

St. John the Evangelist

Roman Catholic Church

*I Am
The Way,
The Truth
and The Life...*

May 3, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Lord let your mercy be on us, as we place
our trust in you. ~ Psalm 33



May 3, 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 9th

5:00 PM - Fr. Patrick

7:30 PM (Spanish) - Fr. Patrick

(Saturday Evening 5 PM Mass will be livestreamed.)

Sunday, May 10th

8:00 AM - Fr. Jerry

10:00 AM - Msgr. Walden

12 noon - Fr. Francis

6:00 PM - Fr. Francis

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

Reverend Patrick M. Riegger
Pastor

Reverend Charlince Vendredy
Parochial Vicar

Reverend Monsignor Ellsworth R. Walden
Retired, In Residence

Reverend Francis Lasrado
Retired, In Residence

Reverend Jerry DiSpigno
Parish Assistant

Reverend Peter D'Abele
Parish Assistant

John Pettorino
Deacon

Michael Hoonhout
Deacon

Ed Grieb
Deacon

Heather Crayne
Director of Parish Social Ministry

Carolyn Lapham
Director of Family Ministries

Michelle Pirraglia
Director of Faith Formation

Angela Werner
Director of Music Ministry

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 Message from the Director of Faith Formation ...

5th Sunday of Easter

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be.” ~John 14:1-3



What does it mean to “dwell”? Lectio Divina (divine reading) is an ancient way of slowly reading and meditating on the Scriptures in order to become more fully engaged in the Word of God and to deepen our relationship with God. Part of it involves listening for a word or phrase that stands out to you. As I meditated on today’s Gospel, (which we all have likely heard many times, especially at funerals), the phrase “DWELLING PLACE” struck me. “To dwell” can have many meanings—to keep our attention directed on something; to remain for a time; or to live in a place or with someone.

What have you been dwelling on lately? It’s easy to dwell on everything that is wrong in the world or our lives—and we should make ourselves aware of those important things. But there comes a point when “doom scrolling” or consuming media can become a “dwelling place” of fear, anger and resentment. Seeing injustice should lead us not to dwell there, but rather to take positive Christian action. (Following the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy is a good start.) In the Gospel, Jesus is calling us to dwell with Him; He hasn’t left us and He is coming back for us. He has prepared a true dwelling place where we can live with Him (and all in Heaven) and experience His true peace. At the same time, God is not indifferent to the suffering in the world. As Pope Leo XIV reminds us, Jesus calls us to bring God’s peace to the situations we find ourselves in, and to work for peace in the world. We can only do that if we make God the place where our hearts dwell.

“Do not let your hearts be troubled...” This can be one of the most comforting phrases in Scripture, but also one of the most difficult to live out. Over the past few months, some of my friends have experienced terrible loss and life-changing events. Mere human words often fail in these moments, but God’s Word - Jesus Christ - is our CORNERSTONE, as St. Peter reminds us in the second reading today.

The reality is that life is messy. There are tragedies, challenges, conflicts and events that are out of our control. Jesus is calling us to work on the things we can control, including our own faults and failings. Jesus calls us to look to Him – the Way, the Truth, the Life - when we face adversity, and when we feel lost, confused and disillusioned. This part of St. John’s Gospel takes place during the Last Supper immediately after Judas left to betray Jesus and the prediction of Peter’s denial. It was a very dark time. Jesus knew the agony that was ahead of Him, but in His Divine wisdom and love reassured the Apostles that there was already a place prepared for them, a place of love, joy and peace. And He reassures us as well; Jesus desires to take us to Himself, to be our dwelling place, living with us in an intimate and real way, especially in the midst of hardships and suffering.

Just as Jesus wants to dwell with us, we are called to dwell with others, especially in times of crisis and need. We saw this in a beautiful way as our parish came together to pray for James Patrick Lapham, the son of Carolyn Lapham, our director of Family Ministries. Carolyn and her husband, James, have been active members of our parish for decades and raised their family here. The Laphams have been there for me and so many other families in times of suffering and adversity. Now, as a community, we were able to show up for them in the wake of James Patrick’s motorcycle accident. It was beautiful to see so many at the two candlelight rosaries we held to pray for James Patrick’s recovery in body, mind and spirit—and we continue those prayers as he begins rehab.

If you’re looking for a good way to pray with and meditate on the Scriptures, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has a great resource: visit <https://catholic.bible/>

At the top of this web page, you can access the full Bible online, as well as daily readings and Lectio Divina meditations for the Sunday Gospels. I highly recommend it! You can also visit the USCCB website (usccb.org) for more links to Catholic Teachings, the Bible and more. It’s a great way to continue our lifelong and ongoing journey of faith!

Our Faith Formation team here at St. John’s is excited to be entering the month of May! Please pray for our 165 First Holy Communion candidates who will be receiving Jesus for the first time in the Eucharist this month! (You may see a few of our First Communicants at Sunday Masses!)

For our Grades 1-6 “Family of Faith” program, we look forward to our closing prayer services this month as we wrap up our year of studying the Sacraments. Last month, we were blessed to have four couples renew their vows as we learned about the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony, with Deacon Ed presiding and also teaching about the Sacrament of Holy Orders!

For students in Confirmation preparation, we look forward to our Level 7 Sponsor/Candidate Night on June 1.

Let us ask our Blessed Mother - who truly was a dwelling place for God - to intercede for us during this beautiful Month of May!

~Michelle Pirraglia

Masses for the Week...

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

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

Sunday, May 3rd Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

Monday, May 4th Easter Weekday

- 7:00 AM Theresa Pirro
- 12:00 Noon Alphonsius Hoonhout

Tuesday, May 5th Easter Weekday

- 7:00 AM Stanley Feldman
- 12:00 PM Mary Ellen Mitchell

Wednesday, May 6th Easter Weekday

- 7:00 AM Terry Parker
- 12:00 Noon Jack Dyer and his sister Katy Dyer

Thursday, May 7th Easter Weekday

- 7:00 AM Patricia Cuff
- 12:00 Noon Vincent Fiore

Friday, May 8th Easter Weekday

- 7:00 AM Elvire Gerardino
- 12:00 Noon People of the Parish

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 Novena's
- 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



Mother's Day Novena envelopes are available at the exits of the Church for our nine-day Novena of prayer. Entrusting our intentions to the loving intercession of the Blessed Mother, we will remember all mothers, both living and deceased. Kindly return your envelope to the Rectory Office on or before Thursday, **May 7th**, so that your intentions may be included.



Easter Appeal

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

EASTER DONATIONS		
Year	Total	As of
2026	\$62,108	to date
2025	\$58,605	Final

PARISH WEEKLY DONATIONS			
Average Weekly from January 1, 2026 to present.			
Year	Total	# of Weeks	Average Weekly
2026	\$301,313	17	\$17,724
2025	\$293,261	17	\$17,251



As of 4/28/2026	2026	2025
New Parish Goal	\$120,855	\$115,100
Number of Donors	122	132
Total Pledged to date	\$56,180	\$62,745
Percent of Goal	46.5%	54.5%

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!



"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace" 1 Peter 4:10

Sharing Our Gifts through the CMA

Stewardship is the grateful response of every Christian disciple to share our God-given gifts of time, talent and treasure in a way that passionately sets our hearts on fire and touches the lives of others, as we live the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. The Catholic Ministries Appeal is an excellent way to journey through the Pillars of Hospitality, Prayer, Formation and Service to express your gratitude to God.

Through the Pillar of Hospitality and Service, many parishes form CMA committees to support a smooth and organized Appeal effort and by creating a welcoming environment for all. Others share their gifts by volunteering in the ministries that the CMA supports, such as formation classes and parish outreach programs.

Through the Pillar of Prayer and Formation, the Catholic Ministries Appeal brings us closer to those we help and support as we become more "connected" with our sisters and brothers through prayer and evangelization ministries. We may wish to pray for those who support and volunteer for the committee and for those who receive support from the appeal.

The CMA provides an opportunity for stewards to use their treasure to serve more than 600,000 of our sisters and brothers each year in our formation and Catholic Charities pastoral programs. It is rare that just one person or one parish could touch this many lives. The CMA brings us beyond the individual, the group and the parish and unites us as one Church of Long Island.

The Catholic Ministries Appeal is Stewardship in action!

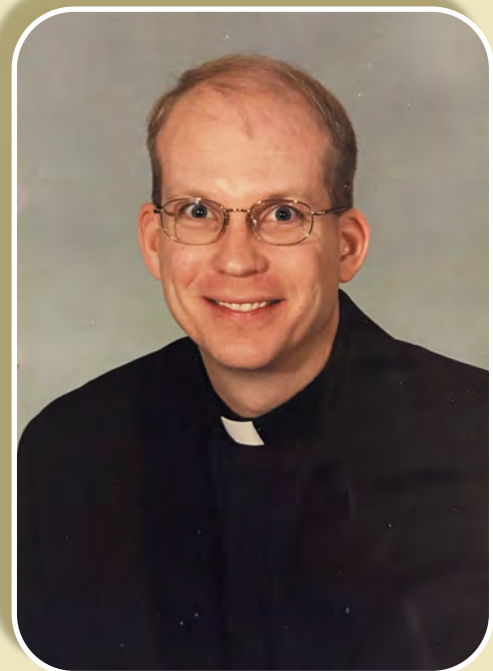
*Please join us as we celebrate
25 years of priesthood
for our pastor,*

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
McCauley II, William E. — Staff Sergeant
McGrath, Claire — First Lieutenant
Pfister, James — Airman First Class
Rosato, Jared T. — Senior Airman
Sferrazza, Salvatore — Lieutenant Colonel
Traina, Peter A. — Airman First Class

United States Coast Guard

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



*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.*



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.

Lynn Brosi

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

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.



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

OUR LADY QUEEN OF APOSTLES PRESENTS



THE LITTLE
MERMAID
Jr.

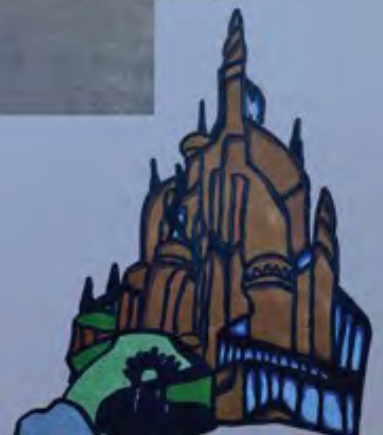


TICKETS:
\$10 - ADULTS
\$5 - CHILDREN

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

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

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



OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

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

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.



- Tuesday, May 7 & 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.



Get ready for an
unforgettable
adventure!

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

July 13 – July 17, 2026

For children entering Kindergarten
through Grade 5 (September 2026)

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



CAMPER QR CODE



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



VOLUNTEER QR CODE



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

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

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



Adoration

of the Blessed Sacrament

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

Support the Catholic School Difference!



Second Collection Weekend 2026



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



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

www.drvcschools.org



Department of Education, Diocese of Rockville Centre

Bereavement Support...

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

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

Saturday mornings - 10:30 AM to 12 Noon

First floor meeting room in the Barn.

REGISTRATION: Contact the Rectory at

631.878.0009 or via email at

Rectory@sjecm.org

\$10 donation for the workbook.

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.



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

A heartfelt thank you to Eddie Kelly for donating hundreds of fresh apples to our food pantry Ernie's Place. He and his family held a donation drive during the month of April, and they dropped off close to 1,000 apples!! Fresh fruit is so welcomed by those who visit our pantry, we are grateful to Eddie for thinking of how much he likes apples and how beautiful it is to share with others.



ERNIE'S PLACE

Ernie's Place Food Pantry is open to serve those in need in our community on Monday's from 6:30-7:30 PM and Thursdays from 3:00-4:00 PM. If you are interested in volunteering to serve when we're open or to help re-stock and organize our pantry shelves, please call to join us!



STREET MINISTRY

Every Thursday night our Street Ministry team provides a hot meal, bagged lunch, toiletries, clothing, coats, blankets and shoes to those in great need. Our donation bin is located in Fellowship Hall at the entrance of Church. If you'd like to be a part of our Street Ministry team or help sort and organize donations, we'd love to have you to join us! Please call the Parish Social Ministry office to get started.



Street Ministry donations requested:

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



Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which He looks compassion on this world.

A Message from Monsignor Walden...



We live in a world that is all too often polluted with violence. The weapons are not just guns, knives, bombs and a host of other physical objects that cause harm, they are also our words and attitudes that are expressed verbally and even more prolifically over the internet. Where is the path to peace? One of the books I use for my prayer time everyday is "Benedictus, Day by Day with Pope Benedict XVI". On Tuesday, April 27, there was this insight that is so simple yet crucial and powerful, an insight that opens our minds and hearts to the power of God's goodness, love, and life which we so hunger for in our hearts and absolutely need in our world: "The life of God lives in us. The breath of his love, of his truth, and of his goodness. To his breath the Lord joins the power of forgiveness. The strength that opens up and overcomes Babel is the strength of forgiveness. Forgiveness comes from the cross; he transforms the world with the love that is offered. His heart opened on the cross is the door through which the grace of forgiveness enters in the world. And this grace alone is able to transform the world and build peace. Evil can be overcome only by forgiveness."

One of the strongest impulses we have when offended is to get even. Yet that only makes the situation worse and the road to peace longer. Jesus is the essence of forgiveness. His forgiveness is not a compromise but a sincere desire to be one with us and show us the way to true unity and peace with Him and one another. In John 14:6, part of the Last Supper discourse Jesus says, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life." Later that very evening after speaking those words, "Jesus was arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane by a crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent by the chief priests and elders". In spite of the injustice, Jesus knew the only way to peace was paved with true forgiveness and the humble, grateful acceptance of it.

Reconciliation is not ignoring the evil done but

opening the hearts of the offended and the offenders to the path of peace. That peace is not just the absence of tension where we let live and live independently, but the path to peace in our hearts and peace with one another. After World War II, we had the Marshall Plan where we helped rebuild war-torn Europe, and we also helped Japan rebuild. Enemies became friends, not just two separate coexisting entities. We can feel helpless when we read reports of the war in the Middle East. But we are not helpless in our relationships with one another. That hinges on our unity with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Jesus was always ready to forgive: "Then Peter approaching asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive him? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times."

Forgiveness from the heart is not compromising but the road inner peace, joy, and hope. We begin every Mass with the Penitential Rite where we seek God's forgiveness for our sins which is readily granted. We are sent forth from Mass with these words: "Go in peace, the mass is ended!" That is the peace we so sorely need with one another, the peace Jesus makes possible through, with, and in Him. Jesus makes it clear that "Evil can be overcome only by forgiveness."

Our Father, Who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy Name.

Thy Kingdom come.

Thy Will be done,

on earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

**And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

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

Knights of Columbus

BINGO
Night

Every Friday
Doors Open at 6:30 P.M.
Games Begin at 7:30 P.M.
\$3000 IN PRIZES

SJE Parish Auditorium

Fatima Day

WEDNESDAY *13* MAY

10:30 am Solemn arrival and 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

worldwide marriage encounter

Make this a summer to fall in love again!

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

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

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

Give the gift of a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience

Scan QR Code for more information and to apply

DIocese OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

ONE NATION UNDER GOD

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.

**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

President:
Bishop John O. Barres

Preacher:
Fr. Cassian Derbes, O.P.



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 4th, 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 5th, 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 6th, 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 7th, 2026

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR
- 3-4 PM Food Pantry Open - Ernie's Place
- 3:30-5:30 PM Legion of Mary- BMR
- 3-7 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - SC
- 7:30 PM Al-Anon - BMR

Friday, May 8th, 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 9th, 2026

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

Sunday, May 10th, 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