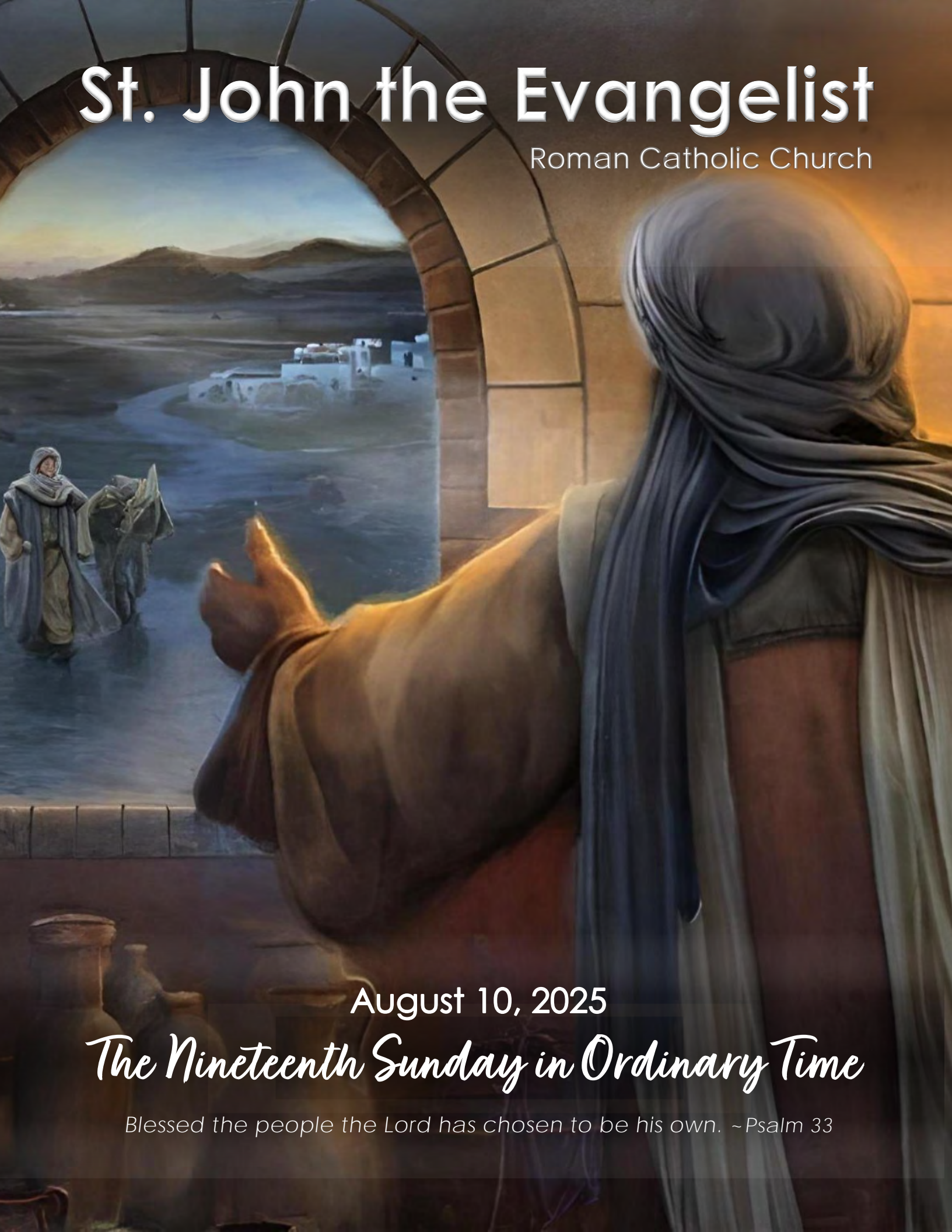


# St. John the Evangelist

Roman Catholic Church



August 10, 2025

*The Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own. ~ Psalm 33*



August 10, 2025

25 Ocean Avenue, Center Moriches, New York, 11934-3968  
631-878-0009 | [rectory@sjecm.org](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org)

## OUR PARISH MISSION

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

-Mission Statement

## Church Hours

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

## Next Weekend's Schedule

### Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>

5:00 PM - Msgr. Walden

7:30 PM (Spanish) - Fr. Peter

(Saturday Evening 5 PM Mass  
will be livestreamed. Videos remain  
on Facebook after the live broadcast.)

### Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM - Fr. Patrick

10:00 AM - Fr. Francis

12 noon - Fr. Charlince

6:00 PM - Fr. Jerry

\*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

**Carolyn Lapham**

Director of Family Ministries

**Michelle Pirraglia**

Director of Faith Formation

**Heather Crayne**

Director of Parish Social Ministry

**Katie Waller**

Director of Operations

**Angela Werner**

Director of Music Ministry

## Mass Schedule

## 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](http://www.olqany.org)

**Dawn Waller**, Principal

[dwaller@olqany.org](mailto:dwaller@olqany.org)

## Office Hours

### \*Summer Office Hours\*

**Monday: 9 AM - 7:30 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.

## 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 Deacon Michael Hoonhout...

## 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time



The saying goes, “there is no place like home,” and we all know the feeling of peace and contentment that comes over us when we get home after a long trip or a hard day at work. “Home is where the heart is” is another popular saying, and the way we decorate our homes to reflect our personal tastes and fill them with pictures of our family shows that the home is the heart’s resting place. And yet...many of us have a second home to get away from our first, and others have a boat or like to go camping in order to get away from where our heart generally wants to be. Our home is very dear to us, *but not quite enough to satisfy our hearts at all times*. This deep truth—that our hearts will only truly rest in God’s Kingdom—is the theme of this week’s Gospel.

**Hopefully by now** you have learned that each time you pursue something more in this world, your heart is not going to remain satisfied. It won’t be long before you get tired of what you have and want something different. Since the heart’s deep desire always for more, more, MORE!!! cannot be quenched in this world, we need to embrace St. Augustine’s famous spiritual maxim: “Our hearts are restless until they rest in you, O Lord.” Though many unspiritual people think religion, and Christianity in particular, is about suppressing desires, the exact opposite is true: we are called to desire more than this world has to offer by “lifting up our hearts” to want what God has promised us in the life to come.

**Listen to the way** today’s second reading from Hebrews describes how the Patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob sought what lies beyond this world because of their faith in God’s promises:

*They did not receive what had been promised but saw it and greeted it from afar and acknowledged themselves to be strangers and aliens on earth, for those who speak thus show that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land from which they had come, they would have had opportunity to return. But now they desire a better homeland, a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.*

**Have you ever** acknowledged that you too are a “stranger and alien on earth”? You are as a believer, a descendant of Abraham our father in faith, for faith is forward looking and, like Abraham, we have to be one who seeks the promised land. To be a follower of Christ is not to be one who is always padding one’s own nest or building bigger barns. Our true home is heaven, and we need to let heaven be our treasure, “For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.”

**In the Gospel**, Jesus teaches us that we have to be expectant, waiting, prepared, ready, looking for that sudden and unexpected day when He will return and reward those who truly lived for His promises. There are two things we can say with absolute certainty about the Second Coming of Jesus Christ: the day is definitely going to come, and it is going to come when we are not expecting it. So we must be vigilant and watchful, living each day knowing his return is as definite as it is definitive. But we are not to wait *in fear*. No, we are called to wait *with longing*. The best way to prepare is to grow each day in your desire for heaven, for it alone is our heart’s true home.

Well, begin with changing your expectations about what this world can offer. Remember as Christ says this world’s treasures wear out: worldly wealth is lost eventually to moth, rust, or thief. Accept that the things of this world are going to fail to satisfy, so that instead of becoming exasperated by life’s disappointments, you let them spur you to prefer the higher things of God. Most of all, discover how beautiful, how desirable, how wonderful God truly is. Be mindful of how transcendent and all-surpassing God is in His unfathomable mystery, and then look at Jesus Christ, who “for our sakes became poor, although he was rich” (with a divine greatness beyond measure), “so that by his poverty” (the abasement of his suffering and death) “we might become rich” (cf. 2 Cor 8:9). Fall in love with Jesus more each day and you will find your true treasure. Only then will your heart deeply long for heaven as your true home.

## Masses for the Week...

### Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup> Weekday

5:00 PM John Fitzpatrick

7:30 PM (Spanish) People of the Parish

### Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup> Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Marilyn Tennant

10:00 AM Arleen and Michael Probeyahn

12:00 Noon Patrick Finn

6:00 PM Regina Cacioppo

### Monday, August 11<sup>th</sup> Saint Clare, Virgin

7:00 AM Paula Rovinsky

12:00 Noon Jennifer Lynn Villacci

### Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup> Weekday

7:00 AM Larry Brittan

12:00 PM Georgia Mazzocco

### Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup> Weekday

7:00 AM Grace Eve Carter

12:00 Noon Jennifer Lynn Villacci

### Thursday, August 14<sup>th</sup> St. Maximillian Kolbe, Priest & Martyr

7:00 AM Peter Kwiatkoski

12:00 Noon Katy Dyer and her brother Jack Dyer

5:00 PM (vigil) Carl & Antoinette Woronka

### Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup> The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 AM James O'Connor Sr.

12:00 Noon Philomena Vigliotta

7:00 PM Special Intention– Isabel Stevens

### Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup> Weekday

8:00 AM Adrian Danielle Gilmore

5:00 PM Charles P. Eschmann Jr.

7:30 PM (Spanish) People of the Parish

### Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup> Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Special Intention-Eileen DeRicco

10:00 AM Theresa LoSicco

12:00 Noon Larry Brittan

6:00 PM Adilia Franco

## Annual Summer Appeal

**Please  
support  
our annual  
summer  
appeal!**



**You can make a donation by using  
the QR code above. Thank you for  
your generous support!**

### Annual Summer Appeal Collection

2025	\$34,237	As of 8/4/25
2024	\$42,168	FINAL

### PARISH WEEKLY DONATIONS

Average Weekly from January 1, 2025 to present.

Year	Total	# of Weeks	Average Weekly
2025	\$548,296	31	\$17,687
2024	\$560,754	31	\$18,089

## 2025

**Please help us  
reach our goal!**

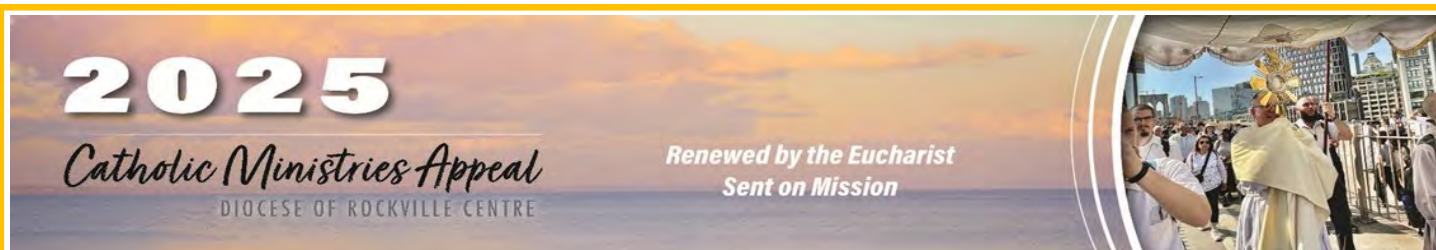
*Catholic Ministries Appeal*  
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

*Renewed by the Eucharist  
Sent on Mission*



As of 7/22/2025	2025	2024
Parish Goal	\$115,100	\$115,100
Number of Donors	182	199
Total Pledged to date	\$77,930	\$81,195
Avg. Gift	\$428	\$408
Percent of Goal	68%	71%

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!



## Thank You!

*Your Gifts Make a Direct Impact on so Many in Our Community!*



With the increase in costs throughout the nation, more and more of our neighbors are finding it increasingly difficult to make ends meet. While we all want to donate with a generous hand, it's important to know exactly where our dollars go and who they are helping.

The Catholic Ministries Appeal funds many ministries in the Diocese of Rockville Centre. Your donated dollars go directly toward funding ministries such as Campus Ministry, Young Adult Ministry, Youth Ministry, Catholic Charities, Faith Formation, Respect Life, Vocations, and many of our parishes use their CMA rebate to fund their Parish Outreach programs.

### ***But where and how you may ask is this money used?***

#### **A Place To Worship**

Campus Ministry connects students with a Catholic community on campus, so their faith thrives in college and beyond. At one of the campuses on Long Island, students didn't have a sacred place to pray so they worked together with our Office of Campus Ministry to convert a storage closet into a chapel.

*"Our job at Hofstra Campus Ministry is to evangelize, and we do that by forming relationships with people, being visible to them, celebrating mass on Sundays and Wednesdays, praying the rosary. Faithful young people are present here and they are on fire and they deeply desire to find Christ. They are seeking the truth and they will find it here in the Church."* Gina, Campus Minister at Hofstra University.

#### **Growing Faith**

The CMA funds Faith Formation programs that include baptismal, pre-Cana, and RCIA programs. By providing leadership training, guidance, evaluation, resources, and programming. The Office of Faith Formation strives to support our pastors, clergy, catechetical lay leaders, and volunteers in their efforts to be joyful, hopeful witnesses to the Gospel and agents of evangelization.

#### **Supporting our Seminarians**

Your gifts help support the formation of our Seminarians. Ordained in 2024, Fr. Joseph Lettieri heard the call to the priesthood early on and his calling grew in the practice of Eucharistic Adoration. *"My principal goal as a priest in our diocese is the salvation of souls. To lead the people of God on their way to heaven – to bring them closer to the Lord and ultimately to eternal life. The Catholic Ministries Appeal is so important to the life of our Catholic community. Giving to the Appeal cements the future of our Diocese with good priests and good formation as well as many other important ministries for the life of the Church on Long Island,"* shared Father Lettieri

#### **Paying Forward**

*"My support of the Catholic Ministries Appeal is based on one philosophy: Paying Forward. While growing up, my mom always taught us that if God has been good to us, we should share our blessings with others. The Catholic Ministries Appeal reminds us that when the Lord was on earth, He fed the hungry. And we feed the hungry in so many ways. We not only provide for their basic needs, but we also provide for their spiritual needs. The Catholic Ministries Appeal responds to so many needs on Long Island and if it weren't there, so many people would be without basic needs."* -Marcy, Volunteer PSM





August 10, 2025

# Praying For and With One Another

## Remember

## Our Military

“For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died.” -1 Thessalonians 4:14

### Pray for the Sick

Carol Theisen, Cathy Mussi,  
Mark Havens, Eileen DeRicco,  
Alessandra Veloso Valentim,  
Michael Campanello, Gregory Modica

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

If you would like a loved one's name placed under Prayers for the Sick, please call the rectory at 631.878.0009 or e-mail to [rectory@sjecm.org](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org).

### US Marine Corps

LC Michael Abbatiello  
CPL Evan Berkemeyer  
PFC Sean Brady  
PAC Kevin W. Deshler II  
SGT Quentin Montemarano  
PVT Charles O'Connor  
E-1 Christian Raeihle  
PFC Kyle Toscanini  
2<sup>nd</sup> LT Christopher Walther

### US Air Force

SrA Anthony Auciello  
SSGT David Giese  
SSGT Jason M Hermes  
PFC 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

### US Navy

E43CPO Jason Abbatiello  
MMN2 Christopher J Esposito Jr  
STGCS Brian Holzmacher  
ET3 Jeremiah Nolan, Jr  
ETVSN Angel Gabriel Montoya Rivera  
ENS Ralph J. Ruggiero  
SR Thomas Taylor III  
SR Jack Patrick Walsh  
SR Michael Paduana  
EM3 Andrew R. Casey

### US Army

SGT Sean Casey  
PVT Joseph Cestare  
SPC Michael Garcia Jr  
PVT Anthony Koch  
CPL Aidan O'Neill  
PFC David Smith  
Steven Valentin  
PFC Francis J. Amalifitano

### 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](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org).



## Remembering Our Loved Ones

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

*John Nicholas Abazis*

### 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 \$200 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](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org)

# *The Solemnity of the Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary*

Friday, August 15th 2025  
A Holy Day of Obligation

*"A great sign appeared in  
the sky, a woman clothed  
with the sun, with the  
moon under her feet, and  
on her head a crown of  
twelve stars."*

- Revelation 12:1



Vigil Mass + Thursday, August 14th

5:00 PM

Holy Day Mass + Friday, August 15th

7:00 AM + 12 noon + 7:00 PM



# PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

PSM Office 631.878.0009 ext 120  
EMAIL: socialministry@SJEcm.org

A huge THANK YOU to all of the volunteers and the Knights of Columbus who cooked and served at our Community Meal last month! Those in need in our community were treated to a delicious BBQ of hamburgers and hot dogs, salads and desserts. It was a wonderful night to sit outside and enjoy and meal. We are blessed by the outpouring of generosity!



## Ernie's Place

Ernie's Place Food Pantry is open to serve those in need in our community on Monday's from 6:30-7:30pm and Thursday's from 3:00-4:00pm. We are in great need of volunteers to help when we're open and to help re-stock our shelves which takes place one or two days a week in the mornings. Please call to join us!



### Pantry Shopping List:

- \* Drink Boxes
- \* Canned Chicken
- \* Jar Pasta Sauce
- \* Cake Mix and Icing
- \* Bags of Black & Red Beans
- \* Small Bags of White Rice
- \* Small bottles of Cooking Oil
- \* Syrup
- \* Ketchup
- \* Hot Sauce

## Thrift Shop

Our Thrift Shop is open every Wednesday from 9am-12pm All are welcome to shop! The proceeds from the weekly sales at the shop are returned to our Parish outreach programs to help those in need in our local community. Donations are greatly appreciated in the green bins in the school parking lot in front of our shop anytime but especially on Monday and Tuesday mornings between 9am-11am!

## Street Ministry

Our Street Ministry team provides food and clothes to those in need every Thursday night. There are lots of opportunities to get involved whether you like to cook, serve, help load our van or fold clothes. Please reach out for more information!



- ◆ Single Razors
- ◆ Shaving Cream
- ◆ Face/Wash cloths
- ◆ Gently used t-shirts
- ◆ Women's new Underwear (S, M)
- ◆ Men's new Underwear & Socks (S, M, L, XL)
- ◆ Gently used men's & women's sneakers
- ◆ Gently used men's jeans (all sizes)

*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



# "Sing to the Lord a new song..."

Do you love to sing? Do you have a musical talent waiting to be shared?

Come lift your voice with the St. John the Evangelist Choir and be part of something truly beautiful! Whether you're a seasoned singer or just love to make a joyful noise, there's a place for you in our choir family.

We recently said goodbye to two cherished members who returned home to the Netherlands — and while they are deeply missed, their absence has left an opening we hope you might fill. We are especially hoping to welcome a few more male voices to keep our sound strong and balanced.



## *Join the Choir - Make a Joyful Noise!*

August 13th at 7pm

Rehearsals are filled with laughter, learning, and harmony. Let your voice be heard—and help lead our parish in prayer through song.

We rehearse on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM from September through June, but this August 13th we're offering special new-member rehearsal in the church to help newcomers settle in and feel at home.

A short, friendly voice check with our director will help find the best fit for your voice. The atmosphere is relaxed, supportive, and encouraging—we'd love to welcome you!

For more information please contact our  
parish Choir Director:  
Kalina Mrmevska through email,  
[music@sjecm.org](mailto:music@sjecm.org) or call the parish office;  
631-878-0009

# *... for He has done marvelous things!"*

— Psalm 98:1



# OFFICE OF FAMILY MINISTRY

## Moms on the Journey



Our Moms on the Journey group gathered on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. We took advantage of the delightful summer evening and met on the Convent Porch. After a lovely time of fellowship and feasting, we explored our identity in Jesus and the need to recognize ourselves not only as moms, but as daughters of the Righteous King. We dove more deeply into the beauty and blessing that our true identity brings. We discussed our tendencies to “beat ourselves up” over our relative shortcomings and our seemingly never-ending quest to be “supermoms”. We shared about our need to embrace our imperfections, forgive ourselves and walk in gratitude and dependence upon the Lord. We reflected individually on our need to let go of certain things, attitudes, judgments that weigh us down and distract us from who we are in Christ. After jotting them down we went to the foot of the cross and tossed our burdens into the flame of forgiveness. Those burdens remained as ashes, unrecognizable and unable to be picked up again, symbolic of our true hope to be freed from the fears, worries and anxieties that often render us both helpless and hopeless. The moms found it liberating and transformative and all reported a feeling of “lightness” and peace after our exercise. It was truly a beautiful evening. And to top it all off, we were joined by Fr. Charline, who served as a mentor, spiritual director and friend for our entire evening! What a blessing for all of us!

*Thank you Lord for the gift of the beautiful, faith-filled mothers in our parish. Strengthen them, guide them and help them to accept Your mercy and unconditional love! Amen*

Next gathering:  
Wednesday, August 27  
@ 7:00 PM  
Upper Room of the Barn





# OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

Phone: 631-878-0009, ext. 5  
 Website: <https://sjecmff.blogspot.com/>  
[faithformation@sjecm.org](mailto:faithformation@sjecm.org) / [mpiraglia@sjecm.org](mailto:mpiraglia@sjecm.org)  
 Office Hours: By Appointment Only

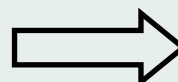
## Online Registration OPEN Now Thru 8/22!

### Incoming 1st Graders / New Students & Returning Students (Levels 1-8):

St. John the Evangelist's Faith Formation program serves our parish youth, beginning in First Grade, and their families as they grow in faith and prepare for the Sacraments. Those entering Grade 1, children who have not been in religious education for awhile, and returning students can **register online** via our parish website - [sjecm.org](http://sjecm.org) - thru 8/22.



SCAN THE QR  
CODE TO  
REGISTER



**\*NOTE:** New students must also fill out the New Student Registration Form on our website.



## REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS:

Scan the QR code above or visit the Faith Formation page on our parish website and follow the instructions for New and Returning Students:

<http://www.stjohntheevangelistcm.com/sjecm/faith-formation>

### \*NEW STUDENTS:

If you have a 1<sup>st</sup> grader/new student, you must also fill out the New Student Registration Form:

<http://www.stjohntheevangelistcm.com/FamilyAndEnrollStudentForm.html>




If your child is a new student and was not baptized at SJE, please email a copy of your child's baptismal certificate to: [faithformation@sjecm.org](mailto:faithformation@sjecm.org)



## INCOMING LEVEL 7 Students

To parents/guardians of students enrolled in our Level 6 program this past year who will be entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade in the Fall, please check your email for instructions on how to apply for our Confirmation program! (An email was sent to all Level 6 students on May 1). If you have a child who is in 7<sup>th</sup> grade or older but has not started the Confirmation program, please email us at [faithformation@sjecm.org](mailto:faithformation@sjecm.org)





# OPERATION ANDREW

An evening of prayer, fellowship,  
and discernment for men (18+),  
with **evening prayer and dinner.**


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## AUGUST 20, 2025

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### BEGINS AT 6:00 PM

**LOCATION:**  
**The Cathedral of St. Agnes**  
*in ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NY*



**TO REGISTER**  
Please visit:  
[drvcvocations.com/andrew](http://drvcvocations.com/andrew)

## 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](mailto:Rectory@sjecm.org)  
\$10 donation for the workbook.

Join us for a Historic Tour of Oheka Castle, Followed by a Cocktail Reception!



### Why Attend Catholic Charities Night?

It's more than just a night out—it's a chance to celebrate community and compassion.

Join us on **Thursday, August 21 at 6:00 PM** for an unforgettable evening at the historic **Oheka Castle**. Enjoy a guided tour of this Huntington landmark, followed by a cocktail reception with signature drinks, delicious bites, and memorable photo opportunities.

More than the beautiful setting, this evening is about connecting with others who care deeply about the mission of Catholic Charities of Long Island. Together, we'll reflect on the impact we've made and the lives we continue to touch—thanks to supporters like you.

Registration is simple, and we hope to see everyone in attendance. Make a summer memory that matters—get your ticket today and join us at Oheka!





## A Message from Msgr. Walden...



One of the great marvels of this point in our lives in the twenty-first century is AI, artificial intelligence. I have seen two, almost unbelievable things through it. The first was when a priest was asked to say prayer at an inauguration of a politician. He verbally told the program on the computer what the situation was and boom! Within thirty seconds there was a wonderfully-Catholic prayer a page long for the occasion. The second time I was actually part of being transported by AI. I met with group of men to go to a golf outing in Syosset. We met in a parking lot in Smithtown and put our clubs in the cyber truck of one of the men in our foursome. We got in the truck and the driver said, "Watch this!" He programmed the truck to drive us to the golf course in Syosset and it did so without him touching the steering wheel, brake or gas pedal through rush hour traffic the whole way.

As we live our lives everyday, we take another step to our final destination, eternal life in the fullness of God's presence forever in heaven. This is not a hands-off journey that tells us to sit back and enjoy the ride. It is a gift just to be alive and to experience who and what we are as human beings. Not only do we have the gift of life, we have the gift of faith that illumines our path everyday. While we are not conscious of who and what we are and where we are ultimately going every step everyday of our lives, the gift of faith is the much needed light that gives us hope, direction, inspiration and strength to stay on the path that brings peace.

These past weeks the first reading at the Masses during weekdays have recounted the escape of the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt, and how God guided them and miraculously fed them each day with manna in the morning and quail at night. The key was for them to only take what was needed for the day and trust that God would do the same day after day, which He did. They frequently complained, but God with His loving patience

remained faithful to His promise to feed them. Of course, the real nourishment was God's faithful love, mercy, presence, and providence.

Our daily journey through life presents us with untold messages, ideas, and situations to deal with. It is the same God who guided the Jewish people through the desert who guides us with His ever-loving presence. The key is to carry Him in our hearts as He carries us in His. Daily prayer where we "turn off" and put aside everything and everyone vying for our attention is a most nourishing encounter, as well as the gift of Jesus Himself in Holy Communion at Mass. Jesus was never distracted or discouraged in His earthly presence among us. Then, as now, He is ever present to our thoughts, words, and concerns. We have far more than artificial intelligence or human ingenuity. We have the loving, merciful presence of Jesus who brings us totally into His life with the Father and Holy Spirit, His Mother Mary, and all the angels and saints.

I close with this passage from St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians 3:12-17:

*Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

## 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](mailto:espanol@sjecm.org)

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

¡Dejanos ayudarte!

#### DESPENSA DE ALIMENTOS DE ERNIE

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

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

#### TIENDA DE SEGUNDA MANO

Miércoles - Granero

Miércoles de 9:00 AM a las 12:00 PM.

#### COMIDA COMUNITARIA

Último lunes del mes 6:00 PM  
auditorio de la escuela

#### MINISTERIO DE CALLE

Jueves - Estación de tren Mastic-Shirley  
7:15 PM (aproximadamente)

Se encuentran disponibles comidas y ropa sencillas.

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

## Women's Group...

Join us as we read, learn, and share life's experiences in a welcoming, open group. No commitment required - come when you can! You don't have to share or read aloud, and everything is confidential. We respect each other and are here for support. Bring a friend!

This past year, we read "The Sanctifier" by Archbishop Luis M. Martinez, exploring how the gifts of the Holy Spirit lead us to holiness. Our discussions often provide clarity and comfort, especially as we relate the lessons to our own lives. The book is provided.

We meet every other Monday from 10:00-11:30 AM in the white house between the school and rectory, ending in time for 12:00 Mass if you'd like.

*Enjoy your Summer ! See you in the Fall !*

Carol Ketcham and Anita Luccari, Group Moderators ~  
For info: 631-878-0009

## 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.



# Entering Canaan



A Woman's Weekend Retreat of Prayer & Healing

Friday, September 26th - Sunday, September 28th

For those suffering from a past abortion.

Come begin your healing journey!

His mercy and peace are waiting for you!

For confidential reservations call

Lorraine c: 516-798-9100

Email: [LGariboldi@LifeCenterLI.org](mailto:LGariboldi@LifeCenterLI.org) or

Deacon Fred Ferrara c: 201- 481-0800

Led by the Life Center of Long Island

Lorraine Gariboldi, Director of Post Abortion &

Pregnancy Loss Ministry

Theresa Bonapartis, Co-developer of Entering Canaan &

Director of Lumina/Hope & Healing after Abortion

## RETREAT DAY

Join *Sobornost For The World* for a meaningful day of prayer, inspiring talks, community, and living out Christ's mission in today's world.

Retreat Speaker: Rev. Dr. Felix Phiri, SMM

Where - Shrine of Our Lady of the Island

Conference Room

258 Eastport Manor Road, Manorville, NY 11949

When - Saturday, August 30, 2025

9:30 AM to 3:00 AM | Mass: 11:30 am Light refreshments offered

**What** - What might be holding you back from going out into the world with joy, courage and hope? What stands in your way and prevents you from moving toward others? This retreat will explore how reaching out to touch the tassel of Christ's garment in our need is an act of faith which can change our lives forever.

**Register** - (Suggested Donation \$35.00)

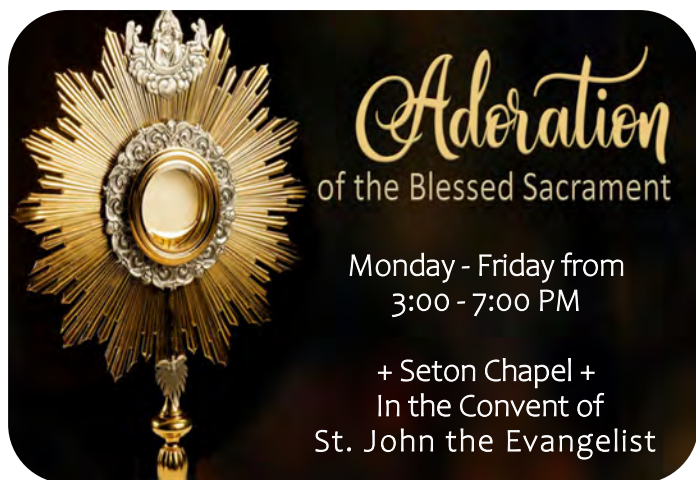
Text to 631-680-2892 or email [janniejankowski12366@gmail.com](mailto:janniejankowski12366@gmail.com)

A Fair Trade table of products will be available to support the Somborost Foundation missions.

**What to expect** - The members of Somborost For The World have been sharing the joy of Christ's mission on Long Island and around the world since 2003 following Jesus' teaching in Matthew 25 where He says: "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me." Each helps those who are in severe poverty around the world with what is given to share. Somborost members believe this is the way to live a joyful life.

Father Felix Phiri SMM, is serving at Our Lady of the Island Shrine, and is originally from Zambia. He holds a doctorate in Sacred Theology from Boston College and until his appointment as an Assistant to the Superior General of his Order, he taught Systematic Theology and Liturgy at Hekima University College, a Jesuit School of Theology, Peace and International Relations in Nairobi, Kenya. Somborost is honored and looking forward to partnering with Fr. Felix in this retreat.





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](mailto:rectory@sjecm.org) or call the Parish Office at 631.878.0009.



## THIS AUGUST, CRAFT A LEGACY OF FAITHFULNESS

August is **National Make-A-Will Month**, a moment to reflect on how we care for all God has entrusted us. It's also an opportunity to take a simple yet meaningful step to protect your loved ones and plan with purpose.

To support you in this important task, the Diocese of Rockville Centre is partnering with **FreeWill**, a [free, easy-to-use online tool](#) that helps you create or update your will in 20 minutes or less. This free resource walks you through each step of making a plan that reflects your values and priorities.

Whether or not you choose to include a gift to the Church, this resource is our gift to you. But if you feel called, you may also use your will to support a parish or ministry that has shaped your life in faith.

National Make-A-Will Month reminds us that securing long-term peace of mind starts with the decisions we make today. Join us in building a legacy of faithfulness not only for our families, but for the entire Catholic community that sustains us.

If you have any further questions about FreeWill, please contact 516-678-5800 ext. 257 or [bkilarjian@drvc.org](mailto:bkilarjian@drvc.org) for assistance in making the gift that is right for you.







# Lobster Fest

Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Corn on the cob, Salads, Clams on the half shell 🌀 Soda, Water, Cookies & Watermelon

Saturday, August 23rd 🌀 3 pm

You may bring your own adult beverage

## Tickets

Lobster \$50 pp

Chicken \$35 pp

Grab & Go available

Tickets MUST be purchased in Advance.

Tickets will NOT be sold at the door.



For Tickets call:  
George 631.786.1459

313 Frowein Rd, Center Moriches







## 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

# Weekly Calendar

## Monday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025

6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR  
6:30-7:30 PM Food Pantry Open - Ernie's Place

## Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025

6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR  
3-7 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - SC  
7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR  
7:00 PM Divine Will - AMR

## Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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

## Thursday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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

## Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (Parish Offices Closed)

6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR  
3-7 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - SC  
7:30 PM Knights of Columbus - BINGO  
7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous - BMR  
7:00 PM Spanish Prayer Group - SC

## Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025

6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR  
9:00 AM Men's Prayer Group - SC  
10:30 AM Bereavement Group - BMR

## Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR

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