

St. John the Evangelist

Roman Catholic Church



May 10, 2026

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy. ~ Psalm 66



May 10, 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 16th

5:00 PM - Fr. Jerry

7:30 PM (Spanish) - Fr. Charline

(Saturday Evening 5 PM Mass will be livestreamed.)

Sunday, May 17th

8:00 AM - Fr. Patrick

10:00 AM - Fr. Francis

12 noon - Msgr. Walden

6:00 PM - Msgr. Walden

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

Reverend Patrick M. Riegger
Pastor

Reverend Charline 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

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

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.

Pastoral Team

OLQA

Office Hours

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 ...

6th Sunday of Easter



In today's gospel, Jesus reminds us of the importance of the commandments, God's written instruction for us. On the eve of His passion, He wants to remind the world through His closest disciples how important it is to love one another. If we say we love God but not our neighbor, St. John tells us elsewhere in the scriptures, we are liars. We are not being truthful or sincere as Christians. Jesus Himself says clearly today, "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. Whoever has My commandments and observes them is the one who loves Me."

There is no question that we love Jesus. But if our love for others is incomplete, then so is our love for the Lord who loved us all till the very end. It is clear from our Lord that the love of God and the love of neighbor go hand in hand because God lives in each one of us. His Spirit dwells in our hearts. The love of God is always among us because of His indwelling Spirit. This is the great gift that our Lord left us, the gift of Himself dwelling in our hearts each day from the moment of His Resurrection and Ascension into heaven. It is our awareness of His Spirit dwelling within us that changes us and motivates us to be faithful in our love for Him and one another.

Because of Easter, we can receive the Spirit. Because of Easter, we can live forever! Easter reminds us of God's great promise for humanity. It reminds us how God was faithful to His Word from ancient times so that we can have life everlasting. Easter is everything because Jesus is alive and risen for all of eternity. He is now among us in His Word and the sacraments. His Spirit dwells in our lives because of Easter. He is no longer in the tomb. His Spirit is dwelling among us so that we can be strengthened and grow in our love for God and one another. His Spirit leads us to all truth, wisdom and understanding whenever we remain close to Him and are obedient to His Word and commands.

On that first Holy Thursday, during His farewell address in the upper room, Jesus summed up all the commandments into one... "Love one another as I have loved you." Here He makes it so clear what it means to be obedient and to love always. All we have to do

is love one another in the same way in which He has loved us. The Lord of the Scriptures sets the example for us to follow. He shows us the way and the path to holiness and happiness! He does not ask us to do anything He did not or would not do Himself. He shows us how to be obedient to God's Word and faithful to end knowing of our great reward in heaven.

Easter is all about believing again and living again. It is all about being reconciled with God. Easter brought the world freedom and redemption. It changed everything. It brought us the fullness of salvation. Easter allows us to live in peace and freedom. When we understand the true meaning behind Easter, it changes us. Our whole outlook and our approach to life itself is so much more meaningful and fulfilling in the Lord when we understand the importance of Easter and its universal implications. Knowing that there is a better future with God for all of eternity, how can we not be inspired to love one another in the same way in which our Lord has loved us? Knowing what awaits us, how can we not live in the freedom of the Spirit and walk again in the newness of life with our Risen Lord?

Two weeks from today, we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost. At the 5 PM Mass on Saturday, May 23rd, I am looking forward to confirming 23 candidates who have been preparing to receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit during these past couple of weeks. Fr. Charlince will also confirm 20 candidates later on that same evening at the Spanish Mass. The Feast of Pentecost marks the conclusion of another Easter celebration. We end this Easter celebration in the same way in which we began this new Easter—with great solemnity and festivity. Easter is all about conversion of heart and being renewed in our faith in the crucified and risen Lord. It is all about being renewed in the life of the Spirit that brings us new joy and restored hope. Let us pray for these candidates as they prepare to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Let us also pray for one another as we prepare to be renewed in the Holy Spirit, God's life dwelling within us!

Masses for the Week...

Saturday, May 9th *Easter Weekday*

- 8:00 AM Rita Jacino
- 5:00 PM Mother's Day Novenas
- 7:30 PM (Spanish) Mother's Day Novenas

Sunday, May 10th *Sixth Sunday of Easter*

- 8:00 AM Mother's Day Novenas
- 10:00 AM Special Intention -
for the family of Grace Eve Carter
- 12:00 Noon Mother's Day Novenas
- 6:00 PM Mother's Day Novenas

Monday, May 11th *Easter Weekday*

- 7:00 AM Mother's Day Novenas
- 12:00 Noon Delores Hughes

Tuesday, May 12th *Easter Weekday*

- 7:00 AM Mother's Day Novenas
- 12:00 PM Vera Montalbano

Wednesday, May 13th *Easter Weekday*

- 7:00 AM Mother's Day Novenas
- 12:00 Noon Madeline and Howard Bowman
- 5:00 PM** (Vigil Mass) People of the Parish

Thursday, May 14th *The Ascension of the Lord*

- 7:00 AM Eric Bennett
- 12:00 Noon Jean Wohr
- 7:00 PM** Alphonsius Hoonhout

Friday, May 15th *Easter Weekday*

- 7:00 AM Mothers Day Novenas
- 12:00 Noon Special Intention - Joe C.

Saturday, May 16th *Easter Weekday*

- 8:00 AM John Enright
- 5:00 PM Joanne Cavalieri
- 7:30 PM (Spanish) People of the Parish

Sunday, May 17th *Seventh Sunday of Easter*

- 8:00 AM Mary Theresa Pennachio
- 10:00 AM Kristen Bigora
- 12:00 Noon Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney
- 6:00 PM John R. Klaus IV



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, all requests received this weekend will be added as of May 11th.



Have a Blessed and Happy Mother's Day!

~the pastoral staff at St. John the Evangelist

EASTER DONATIONS		
Year	Total	As of
2026	\$62,333	to date
2025	\$58,605	Final

PARISH WEEKLY DONATIONS			
Average Weekly from January 1, 2026 to present.			
Year	Total	# of Weeks	Average Weekly
2026	\$318,433	18	\$17,691
2025	\$312,794	18	\$17,377



As of 5/5/2026	2026	2025
New Parish Goal	\$120,855	\$115,100
Number of Donors	130	135
Total Pledged to date	\$58,710	\$63,795
Percent of Goal	48.6%	55.4%

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!



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

Fr. Patrick

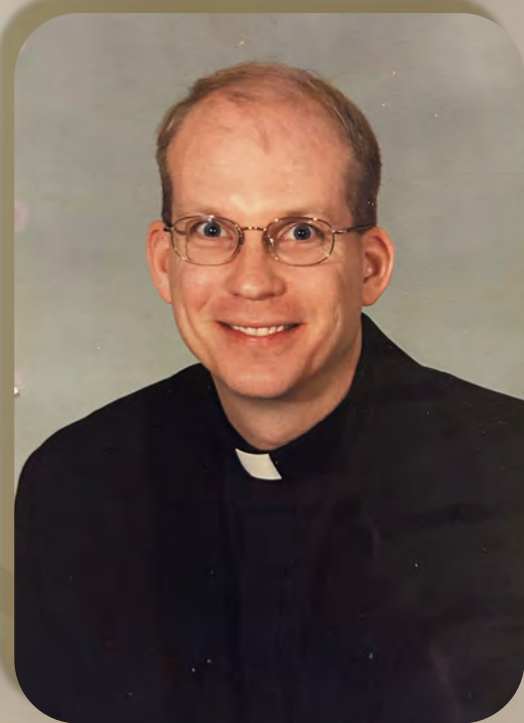
Mass of Thanksgiving

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

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.

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
McCaughey 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



*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.*

*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.*

WE PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

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

Lorraine Helen Keegan

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

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

Fr. Peter D'Abele	Diane Valero
Charles McIntosh	Linda Slater
Bill Hasper	Rachel Tekula
Mark Havens	John Harberger
James Patrick Lapham	Kevin Keane
Father Gil Lap	

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

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

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.

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

Our First Communion candidates and their families came together for our First Communion Retreat last month! They enjoyed crafts, snacks and a video and discussion/lesson on the Eucharist!



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):

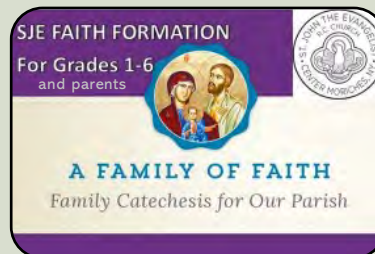
Sponsor/Candidate Night

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

Sponsors should bring their completed sponsor form to the service. If there is an extenuating circumstance and the sponsor cannot attend, a parent/guardian can attend the service in their place.

LEVEL 8 (Confirmation Prep Year 2):

We will contact all our Level 8 families via email once we receive a Confirmation date from the Bishop's office. Once that is confirmed, we will send out our Fall dates for our "Fearless" Fall program for those receiving Confirmation in the Fall of 2026. (This program also includes Catholic school students who will be entering 9th grade in the Fall). Questions? Email us at confirmation@sjecm.org.



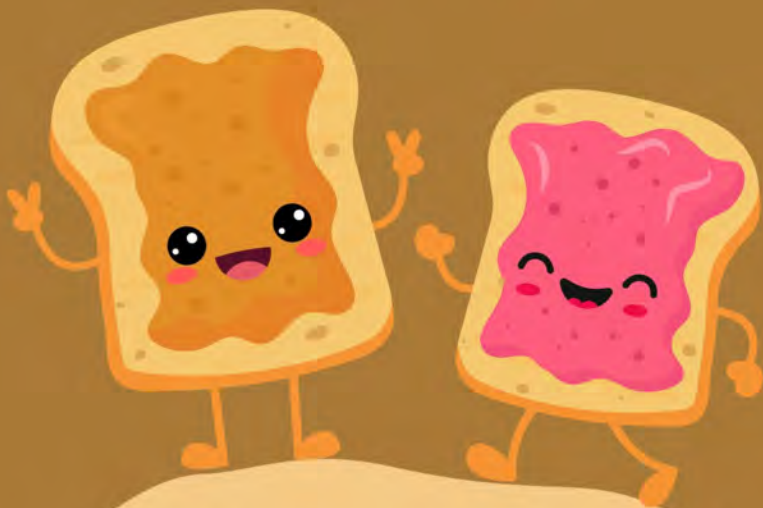
- **Thursday, May 12**
at 5 PM ONLY
(no 7 PM session)
in the Church

Level 6 Families: We will meet after the closing prayer service about your child's application into our Confirmation preparation program, which typically begins in 7th grade. An email with a link to the online Confirmation Application was sent to all registered Level 6 families.

SJE Family Life Ministry

Our next
Sandwich Sunday
is scheduled for...

Next Sunday,
May 17th



We meet @ 11:00 am in the school cafeteria, after the 10am Mass. Come feed the hungry by making PB & J sandwiches for Lighthouse Mission. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Join SJE
Holy Grounds Ministry



Let's grow something beautiful together

in faith, in service, and in love for our parish home.

We're still looking for more families, ministries, and individuals to join this joyful effort. Whether you're an experienced gardener or just looking for a meaningful way to serve, there's a spot waiting for you!

- 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.

Thank you to those who have already reached out—we're so grateful for your willingness to help care for our parish grounds!



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.



Our jewelry counter at the Thrift Shop could always use donations. If you are doing some spring cleaning and would like to donate, please drop off items directly into the shop on Monday or Tuesday mornings. Thank you!

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:

- ♥ Feminine hygiene products
- ♥ Men's Jeans sizes 32-36 gently used
- ♥ Men's and Women's new underwear
- ♥ Men's and Women's new tube socks
- ♥ Single razors and small shaving cream
- ♥ Men's and Women's Shorts gently used
- ♥ Travel size shampoo and small bar soap
- ♥ Men's and Women's T-shirts gently used
- ♥ Men's and Women's Sneakers gently used



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.

*May Crowning of the
Blessed Virgin Mary*



Sunday, May 31st

during the 10:00 AM Mass in the Church

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

Fatima Day

WEDNESDAY 13 MAY



10:30 am Solemn arrival and enthrone-
ment 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

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.



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

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

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Holy Hour & Eucharistic Procession

"Evangelizing is in fact the grace and vocation proper to the Church..." — Pope St. Paul VI, Evangelii Nuntiandi

Join us as the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage travels the Eastern Seaboard in celebration of America's 250th Anniversary.

While the National Pilgrims rest on Long Island, our Diocese will unite in prayer through a special Holy Hour—offering a meaningful opportunity to spiritually participate in this historic pilgrimage.

President:
Bishop John O. Barres

Preacher:
Fr. Cassian Derbes, O.P.

JUNE 17, 2026
7:00 PM

Retreat & Conference Center of the Immaculate Conception
440 West Neck Road, Huntington, NY

For more information, please contact:
mcooke@drvc.org

worldwide marriage encounter

Make this a summer to fall in love again!

Renew and Refresh your relationship With a weekend away to focus on your spouse

Give the gift of a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience

Are you ready for more growth and happiness in your marriage or priesthood?

Uncover the secrets to a lasting, supportive, transformational marriage!

This experience will help you listen, share and connect more deeply with your spouse

Apply at:
www.WWME.org
click apply and search by zip code or address

Scan QR Code for more information and to apply

Next Long Island Weekend
June 26-28, 2026
Immaculate Conception Seminary
Lloyd Harbor, NY

worldwide marriage encounter™

St Anthony of Padua & St Francis of Assisi Present

Celebrate Marriage

Saturday **May 16, 2026**
8:30 - gather & light breakfast
9am - 4pm Enrichment followed by 4:30 Catholic Mass

Come spend the day with the love of your life! This enrichment will renew your dreams, increase your passion and refresh and celebrate the Sacrament of your Marriage.

Location:
St Francis of Assisi Lower church
29 Clay Pitts Rd, Greenlawn, NY 11740

\$75 per couple
Includes breakfast and lunch
Questions? Call or text
Chuck & Maria Reiss
(631)766-9929

Scan to RSVP & REGISTER

A Message from Monsignor Walden...



As we continue our fifty day celebration of Easter in our Liturgical year, the Gospel reading at Mass last Sunday, this Sunday and next Sunday comes from what is called the Last Supper Discourse in St. John's Gospel (chapters 13-17). The words Jesus spoke on His last evening before His death and resurrection came to life for his apostles and do the same for us in light of the Resurrection. The lyrics from the simple song "Day by Day" from the musical "Godspell" come to mind and applied to the apostles and first generation of the Church as they do to us: "Day by day, day by day, oh dear Lord, three things I pray, to see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly." All that Jesus said and did has enriched all who put their faith in Him from the first generation of the Church up to our generation.

It is day by day, week by week, and year by year that we grow in our knowledge of and love for those who are an intimate and intricate part of our lives. How powerful, enriching, and life-giving these words are from today's Gospel: "On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him." Jesus is not up in heaven looking down to see what we are doing, but readily present and attentive to our presence and words of prayer. It is "day by day" that love grows. If there is no growth in peace, security, hope, trust, and gratitude, then we are depriving ourselves of the source of all hope, peace, wonder, and strength that Jesus so hungers to fill us with, and only He can do so to the fullest extent possible. Hopefully we are enriched everyday by the love of those who accept us for who we are and inspire and encourage us to be grateful and loving in return.

Time well spent does far more than just entertain and inform us. It enriches us and makes us more than we can ever be on our own. Taking

the time for sincere heart-to-heart conversations opens our minds and hearts to the joy only that can bring.

When we speak to God we are doing far more than saying our morning, night, or daily prayers. We are putting ourselves in His presence. Sometimes our prayers are for healing and hope, sometimes they are for divine wisdom, sometimes they are those learned by rote as children and now have a much more powerful effect in our lives. But the key is to take the time to give God our undivided and sincere attention. Heart to heart encounters fill us with true hope, joy, and gratitude. The words of Jesus in today's Gospel come from the very depths of His Sacred Heart. And they are spoken to us with the same life-giving love. May our daily prayers, our daily conversations with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Saints, and all who have gone before us continue to guide, enrich, and sustain us until we come to the fullness of life and love with them in the kingdom of heaven.

I conclude with a prayer I say everyday in Evening Prayer in the Divine Office, Mary's hymn of joy and praise, the Magnificat.

*My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.*

*He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.*

*He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.*

*He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.*

*He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children forever.*

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.

Father Dennis Suglia, will be celebrating his 15th year of Priesthood at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in West Islip, NY.



Celebration for Fr. Dennis

June 13th

Time: 6:00 PM

Where: St. Bernadette Hall

All are welcome to attend the 5 PM mass with Fr. Dennis. Immediately following this mass, our celebration honoring Fr. Dennis will begin.

To help make our celebration complete, we are requesting that parishioners planning to attend, please bring in a dessert, finger food or fruit. We can only accommodate room temperature food.

Thank you.

"Pray, Hope and Don't Worry"

St. Padre Pio



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:

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!



Weekly Calendar

Monday, May 11th, 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, May 12th, 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, May 13th, 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, May 14th, 2026 (Parish Offices Closed)

- 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 15th, 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 16th, 2026

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

Sunday, May 17th, 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