagher

**REGISTRATION:** Contact the Rectory at 631.878.0009 or via email at [Rectory@sjecm.org](mailto:Rectory@sjecm.org)

**FEES:** \$10 donation for the workbook.

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



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)

## SJE Safe Environment

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### Updates...

All volunteers and employees at SJE are required to be registered with VIRTUS and complete a background check every 5 years. Depending on when your registration and last background check was completed, you may be receiving an email message from the Virtus system which will advise you of the need for an updated background check and the message will also include a link to Sterling, the third-party company that partners with Virtus to complete the process. As part of the process, you will have to enter your Social Security number, just as you did when you first completed your registration. By entering your Social Security number, there will be no cost to complete the check. If you do not enter your SSN, there will be a fee of \$95 which is required by NY State for a database/record search without the use of a SSN. Please check the appropriate box indicating if you wish to enter your SSN, if you do not, the system will ask for your Credit Card information for additional billing purposes. Please know that the Sterling site is a safe site for you to enter your personal information. You may also be asked to complete a review of a Code of Conduct at that time if you have not already done so.

**REMINDERS FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS.** All SJE employees and volunteers must wear their SJE badge while on campus and serving in ministry. Please also check your email regularly to complete monthly updates. (Be sure to check your “spam” or “Junk” folder too.)

Please reach out if you have any questions or need assistance with any part of the Virtus registration process.

Parish Safe Environment Coordinator  
Cathy Mussi  
[cmussi@sjecm.org](mailto:cmussi@sjecm.org)  
631-878-0009 ext. 126

# 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!

## Holy Ground Garden Project

We need you and your planting Help!

As we enter into the Spring season, can you help to take care of an area of our parish's huge property?

Once again, we are asking each family, ministry, individual or group of friends to begin taking care of a part of our grounds by planting and maintaining that area for our parish and school.

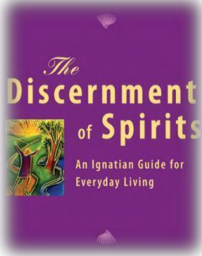
If you have a spot from last year, or your looking for a spot this year... Please email [Garden@sjecm.org](mailto:Garden@sjecm.org) or call the rectory office 631-878-0009





## 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: April 15, 29, May 13, 20\*, June 10, 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.



# PENTECOST CELEBRATION!!

Discover renewed purpose and community at our vibrant Pentecost gathering

16  
THURSDAY MAY AT 6 PM  
2024

YOUNG ADULT CATHOLICS AGES 21-35

Adoration In  
Convent Chapel  
6-7 p.m.

St. John the  
Evangelist  
25 Ocean Ave,  
Center Moriches,  
NY 11934

Food, Talk  
and Social  
7-10 p.m.





# Weekly Calendar

## Monday, April 29<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, April 30<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, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous – BMR
- 9 AM-12 Noon Thrift Shop Open - Thrift Shop
- 3-7 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament – SC

## Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</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 AI-Anon - BMR

## Friday, May 3<sup>rd</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, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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

## Sunday, May 5<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

### 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