

St. John the Evangelist

Roman Catholic Church



August 23, 2026

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Who Do You Say That I Am? ~ Matthew 14:15



August 23, 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, August 29th

5:00 PM - Fr. Francis

7:30 PM (Spanish) - Fr. Charline

(Saturday Evening 5 PM Mass will be livestreamed.)

Sunday, August 30th

8:00 AM - Fr. Charline

10:00 AM - Msgr. Walden

12 noon - Msgr. Walden

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 Charlinec 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

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

Dawn Waller, Principal

dwaller@olqany.org

Office Hours

Office Hours

Monday: 9 AM - 3:00 PM

Tuesday: 9 AM - 3:00 PM

6 - 8 PM Spanish-speaking support.

Wednesday: 9 AM - 4:00 PM

Thursday: 9 AM - 3:00 PM

Friday: 9 AM - 2 PM

Saturday: 9 AM - 2 PM

Please take note of the summer hours.
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.

From the Desk of Fr. Francis ...



In the Gospel for this weekend, Peter makes a profound profession of faith, *"You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God"*. The two titles that we commonly refer to Jesus, "Messiah" and "Christ" have exactly the same meaning, *the Anointed One*. Both are titles, "Messiah" from the Hebrew, "Christ" from the Greek. In his confession Peter acknowledges Jesus as Christ, the Messiah. Jesus makes it clear that Peter was able to make this profession of faith not by his own power but by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

In Mt. 1:21 Joseph is told by the angel in a dream: *"...you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."* The name 'Jesus' literally means the Savior. When we put together the name given by the angel and the title professed by Peter and say Jesus, the Christ (the Messiah), we are acknowledging that Jesus is the long-awaited Anointed One, the Savior who came to save us from sin.

It comes as something of a surprise to us that a number of times in the Gospels Jesus didn't want his followers referring to him as the Christ. In this text Jesus *"gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ"*. It is often referred to by Scripture commentators as the "Messianic Secret".

Why was Jesus reluctant to be identified or referred to as the Messiah? Why did he want to keep it a secret? The people of his time already had a set idea as to who the Messiah was to be and what he was to be like, and Jesus had to get through to them the new idea of who he really was. Their understanding was that the Messiah was going to be a great warrior-king in the tradition of King David -- a military leader, a political figure who would come to bring independence to Israel by force; also, like David he would bring prosperity to the nation. And Jesus knew that as long as they held on to their preconceived misconception of the Messiah, he would be constrained, as it were, to get them to accept the kind of new life, the fullness of life he was bringing into the world.

Jesus came, not in the form of a military or political leader, but as the embodiment, the personification of the Divine life. Jesus came, not to conquer and destroy, but to heal and save. Jesus came, not as a lofty king but as a humble servant. Jesus came to liberate, not through the power of the sword, but through the power of love.

It is of paramount importance that we have the correct notion of who Jesus is because of our perspective on life and life's issues, the way we think and act flow from it. So often we stress a particular characteristic of Jesus while undermining or even

ignoring other equally important ones; needless to say, it results in a lopsided or warped picture of Jesus. For instance, if I overemphasize the aspect of Christ's love and mercy and overlook his justice and fairness, my relationship with him and others may be negatively affected. The other way round might also have the same effect.

We can begin to see how practical and contemporary this is. Like the people of his time, do we try to fashion the Messiah according to our own preconceived ideas? Do we tailor his image to fit our own desires and concerns? We probably refuse to let him come to us on his terms. We may try to paint him to fit our own interests and prejudices; we refuse to let him in as he is and we refuse to let him come on God's terms.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was executed by the Nazis for refusing to submit to Hitler's tyranny. One of his close friends has written about an experience he had with Bonhoeffer one Sunday as they walked home from Church together. They were talking about the service and the sermon and so on when, suddenly, Bonhoeffer's friend told him that there was something about him he found very upsetting. "There are times when you seem distant and cold," he said. "Sometimes it is hard to get close to you. Sometimes you seem unresponsive, and you make people feel uncomfortable." Suddenly, Bonhoeffer stopped the man short by exclaiming, "Why can't you let somebody be who he is?" We do this, even to Jesus. Why can't we let him be who he is? Jesus comes to us. He is always on the scene ready to work some miracle in our lives, always ready to enrich our lives, always ready to move us into the fullness of life. But we miss him completely when we are not ready to receive him on his terms.

We surely ought to know as much about Jesus as possible - his life, teachings, and miracles; but it's even more important to know him on a personal level. In other words, we need to bring our knowledge of Jesus from the intellectual level down to our heart level, the experiential level and accept him as he is - the long-awaited Anointed One who comes to save us.

I suggest that we regularly read and meditate on the Gospels and interiorize Christ's message; let the message sink in as we apply it to our lives. Through a lived experience of his message and an intimate personal relationship with Christ we will be able to arrive at a clearer picture of who Jesus is for us and will be able to answer the all-important question: Who do YOU say I am?

Masses for the Week...

Annual Summer Appeal

Saturday, August 22nd *The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

8:00 AM Special Intention-John Harberger

5:00 PM Anthony Castellano

7:30 PM (Spanish) People of the Parish

Sunday, August 23rd *21st Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:00 AM Anna Patti

10:00 AM Lorraine Higgins

12:00 Noon Michael Lankau

6:00 PM Jeanette and John II LaRock

Monday, August 24th *Saint Bartholomew the Apostle*

7:00 AM Paul Somoza

12:00 Noon MaryAnn McLaughlin

Tuesday, August 25th *St. Louis, St. Joseph of Calasanz*

7:00 AM Dominick DiPrisco

12:00 Noon Wilma Pirro

Wednesday, August 26th *Weekday*

7:00 AM Martha Escobar

12:00 Noon Kenneth Linguiti

Thursday, August 27th *Saint Monica*

7:00 AM Brett Subsits

12:00 Noon Hilda Macejka

Friday, August 28th *Saint Augustine of Hippo*

7:00 AM Caterina Stabile

12:00 Noon Jack and his sister Katy Dyer

Saturday, August 29th *The Passion of St. John the Baptist*

8:00 AM Norma Spero

5:00 PM Kenneth Horbal

7:30 PM (Spanish) People of the Parish

Sunday, August 30th *22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:00 AM Eileen DeRicco

10:00 AM Glenn Probeyahn

12:00 Noon Kenneth Linguiti

6:00 PM Special Intention-Lapham Family

Please support
our Annual
Summer Appeal!



Summer Appeal

Year	Total:	As Of:
2026	\$35,725	8/17/26
2025	\$39,604	Final

PARISH WEEKLY DONATIONS

Average Weekly from January 1, 2026 to present.

Year	Total	# of Weeks	Average Weekly
2026	\$605,704	33	\$18,355
2025	\$585,575	33	\$17,745



As of 8/18/2026	2026	2025
New Parish Goal	\$120,855	\$115,100
Number of Donors	203	185
Total Pledged to date	\$85,500	\$78,390
Percent of Goal	71%	68%

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!

God Bless William McCann

We are very happy to announce that our very own parishioner, William McCann, will be entering St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, New York at the end of August. May God bless him as he enters his priestly ministry and may all the parents and families of our parish support and encourage our young men and women to search for, follow, and answer the call of God in their lives.

A Vocation Rooted in Faith

From an early age, William "Billy" sensed that God was calling him to something special. His grandfather faithfully took him to Mass every Sunday beginning when he was just three years old, planting the seeds of a deep and lasting faith. Like many young boys who dream of becoming priests, Billy would often 'play Mass' in his bedroom, enlisting his younger sister as an altar server with one of his father's white shirts serving as a chasuble and Swedish Wasa bread as the host. Even as a child, Billy had a gentle and natural way of sharing his faith with others, often talking about Jesus to classmates in his public elementary school, though many had never heard of Him.

His faith continued to grow through the youth ministry at St. John's under the guidance of Mike Clauberg. Those years proved instrumental in his spiritual formation. While attending a Steubenville Youth Conference, he experienced Christ in a profound way during Eucharistic Adoration, strengthening the call he had been sensing for years and deepening his desire to pursue the priesthood.

A week-long visit to Franciscan University of Steubenville further confirmed that calling. Immersed in a vibrant Catholic community focused on discerning God's will, he fell in love with the university and ultimately earned a Bachelor of Arts in Theology with a minor in Philosophy. Throughout his journey, Billy has developed a special devotion to St. Francis of Assisi, whose witness of humility, simplicity and joyful discipleship continues to inspire him. In addition, he is devoted to St. Therese of Lisieux, Padre Pio, St. Catherine of Siena, and Saint Thomas Aquinas.

Billy has been blessed by many people who have nurtured and encouraged his faith throughout his life. His mom and dad, Caroline and TJ McCann, and grandparents, Lisa and William Schneider, helped lay the foundation for his love of the Mass. His Nana, Ann McKenna (who passed away when he was in elementary school) had a strong faith, serving as a role model for leading a Catholic life, and she continues to watch over him from Heaven. His grandfather, John McCann, his wife, Kathy, and their extended family have also been a constant source of love, encouragement, and faithful example. His sister, Catherine, has also been very supportive of his vocation.

Within parish life, Billy has been equally blessed by the guidance of devoted priests. Father Walter Kedjierski (pastor of St. John's when William first began serving at the altar and participating more deeply in the liturgy) has remained a source of strength, wisdom, and encouragement throughout his discernment. Father Patrick Riegger (our current pastor here at St. John's, and Father Leone (now residing at St. Jude's) have also played significant roles in accompanying William as he has grown closer to Christ while continuing to discern God's call to the priesthood.

Most recently, Billy completed a pilgrimage to Rome, where he prayed at the tombs of St. Peter and St. Paul, asking for their guidance and intercession as he prepares to begin the next chapter of his vocation. He also remembered the people of St. John's Parish in his prayers. While in Assisi, he visited the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore, home to the tomb of Saint Carlos Acutis (a modern saint who has also been influential in William's faith journey).

This August, Billy will begin his formation as a seminarian at St. Joseph's Seminary (Dunwoodie) for the Archdiocese of New York. He humbly asks for your continued prayers as he begins this journey and assures the parish of his prayers in return.

by Angela Werner



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



Registration deadline extended to 8/31!

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. Please see sjecm.org for more info.

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 first 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

INCOMING LEVEL 7 Students - Please contact the office for late registrations...

To parents/guardians of students enrolled in our Level 6 program this past year who will be entering 7th 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 in April). If you have a child who is in 7th grade or older but has not started the Confirmation program, please email us at confirmation@sjecm.org

Calling All Alumni



St. John the Evangelist School •
 Our Lady Queen of Apostles School

Celebrating 100 Years — 1926–2026

Help us reconnect — update your contact info

Scan the QR or visit: <https://forms.gle/f595RY72FKeFfnVw8>



Full-Day & Half-Day Classes Available!

PRE-K 3 & 4

2026–2027

ENROLLMENT

Give your child the best start with a preschool that nurtures faith, creativity, confidence, and a love for learning!

Learn

- ✓ Small class sizes & personalized attention
- ✓ Hands-on, faith-based learning
- ✓ Safe & welcoming environment

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Schedule a Tour Today!

Call 631-878-1033

VISIT: WWW.OLQANY.ORG

Play



Please join the parish and school community of St. John the Evangelist
as we gather in thanksgiving to celebrate
100 years of Catholic education in our community.

Centennial Mass of Thanksgiving

Saturday, September 12, 2026

5:00 PM Vigil Mass

St. John the Evangelist Church

We are especially honored to welcome home **Bishop Robert Guglielmone**,
a 1959 graduate of **St. John the Evangelist School**, who will preside at this historic
Centennial Mass. His return makes this celebration especially meaningful as we
give thanks for 100 years of Catholic education and the many generations of
students whose lives have been shaped by this important ministry.

A Century of Faith, Learning & Service

On September 13, 1926, the doors of St. John the Evangelist School opened for
the first time. Founded by the **Sisters of Charity**, the school began its
mission of forming young people in faith, knowledge, and service.

What began 100 years ago has touched countless generations
of students, families, teachers, and parishioners.

In 1992, the school entered a new chapter as **Our Lady Queen of Apostles Regional
Catholic School**, joining with neighboring parishes while continuing the tradition of
Catholic education here on the campus of St. John the Evangelist.

This Centennial is more than a celebration of a school—

It is a celebration of a legacy of faith and
the many lives shaped by Catholic education throughout the past century.

As we begin our **2026–2027 Centennial Year**, we invite alumni, families, parishioners,
former students and teachers, and friends of our parish and school to come together
for this special Mass of Thanksgiving.

**Come celebrate our past, give thanks for our present,
and pray for the future of Catholic education in our community.**

We look forward to celebrating this historic milestone with you!



As One Family in Mission, we are called to serve God by serving others, and the Catholic Ministries Appeal gives us an opportunity to serve more than 600,000 people each year. The Appeal supports the multitude of ministries of the Diocese of Rockville Centre that provide evangelization and pastoral care. 100% of every dollar raised is restricted to fund the objectives, mission and programs of the Catholic Ministries Appeal including:

- Assisting people in need – those who are struggling with food insecurity, our senior citizens in need of housing or people with special needs;
- Forming our young people in our Catholic Faith through religious education programs, as well as youth, young adult and campus ministries;
- Helping in the education and formation of seminarians as they prepare for the priesthood;
- Protecting the dignity and sanctity of human life at every stage of existence;
- Helping parishes to support their Outreach and other programs through the CMA rebate program.

“I am so blessed to have the opportunity to talk to many of the people who are served by the ministries supported by the Catholic Ministries Appeal,” said Barbara Kilarjian, Director of the Office of the Catholic Ministries Appeal. “They are so thankful to the people of God on Long Island for their support. But most importantly through our gifts and efforts they are experiencing the Love of Jesus. We are all so thankful for our generous donors.”



CMA

**St. John's has reached 71% of
our CMA goal with just under
5 months to go!!!**

**There will be a special
collection after communion for
the CMA on the weekend of
August 29 & 30.**

71%



9/11 Mass of Remembrance

An American flag is shown waving in the foreground, with a city skyline, including the Twin Towers, visible in the background. The entire image has a blue tint.

Please join us for a
Mass of Remembrance
honoring the victims of September 11, 2001.
Thursday, September 10 at 7:00 PM
St. John the Evangelist Church

As we remember all those who lost their lives on 9/11, we come together as a community of faith to pray for the repose of their souls, for their families and loved ones, and for all those whose lives were forever changed. May we entrust them to the loving mercy of God and find hope in the promise of eternal life through Christ. All are welcome to join us in prayer and remembrance.

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
O'Neill, Aidan — Second Lieutenant
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
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. — Lieutenant
Taylor III, Thomas — Seaman
Walsh, Jack Patrick — Seaman
Racioppi, Dominick — Seabee EO-2

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.

Heavenly Father,

We come before You with grateful hearts, thanking You for the many blessings You have bestowed upon our nation. Guide our country in the ways of truth, justice, freedom, and peace.

We entrust to Your loving care all who serve in our Armed Forces. Protect them, strengthen them in times of challenge, and grant them courage, wisdom, and perseverance. Keep them safe wherever they serve and bring them home to their loved ones.

We remember with gratitude those who have given their lives in service to our country. Welcome them into Your eternal Kingdom, and comfort their families with the hope of the Resurrection and the assurance of Your un-failing love.

Help us to be faithful stewards of the freedoms we enjoy. Inspire us to live with integrity, serve one another with charity, uphold the dignity of every human person, and always seek the common good.

Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace and Patroness of the United States, bless our nation with unity, wisdom, justice, and lasting peace. Guide our leaders, strengthen our communities, and help us always to place our trust in You.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

WE PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

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

Jeffery Keith Kirk
Jeanne Marie Scudero

Althea Alberts
Madeline Foros

Kyle Thomas Doyle
Millie McDonald

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

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

Bill Hasper
Mark Havens
James Patrick Lapham

James Dinnigan
Rachel Tekula
Jessica King

*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 **August**, the altar bread and wine
are offered for the repose of the soul of:

John Nicholas Abazis

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.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

PSM Office 631.878.0009 ext. 120

Email: socialministry@SJEcm.org

THRIFT SHOP

Please visit our shop and see all the great items we have, there is new merchandise every week! We are open every Wednesday from 9:00 AM - 12 Noon and have fantastic prices on gently used (and some new!) clothing, shoes, housewares and more. The proceeds from our sales support SJE's parish social ministry outreach programs, benefitting those in need.



STREET MINISTRY

Our Street Ministry serves the poor in our community every week with a hot meal, clothing, and toiletries. Clothing and toiletry donations can be left in the box inside Fellowship Hall, near the front entrance of Church. Please call the PSM office if you are interested in cooking or volunteering for any of our ministries!



Street Ministry donations requested:

- ♥ Washcloths
- ♥ 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
- ♥ Men's and Women's T-shirts gently used
- ♥ Men's and Women's Sneakers gently used

ERNIE'S PLACE

Our food pantry is open to serve those in need in our community on Monday evenings and Thursday afternoons. Are you able to help serve? All you need is your volunteer badge, please call the PSM office at the number above to get started!

We are grateful for any non-perishable donations. Please place donations in the brown bin located outside of Ernie's Place or in the wagon inside Church near the main entrance. Thank you for your generosity!

Requested items:

- Bar soap
- Condiments
- Small bags white rice
- Jarred tomato sauce
- Pancake mix and syrup
- Canned and small bags of red beans



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

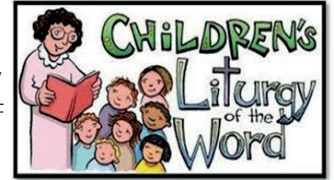
OFFICE OF FAMILY MINISTRY



Our Family Ministries are looking for enthusiastic adult volunteers who would like to share their gifts and help build a vibrant parish community. Whether you enjoy working with children, planning events, or simply lending a helping hand, there is a place for you!

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Help our youngest parishioners grow in their faith during the 10:00 AM Sunday Mass. Volunteers are needed as **Readers, Homilists, Shepherds, and Heralds**. If you're curious about the ministry, come visit a session and see what it's all about!



Family Life Ministry

If you enjoy bringing people together, this is the ministry for you! From seasonal celebrations to family activities and special parish events, our Family Life Ministry helps create meaningful experiences for all ages. We meet on the **first Wednesday of each month**, and there's always room for new ideas and helping hands.

If you would like more information or are ready to get involved, please email familylife@SJEcm.org. We'd love to welcome you to the team!

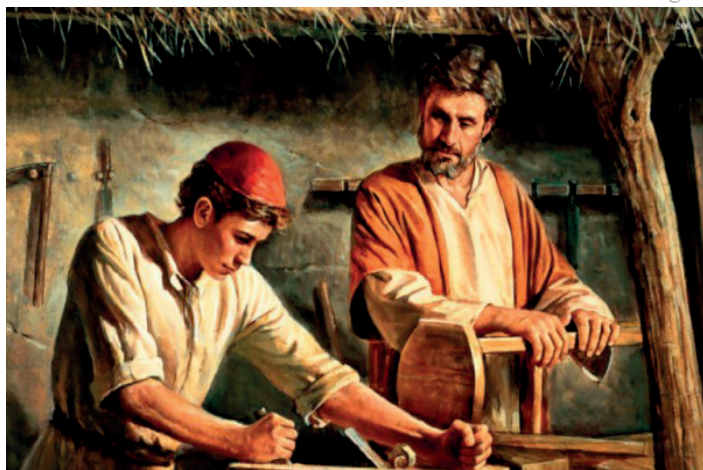


Moms on a Journey

Our Moms on a Journey group has continued to meet over the summer months. They helped make care packages for high school graduates heading into college for the Butterfly Project, which meets here at St. John's. They also welcome guest presenter Sister Theresita of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, who provided a wonderful spiritual reflection.

Moms on a Journey will meet next on **Wednesday, August 26 at 7 PM**. This month, we will meet on the CONVENT PORCH (white house). In case of inclement weather, we will meet in the Upper Room in the Barn. Please park in the school parking lot.





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 every other Monday from **10:00–11:30 AM**, September through June, in the Convent on Ocean Avenue.

Newcomers are always welcome at any time. All that is needed is a desire to grow in our faith and enjoy fellowship with one another.

Our books for this year are:

- **Beautiful Holiness** by Kathleen Beckmann
- **Back to Virtue** by Peter Kreeft

These books complement each other, helping us recognize the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives and the importance of praying for virtue.

A suggested offering of \$25 is appreciated to help offset the cost of the books. However, no one should ever feel unable to participate because of the offering. Sharing is always optional—we're simply happy you've chosen to be with us.

2026 Meeting Dates

September 14, 28, October 5, 19,

November 9, 23, December 7, 21

God bless you, **Carol & Anita** (Moderators)

For more information, please call **631-878-0009**.

Adoration
of the Blessed
Sacrament

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

St James RC Church Parish Event

Scott Hahn & John Bergsma

Study Scripture from the Heart of the Church
with two of today's most respected scholars

Saturday, September 12, 2026 7:30 AM - 3:30PM

St. James Parish Center

429 NY-25A Setauket NY 11733

Price: \$35 per person

Scan the QR code to register online or
call the St. Paul Center's customer service line
at (740) 264-9535



<https://stpaulcenter.com/events/hbsetauket2026>

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A Message from Monsignor Walden...



A number of years ago when I was the pastor of St. Thomas More Parish in Hauppauge, one of the women, a parishioner there, would call and say, "Do you know who I am?" That became her greeting every time we would speak on the phone. Of course I knew who she was and had visited her at home when she was sick. "Do you know who I am?" Over the course of time in the various relationships, we have we come to know many different people. Some we know as people who service various needs we have while others become an integral part of our lives. The most nourishing relationships we have are with those we live with. We come to know each other personally and are enriched by each other.

In the Gospel for today's Mass (Matthew 16:13-20) Jesus asks his disciples two questions: "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" and, "Who do you say that I am?" During the three year ministry of Jesus proclaiming and being the Good News, the disciples came to see who He truly was. Today's Gospel invites each one of us to contemplate that question. Who do I say Jesus Christ is for me personally? We know many things about Him, but who is He for me? What difference does He make in our lives? Yes, we pray everyday and come to Mass every week. But it is one thing to hear about Jesus, quite another to invite Him into our lives and make Him an integral part of who we are. There is a poem by John Donne called "No Man Is An Island". We absolutely need each other in countless ways. We are most fully alive when we enrich each other with our goodness, love, and presence. That is exactly what Jesus did during His earthly ministry and what He does for all who open their mind and heart to Him. After all in Genesis, the first book of the Bible, truly great news is proclaimed: "God created mankind in his image; in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."

As much we are each a unique individual, each one of us is created in the image and likeness of God. The challenge is to recognize that in ourselves personally and in everyone else. How good it is to find a peaceful time and place to pray and to come to Mass each week. Good relationships happen when we put our heart, mind and soul into them. We come to know, love, and enrich each other. Jesus was energized and enriched by those who opened their minds and hearts to Him and is energized by our presence in His life. He not only welcomes us into His life but brings us to the Father and fills us with their Holy Spirit. Then we have the treasure of His Mother and all the Saints. We might not have all the answers everyday to challenges and difficulties we face, but we have the light of faith that leads and guides us to the truth of who and whose we truly are.

I offer Psalm 139 for your prayerful, joyful reflection:

O Lord, you search me and
you know me, you know my
resting and my rising,

you discern my purpose from afar.
You mark when I walk or lie down,
all my ways lie open to you.

Before ever a word is on my tongue
you know it, O Lord, through and through.

Behind and before you besiege me,
your hand ever laid upon me.

Too wonderful for me this knowledge,
too high, beyond my reach.

O where can I go from your spirit,
or where can I flee from your face?

If I climb the heavens, you are there.

If I lie in the grave, you are there.

If I take the wings of the dawn
and dwell at the sea's furthest end,
even there your hand would lead me,
your right hand would hold me fast.

If I say: "Let the darkness hide me
and the light around me be night,"
even darkness is not dark for you
and the night is as clear as the day.

For it was you who created my being,
knit me together in my mother's womb.
I thank you for the wonder of my being,
for the wonders of all your creation.

Already you knew my soul
my body held no secret from you
when I was being fashioned in secret
and molded in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes saw all my actions,
they were all of them written in your book;
every one of my days was decreed
before one of them came into being.

To me, how mysterious your thoughts,
the sum of them not to be numbered!

If I count them, they are more than the sand;
to finish, I must be eternal, like you.

O search me, God, and know my heart.

O test me and know my thoughts.

See that I follow not the wrong path
and lead me in the path of life eternal. Glory...

Psalm Prayer: *You watch over heaven and earth, Lord Jesus. Your death brought light to the dead; your resurrection gave joy to the saints; your ascension made the angels rejoice. Your power exceeds all power. Lead us to life eternal, and watch over us with your love. May your friends be filled with honour and join you in heaven.*

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

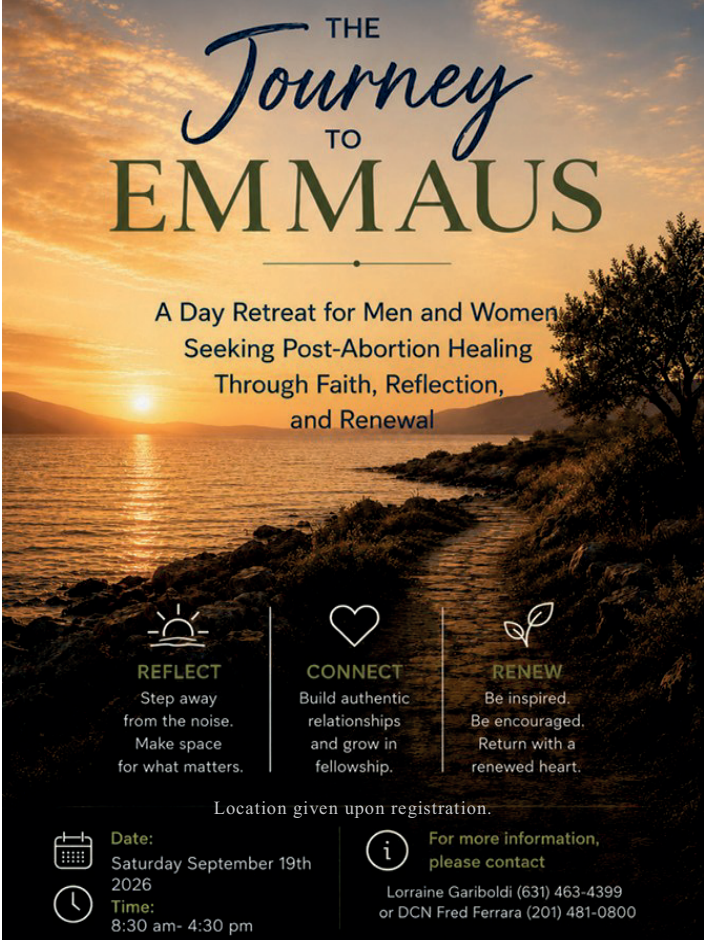
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Jueves - Estación de tren Mastic-Shirley

7:15 PM (aproximadamente)

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Location given upon registration.



Date:
Saturday September 19th 2026



Time:
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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.

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Weekly Calendar

Monday, August 24th, 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, August 25th, 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, August 26th, 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** (*suspended until 9/2/2026*)

Thursday, August 27th, 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, August 28th, 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

Saturday, August 29th, 2026

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

Sunday, August 30th, 2026

- 6:45 AM Alcoholics Anonymous - BMR

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

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