



April 5, 2026

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad.

-Psalm 118



April 5, 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, April 11th

5:00 PM - Fr. Jerry
7:30 PM (Spanish) - Fr. Charlince
(Saturday Evening 5 PM Mass
will be livestreamed. Videos remain
on Facebook after the live broadcast.)

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 12th

8:00 AM - Msgr. Walden
10:00 AM - Fr. Patrick
12 noon - Fr. Patrick
6:00 PM - Fr. Francis

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

Pastoral Team

Reverend Patrick M. Riegger
Pastor

Reverend Charlince Vendredy
Parochial Vicar

Reverend Monsignor Ellsworth R. Walden
Retired, In Residence

Reverend Francis Lasrado
Retired, In Residence

Reverend Jerry DiSpigno
Parish Assistant

Reverend Peter D'Abele
Parish Assistant

John Pettorino
Deacon

Michael Hoonhout
Deacon

Ed Grieb
Deacon

Katie Waller
Director of Operations

Carolyn Lapham
Director of Family Ministries

Michelle Pirraglia
Director of Faith Formation

Heather Crayne
Director of Parish Social Ministry

Angela Werner
Director of Music Ministry

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
dwaller@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...



THE JOY OF EASTER

Happy Easter! The Tomb is empty! He is Risen! Alleluia! We now have eternity, eternity without end! We now have the fullness of salvation because of Easter! The Easter Mysteries remind us that Jesus is alive and truly risen! There is no turning back on this historical event. It cannot be undone! Whether or not we choose to believe in the power of our Lord's Resurrection, this event is permanent and everlasting. Jesus has been glorified before the world. He stands before us in all of His glory and wonder. He has saved us from our sins and opened for us the way to paradise. He has risen from the dead and sits at the right hand of the Father.

God's promise has been fulfilled and we are redeemed.

We can now live in freedom and hope of new and everlasting life. Our faith in Jesus is complete because He has been lifted up from the earth. Death and sorrow and misery are at our backs. We can now look beyond this world and the grave itself as a sign of hope that promises resurrection. Now that death and darkness have been conquered, we can walk in the newness of life with Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord, close by our side. How exciting is this, this new Easter celebration, knowing all that God has done for us through Jesus!



The joy of Easter and the meaning behind Easter really puts things into perspective. It really makes us think again about the importance of God in our lives. Without Easter, we have no hope and no freedom. St. Paul says, "that if Christ had not been raised from the dead, we are the most pitiable people of all time because our faith would be in vain". Our faith would be incomplete. No Easter, no life in Christ! What separates us as Christians from other religious beliefs is that we believe that Jesus is alive and risen. We believe that He is the way, the truth and the life. It is only through Jesus that we now have eternal life, life without end! It is that simple and that important. Easter

is everything! It is what gives our lives purpose and meaning, knowing that we have a future in store with God for all of eternity.

The joy of Easter is all about living again and believing again. It is about turning our lives around. Easter invites us to live in full communion with God. It invites us to approach life more joyfully in the Lord knowing of the great love and sacrifice that He has made for us and our loved ones. Moreover, Easter invites us into a new relationship with the Lord, knowing the profound joy He can bring us if we stay close to His side. The joy of Easter enables us to see the world differently, knowing how faithful God was to His promise. It changes us. It motivates us. Easter renews and refreshes our souls, knowing how essential this event was for us all. Easter brings us new life. It is our pathway to eternity and the fulfillment of all of our hopes and longings.

This new Easter celebration is a time of joy and renewal. It is a celebration of renewed hope and faith in the Risen Lord. Even though we celebrate this great feast for fifty days, in reality Easter is every day because it never ends. It cannot be reversed. All we have to do is believe again and remain close to the Risen Lord knowing the joy He brings into our lives. The Resurrection of Christ is the very foundation of our faith. It is central to our belief and the cornerstone of our Church.

We now have victory over death because of Easter. This is why Sunday is the day of the Lord, because it was on that first Easter Sunday that everything changed. Easter threw death aside and changed our outlook on life itself. By God's power, the Tomb is now vacant! Like those first disciples who witnessed the Lord's Resurrection, we too must join them in telling the world that the Tomb is empty, and the Lord is risen. Risen forever!

Masses for the Week...

Saturday, April 4th Holy Saturday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer/Blessing of the Food

5:00 PM No Mass

7:30 PM **Easter Vigil**
(No Spanish mass tonight) Easter Novenas

Sunday, April 5th Easter Sunday

6:00 AM (Sunrise Mass) Easter Novenas

8:00 AM Easter Novenas

10:00 AM Easter Novenas

12:00 Noon Easter Novenas

2:00 PM (Spanish Mass) Easter Novenas

6:00 PM No Mass

Monday, April 6th Monday within the Easter Octave

7:00 AM Jordan Hubbard

12:00 Noon Kevin Kret

Tuesday, April 7th Tuesday within the Easter Octave

7:00 AM Patricia Cuff

12:00 PM Joan Berdinka

Wednesday, April 8th Wednesday within the Easter Octave

7:00 AM Rita Leary O'Brien

12:00 Noon Kristen Bigora

Thursday, April 9th Thursday within the Easter Octave

7:00 AM Bruce Bonner

12:00 Noon Special Intention-Chris Stevens

Friday, April 10th Friday within the Easter Octave

7:00 AM Special Intention-Joanie Blagdon

12:00 Noon Jack Dyer and his sister Katy Dyer

Saturday, April 11th Saturday within the Easter Octave

8:00 AM David Laguerra

5:00 PM Angelina Tortora

7:30 PM (Spanish) People of the Parish

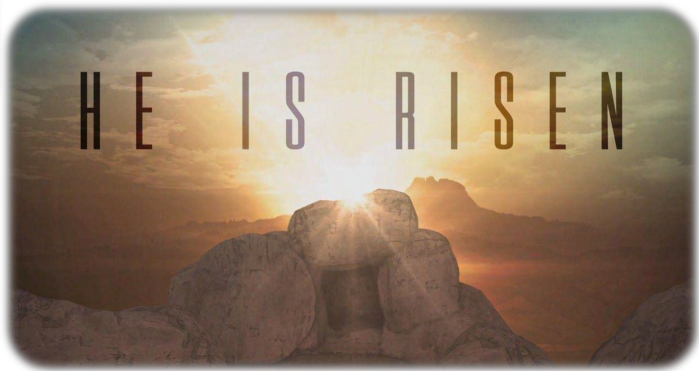

Sunday, April 12th Divine Mercy Sunday

8:00 AM Avelino Manuel Goncalves

10:00 AM Arlene Reilly


12:00 Noon Robert Stoeski

6:00 PM Joanne Alexander

Easter Novena & Mass Remembrance envelopes are still 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 by Tuesday April 7th.

PARISH WEEKLY DONATIONS			
Average Weekly from January 1, 2026 to present.			
Year	Total	# of Weeks	Average Weekly
2026	\$240,023	13	\$18,463
2025	\$223,752	13	\$17,212



As of 3/24/2026	2026	2025
New Parish Goal	\$120,855	\$115,100
Number of Donors	92	96
Total Pledged to date	\$50,130	\$51,865
Percent of Goal	41.5%	45%

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!



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Easter 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Happy Easter to you and your families!

This Easter Sunday, Easter Octave, Divine Mercy Sunday and Easter Season we continue to pray and contemplate our Lord's Resurrection appearances, and we give thanks for Pope Leo XIV and his worldwide spirit of Catholic mission.

In his Cycle of Catechesis on the Resurrection of Christ, Pope Leo writes: "The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is an event that one never finishes contemplating and meditating on, and the more one explores it, the more one is filled with wonder, drawn in as if by an overwhelming yet fascinating light. It was an explosion of life and joy that changed the meaning of reality itself, from negative to positive; yet it did not happen in a striking way, much less a violent one, but gently, hidden, one might say humbly." (October 22, 2025 Audience)

Pope Leo recognizes that there is much sadness in the world – "a feeling of precariousness, at times profound desperation." We think especially of the daily crosses and trials of those from war-torn and violence-ridden areas of the world.

The Holy Father then reflects on the despair of the two disciples on the Road to Emmaus. Their hearts burn and their joy is restored as the Risen Lord explains the Scriptures to them and they recognize Him in the breaking of the bread. In this way, the Paschal Mystery gives us hope and strength in every trial and circumstance.

Pope Leo concludes: "May the unexpected joy of the disciples of Emmaus be a gentle reminder to us when the going gets tough. It is the Risen One who radically changes our perspective, instilling the hope that fills the void of sadness. On the paths of the heart, the Risen One walks with us and for us. He bears witness to the defeat of death and affirms the victory of life, despite the darkness of Calvary... He alone makes the impossible possible!"

May the Light of the Risen Christ illumine our path to holiness on earth and our path to eternal life and happiness with God in Heaven.

Sincerely yours in the Risen Lord,

Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Rockville Centre



April 5, 2026

Praying For and With One Another

Remember

Please pray for the
Souls in Purgatory

*"In this you rejoice, although now for a little while
you may have to suffer through various trials...
-1 Peter 1:6*

Pray for the Sick

Mark Havens
Bill Hasper
Fr. Peter D'Abele
Linda Slater
Anthony Bianculli

Michael Lankau
Patricia Mazza
Mary M. Abruscato
Jim McElvoy

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.

Our Military

US Marine Corps

LC Michael Abbatiello
CPL Evan Berkemeyer
PFC Sean Brady
PAC Kevin W. Deshler II
SSGT Claudia Kerstiens
TSGT Timothy Kerstiens
SGT Quentin Montemarano
PVT Charles O'Connor
E-1 Christian Raeihle
PFC Kyle Toscanini
2nd LT Christopher Walther

US Navy

E43CPO Jason Abbatiello
MMN1 Christopher J Esposito Jr
ET3 Jeremiah Nolan, Jr
ETVSN Angel Gabriel Montoya Rivera
ENS Ralph J. Ruggiero
SA Thomas Taylor III
SR Jack Patrick Walsh
SR Michael Paduana
EM3 Andrew R. Casey

US Air Force

SrA Anthony Auciello
SSGT David Giese
A1C Brenden M. Hayes
SSGT Jason M Hermes
SSGT Kyle Kerstiens
SSGT Ryan Kerstiens
SSGT Timothy Kerstiens
SrA Jared T. Rosato
LT Col Salvatore Sferrazza
SSGT William E. McCauley II
1st Lt. Claire McGrath
A1C James Pfister
A1C Peter A. Traina

US Army

SGT Sean Casey
PVT Joseph Cestare
SPC Michael Garcia Jr
PVT Anthony Koch
2nd LT Aidan O'Neill
PFC David Smith
Steven Valentin
PFC Francis J. Amalifitano
PVT Cara Williams
PVT2 Justin Monaghan
US Coast Guard
BM3 Brendan J. Bernath
CPT Keith Donohue

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



Remembering Our Loved Ones

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

Eileen Mary DeRicco

Mass Intentions

Remembering one who has passed away at Mass is a most noble practice calling us to pray for one who has died at the most powerful prayer we know - the celebration of the Eucharist.

Altar Bread and Wine

Names will be listed in each bulletin during the course of that month.

An offering of \$250 is requested.

Votive Candles/Altar Candles

A number of votive candles enlighten the beautiful statues in our church. You may have a particular devotion to one of these saints. These candles are next to the statues of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph, St. Teresa, St. Gerard Majella and the Sacred Heart of Jesus. They bring a certain light to the statues and, hopefully, inspire some deeper times of prayer and reflection. **Altar Candles - \$25.00 per week.**

SJE offers a number of ways to remember loved ones, or honor someone living.

To make an offering, visit or contact the Parish Office at 631.878.0009 or email to rectory@sjecm.org

Divine Mercy Sunday

**Please join us on
April 12, 2026
at 3:00 PM
in the church
to celebrate the
Divine Mercy of
OUR LORD,
JESUS CHRIST**

*Led by
Al Barbarino*

- ◆ Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- ◆ Messages Jesus gave to St. Faustina

- ◆ Hymns to strengthen our Personal Relationship with Our Lord (very much needed these days !)
- ◆ Concluding with Benediction & Veneration
- ◆ Confession will be available

A DIVINE MERCY MESSAGE from Al Barbarino.....

"Please know I consider it a blessing for me to be offering the Divine Mercy Service at your magnificent Parish. I am truly honored!"



**Confirmation
Preparation
Classes**



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.

Confirmation for Adult Catholics

The Sacrament of Confirmation is a strengthening in the indwelling, action and grace of the Holy Spirit that confirms your Baptism and empowers you to live as a disciple and witness of Jesus Christ. Adult Catholics can receive the Sacrament of Confirmation only on the Solemn Feast of Pentecost, which this year falls on the weekend of May 23-24, 2026. The process to be confirmed as an adult requires a mature grasp of the Catholic faith and freely committing oneself to live it.

At St. John the Evangelist, the required classes to prepare adult candidates who have never received Confirmation are held on **Wednesday evenings from April 8 to May 20, 2026** (seven weeks). These classes will also prepare those who have never made their first holy communion. The Sacrament of Confirmation (and first holy communion) will be given to those who complete this preparation at the Vigil Mass of Pentecost, Saturday May 23, 2026, at 5:00 PM.

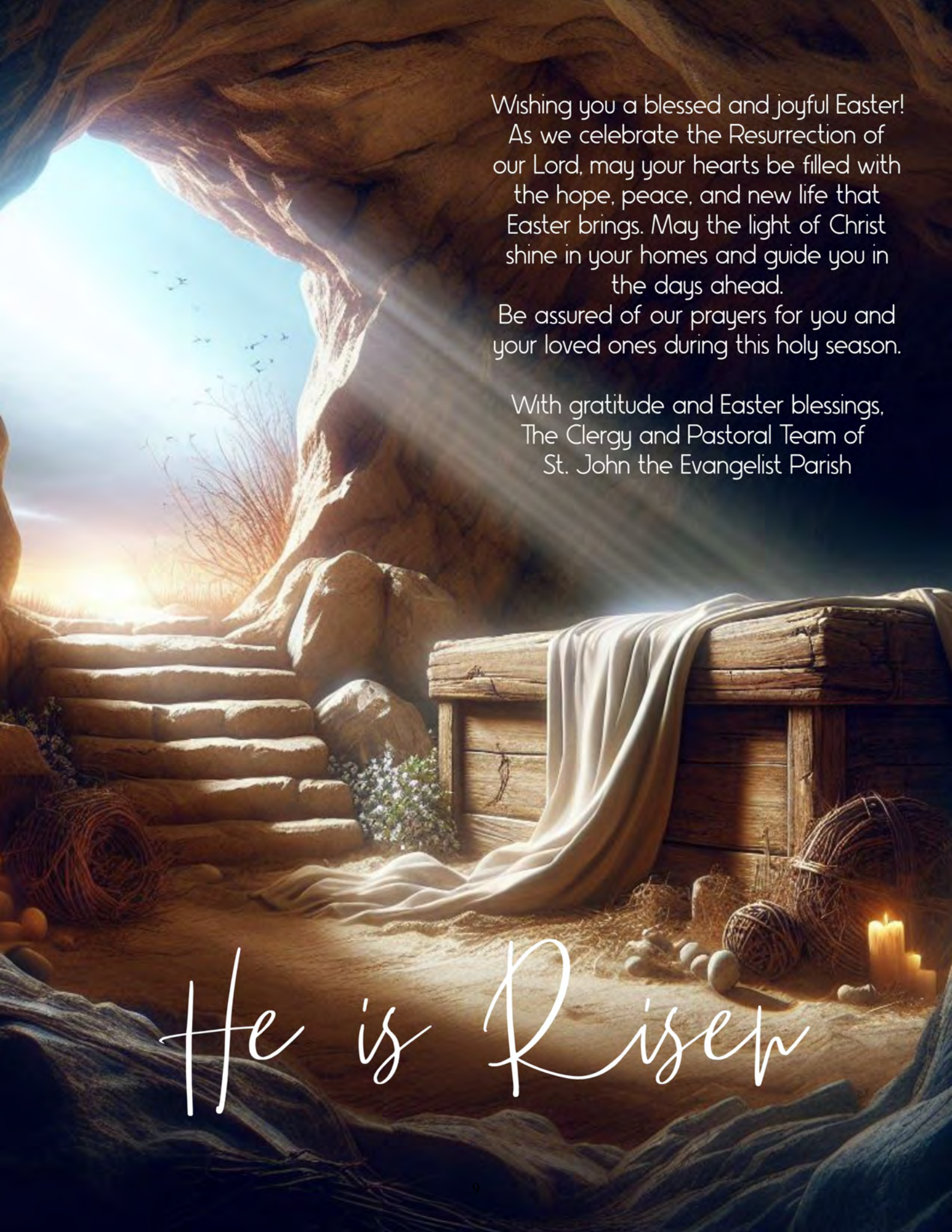
For more information on receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation as an adult, contact Deacon Michael at mhoonhout@sjecm.org.

*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
- 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!





Wishing you a blessed and joyful Easter!
As we celebrate the Resurrection of
our Lord, may your hearts be filled with
the hope, peace, and new life that
Easter brings. May the light of Christ
shine in your homes and guide you in
the days ahead.

Be assured of our prayers for you and
your loved ones during this holy season.

With gratitude and Easter blessings,
The Clergy and Pastoral Team of
St. John the Evangelist Parish

He is Risen

April 5, 2026

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

Happy Easter!

Our Faith Formation staff wish you a blessed Easter! Thank you to everyone who has been so instrumental in encouraging and guiding our young people in the faith!



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!

1st Communion Retreats Saturday, April 18th



Location: School Auditorium
Time: See your child's 1st Communion Letter
For those receiving their 1st Communion this Spring (2026), we will be having a parent/student retreat on **Saturday, April 18** The retreat will be approximately one hour in length and will begin in the school auditorium. Questions?
Email us at faithformation@sjecm.org



"Family of Faith" (Grades 1-6)

Next Sessions: April 14 & April 16

Our closing prayer service for "Family of Faith" are Tuesday, 4/14 & Thursday, 4/16 @ 5 PM & 7 PM in the Church.

Confirmation Prep—Next Sessions:

Level 7: MONDAY, APRIL 20 @ 7:15PM, Church
Level 8: TUESDAY, April 21 @ 7:15PM, church

Parishes Praying for Priests

UNITED IN ADORATION

Please Join Us...

TUESDAY, APRIL 14TH
3PM - 7PM

Answering Our Lady's call to pray for our Priests and for the increase of Vocations.

Without our priests we have
NO Eucharist and NO Sacraments

SETON CHAPEL
ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CONVENT



Please offer any amount of time during these hours
to be in unified prayer within our Diocese.

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.

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 13 & 27; May 11 & 18; June 1, 15 & 29.

(Summer break July & August; resumes in September.)

God Bless you,

Carol & Anita (Moderators)

For info, call 631-878-0009



Please consider offering one hour per week before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

On Mondays following Adoration, there is a Holy Hour to Pray for Priests from 7 - 8 PM.

All are invited to pray for our Shepherds.

Please consider offering one hour per week before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

If you can be present for a specific hour, email rectory@sjecm.org or call the Parish Office at

631.878.0009.

April 5, 2026

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)

A week filled with exciting games & activities, music & dancing, creative crafts, and faith-filled fun and friendships centered on daily prayer, as children grow in God's love and deepen their relationship with Jesus through Scripture and the joyful discovery of His creation.

Registration opens April 10th! Be sure to watch the bulletin for registration details.

Exploring the Nature of God

Come explore Rainforest Falls—where faith grows wild!

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

PSM Office 631.878.0009 ext. 120

Email: socialministry@SJEcm.org

Spring is on its way and we could use your help in our vegetable garden, Heaven's Harvest! Located between the rectory and the convent, we grow produce that feed the families who visit our food pantry, Ernie's Place. Starting in the first week of April, we will begin cleaning up the garden area and planting seeds. Please consider joining us; many hands make light work!

For more information, call 631-878-0009 ext. 120 or email socialministry@SJEcm.org



"It is more blessed to give than to receive"
Acts 20:35

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 restock and organize our pantry shelves, please call to join us!

- * Salt
- * Jelly
- * Ketchup
- * Hot Sauce
- * Drink Boxes
- * Canned Tuna
- * Salad Dressing
- * Jar Pasta Sauce
- * Small Bags of Flour
- * Pancake Mix & Syrup
- * Individually Wrapped Snacks
- * Small Bottles of Cooking Oil



THRIFT SHOP

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



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.*

- St. Teresa of Avila

April 5, 2026

EASTER OUTREACH AT SJE



A great big thank you from Parish Social Ministry at SJE for a beautiful outreach event held last weekend serving the less fortunate in our community. Dozens of families in need received a feast for Easter thanks to the generosity of our parish family. We gave out bags of food including canned vegetables, mac and cheese, mashed potatoes, beans, rice, pasta and sauce, pancake mix and syrup, cake mix and more! Easter candy filled each bag along with bags of cookies, cartons of apple juice and a big spiral sliced ham. Families also received a grocery store gift card along with amazing Easter baskets filled with goodies for each family. We are extremely blessed to have received so many donations from our parishioners from our Lenten Bag challenge and from the local community. Whether you donated an Easter basket, volunteered at our outreach event, made a donation or gave of your time at Ernie's Place food pantry, it was all so greatly appreciated. Thank you, HAPPY EASTER!



Many thanks to:

*OLQA Students - Office of Family Ministry - SJE Moms on the Journey - SJE Parishioners
Legion of Mary - Lion's Heart (local chapter)*



OFFICE OF FAMILY MINISTRY



The Office of Family Ministry at St. John’s focuses on engaging parish families in fun activities, service projects and prayerful experiences. With the purpose of deepening faith, strengthening good Catholic family practices and building our parish family, our office works in conjunction with Faith Formation and Parish Social Ministry to meet the varied needs of our parish families. If you would like to learn more about our ministries or need additional information about any of the upcoming events, please call us at 631-878-0009 x 124 or email Clapham@sjecm.org. Here are some of our ministries!



Moms on the Journey

Our moms’ group is going strong! We meet on the 4th Wednesday of every month from 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM in the upper meeting room of the Barn. A casual, fun-filled, Spirit lead group, “Moms on the Journey” provides an opportunity for busy mothers to be pampered...to grow in their faith... and to share the joys and challenges of Christian motherhood with other moms. This ministry has been a true blessing for all those who come. If you’re a mom who wants to go deeper *and* enjoy the company of other Christian moms, please consider joining this amazing group of women. **Our next monthly gathering will be April 22, 2026.** Bring a friend and come on down.

CHILDREN’S LITURGY OF THE WORD

This program meets during the 10:00 Mass every Sunday. Our young parishioners leave Mass after the Collect (Opening Prayer) and return in time for the Liturgy of the Eucharist. While at CLTW, the children enjoy the readings, responsorial psalm and gospel presented in language that is easy for them to understand. An interactive homily and prayer of the faithful allow the children to participate more fully in the Liturgy of the Word. All children ages 4 and up are welcome. No registration is necessary...just come to the 10:00 Mass and have your children join the group when the priest invites the children to come up. This program is a joy-filled blessing for all! Adult and teen volunteers are needed!



FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY

Our Family Life Ministry provides varied opportunities for families of all ages to come together to pray, to serve others and to share in faith-filled family fun. We meet every month on the first Wednesday of the month, at 7:00 PM in the Upper Meeting Room of the barn. At these meetings we pray, brainstorm, share ideas and plan family activities, events and service projects. Volunteers help they can, as we organize various activities throughout the year, which makes this ministry a perfect place for busy people to volunteer. Bring your creativity, joyful spirit and fun-loving faith. Come put your talents to good use here at St. John’s. All are welcome! **Our next planning meeting will be on Wednesday, May 6th at 7:00 PM in the Barn.**

Please join us for our Family Holy Week Services—details can be found in this Sunday’s bulletin! These prayer services are specially designed for families, helping children experience Holy Week in a way they can understand.

SJE Youth Service Corps

YOUNG PEOPLE answering the call to serve!

This ministry provides varied opportunities for the young people of our parish to respond to the call to serve others here at St. John’s and beyond. Geared for middle school, high school and college students, the SJE Service Corps enlists the help of our youth volunteers to serve in a variety of capacities from volunteering as actors and actresses for our faith formation program, to leading our children at our vacation bible camp, to setting up and serving at parish events as well as helping those in need through the outreach efforts of our parish social ministry office. There are so many ways to help throughout the course of the year. Young people help when they are available. There is never any pressure to serve, as we are sensitive to the busy lives that our teenagers lead. The SJE Youth Service Corps is great way for teens to use their talents, connect with other faith-filled young people, serve our God and our parish and have fun!





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.

A Message from Monsignor Walden...



What's next? That question gets more and more of our attention the older we get. Our lives begin when we are conceived in the womb of our mothers. For nine months we are unconscious in a simple, care free life. We come out of the womb and are loved and cherished and a source of joy to our families. As we go through life, we have many experiences of love, joy, wonder, and gratitude. As we age, what is next is a thought that we start to ponder. Today we celebrate what will be next forever. The resurrection of Jesus opens our minds and hearts first of all to the unbelievable depth of God's love. Even though Jesus was rejected, that thought never crossed His mind about us. His last words during His excruciating death on the cross were of love and mercy. Would that we all truly be uplifted and inspired by His words to the "good thief", "This day you will be with me in paradise." (Luke 23:43)

To look beyond this world and our daily lives is not to escape reality, but to put our daily lives in perspective. What will it be like to experience the fullness of God's presence? That is not a question to ponder once in a while or only when we think we have to, but is an opportunity to experience God's faith in us, His hopes for us, and His love for us. Some days and times in our lives are challenging and confusing. It is very easy to get caught up in the details and concerns of our waking moments, but being "caught up" in recognizing the blessings in God's love for us and our love for one another energizes our minds and hearts. Everyday is another step to our ultimate destiny. The more we nourish that thought everyday through our love for one another and our prayer time, the more we come to understand and experience what Easter is all about - Christ

has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again!

The Gospel for today's Mass (John 20:1-9) recounts how Mary Magdalene went and found the tomb of Jesus empty. "So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." When all three went back to the tomb they went in they "saw and believed." While we cannot literally go to the empty tomb, we do believe. The more we take the time everyday to pray reflectively and see ourselves and others with the vision of the Risen Christ, the more peace, hope, and love in our minds and hearts. We carry those we love in our hearts. We are in the heart of Jesus. What a blessing and joy it is to open our hearts to Him! Happy Easter!!!

I offer the Responsorial Psalm from today's Mass for your reflection.

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever.

Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever."

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

"The right hand of the LORD has struck with power; the right hand of the LORD is exalted. I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD."

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

By the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes.

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.



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

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!

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.

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

**CALLING ALL
CATHOLIC MEN
18 AND OLDER**

**CONSIDER JOINING THE
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS.**

www.kofc.org ♦ JOIN US

**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**

*Benefitting Ernie's
Place Food Pantry*

April 11, 2025
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

2 Locations!
King Kullen in
Manorville
King Kullen in
Center Moriches

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

BINGO



Weekly Calendar

Monday, April 6th, 2026 (Parish Offices closed)

- 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 7th, 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 8th, 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 9th, 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, April 10th, 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, April 11th, 2026

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

Sunday, April 12th, 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