

St. John the Evangelist

Roman Catholic Church



August 30, 2026

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Get behind me, Satan!" ~ Matthew 16:23



August 30, 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, September 5th

5:00 PM - Fr. Patrick

7:30 PM (Spanish) - Fr. Patrick

(Saturday Evening 5 PM Mass will be livestreamed.)

Sunday, September 6th

8:00 AM - Msgr. Walden

10:00 AM - Fr. Jerry

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.

Pastoral Team

Reverend Patrick M. Riegger

Pastor

Reverend Charlince Vendredy

Parochial Vicar

Reverend Monsignor Ellsworth R. Walden

Retired, In Residence

Reverend Francis Lasrado

Retired, In Residence

Reverend Jerry DiSpigno

Parish Assistant

Reverend Peter D'Abele

Parish Assistant

John Pettorino

Deacon

Michael Hoonhout

Deacon

Ed Grieb

Deacon

Katie Waller

Director of Operations

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.

A Message from the Director of Faith Formation ...

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me..” ~Mt 16:24



Nobody I know likes going to the dentist. It was on my “To Do” list this summer, and as I sat back and waited for the scraping and drilling to stop, a number of things came to mind.

My first thought was gratitude. I was grateful for the dental team who studied hard to know what they’re doing, and for modern medicine—I can’t imagine what this felt like before things like numbing injections existed!

My second thought was realizing, in my slight discomfort, that this was an opportunity for prayer. When I felt some pain, or my jaw was tired, I brought to mind specific people in my life whose crosses are much heavier than a short dental visit. I thought of those around the world suffering from natural disasters—earthquakes and floods—and offered any small uncomfotableness for them. This is something the Catholic Church teaches we can do. You may have heard the phrase, *“Offer it up.”* That certainly can be more easily said than done, but it is a real practice that comes from uniting our sufferings—big and small—to the sufferings of Christ on the Cross. That’s not to say we seek out suffering—God does not want us to suffer—but when it comes, we have a chance to use it to spiritually help others. Sometimes we bring crosses upon ourselves through poor decisions, and other times it simply is thrust upon us. Either way, it is an opportunity to cooperate with God’s grace, connect with God and reach out to others in a deeply meaningful way.

In today’s Gospel reading, Jesus says in no uncertain terms that we all will have our crosses to bear—but He will be there with us to help us carry them. Some crosses are small, like a dental visit, while others are much heavier.

Earlier this month, I learned one of my childhood friends had passed away. Her name was Aoife Browning, and some of you may remember her and her family—they were very active at St. John’s during the 1990s and early 2000s. Aoife was a cantor and member of our children’s choir and youth ministry. She eventually moved away, got married and had a daughter who is now in high school. Sadly, her husband passed away after a battle with ALS in 2021. On August 15, Aoife passed away suddenly after suffering a brain bleed. I think of Aoife—her kindness, light and joy—as I reflect on the Gospel. She certainly had her crosses in life, which I’m told she carried with great grace, humor and hope. Now her family has a terrible cross to bear. Please keep the Browning and Stoller families in your prayers during this difficult time.

In moments like that, it can be easy to respond like the prophet Jeremiah did in the first reading. Jeremiah boldly tells God that he no longer wishes to be His prophet, as it has (seemingly) brought him nothing but misery. He feels “duped” or “deceived” by God. Sometimes life can feel like that. We can say, “Lord, I’ve done everything you’ve asked, and yet here I am, suffering from illness or the passing of a loved one or financial hardship or persecution, etc.” But God didn’t promise an easy road for Jeremiah, nor does He promise an easy road for us. It rains on the just and the unjust alike, as Scripture says (*Matthew 5:45*). What God does promise is that, in His infinite love for us, He will walk with us and help us carry our burdens. As we lean into the crosses in our lives, we will find Christ’s hand there waiting to take hold of us and our sorrows.



*St. John’s Children’s Choir (circa 1990s).
Aoife is in the bright blue and white
shirt on the right (back row).*

In the Office of Faith Formation, we are gearing up for a new year of helping families and students grow in the faith and know God’s love for them. We have extended registration for new and returning students to this Monday, August 31. Please see our bulletin ad for more details. All of our calendars are available on our website. Our volunteers will be gathering on September 3, and our programs will be kicking off shortly after that. We will begin in September with our “FEARLESS” program for those making Confirmation on November 12! Then our “Family of Faith” program and Levels 7 & 8 will commence with opening prayer services in September. We look forward to journeying with all our Faith Formation families!

Thank you to the many volunteers who make these programs possible – we couldn’t do it without you! If you’re interested in volunteering (**we are still looking for small group leaders for our Level 7 & 8 program**), please email me at mpirraglia@sjecm.org or call 631-878-0009, ext. 123.

Vacation Bible Camp was a great success this year, thanks to all of our wonderful adult and youth volunteers who made the week a faith-filled and fun experience to remember! We had over 100 campers, 64 youth volunteers and over 30 adults! We are deeply grateful and look forward to next year (tentatively July 19-23), where our theme is ‘CRAVE: STIRRING UP A HUNGER FOR JESUS!’

-Michelle Pirraglia

Masses for the Week...

Annual Summer Appeal

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 Intentions of The Lapham Family

Monday, August 31st *Weekday*

7:00 AM Tom Blomberg

12:00 Noon Kristen Bigora

Tuesday, September 1st *Weekday*

7:00 AM Kevin Maloney

12:00 Noon Josephine Phoenix

Wednesday, September 2nd *Weekday*

7:00 AM Rosanne Fanelli

12:00 Noon Kenneth Linguiti

Thursday, September 3rd *Saint Gregory the Great*

7:00 AM Tanya Pirro

12:00 Noon Katy & her brother, Jack Dyer

Friday, September 4th *Weekday*

7:00 AM Bill Maloney

12:00 Noon Catherine & Donald Lake

Saturday, September 5th *Saint Teresa of Calcutta*

8:00 AM James Corbin

5:00 PM Kenneth Horbal

7:30 PM (Spanish) People of the Parish

Sunday, September 6th *23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:00 AM Eileen DeRicco

10:00 AM Roy Probeyahn Jr.

12:00 Noon John R. Klaus IV

6:00 PM Rita Sciarretta

Please support
our Annual
Summer Appeal!



Summer Appeal

Year	Total:	As Of:
2026	\$36,075	8/24/26
2025	\$39,604	Final

PARISH WEEKLY DONATIONS

Average Weekly from January 1, 2026 to present.

Year	Total	# of Weeks	Average Weekly
2026	\$623,178	34	\$18,329
2025	\$602,069	34	\$17,708



As of 8/25/2026	2026	2025
New Parish Goal	\$120,855	\$115,100
Number of Donors	208	188
Total Pledged to date	\$87,650	\$79,190
Percent of Goal	73%	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!



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!



**20
26**

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

*"Together, as one people, as brothers and sisters, let us walk towards God and love one another."
- Pope Leo XIV*

SHARING THE GOSPEL WITH OTHERS

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.

**St. John's has
reached 73% of
our CMA goal
with just 4
months to go!!!**

73%

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



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 unfailing 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.

Nancy Mezzullo

Douglas Geiger

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
Robert Cantillo Sr.

Robert Cantillo Jr.
Jessica King
John Sapienza
Neil Hart
Holly Redmond
Rosemary Avitabile

*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.

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>



OUR LADY QUEEN OF APOSTLES
REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

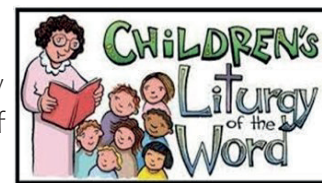
OFFICE OF FAMILY MINISTRY



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!

Our Lady Queen of Apostles

THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL
IN CENTER MORICHES

Called to be a Family of Families




Enroll Today!

Serving Pre-K to 8th Grade
Set Up A Tour!

Why OLQA?

- Faith-centered community rooted in Catholic values
- Individualized learning environment & dedicated teachers
- Students grow spiritually, socially, and academically



**Come & See the
Catholic School Difference**

631-878-1033

www.olqany.org

2 St Johns Place
Center Moriches, NY 11934



CYO BASKETBALL

AT ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST!

Calling all boys and girls in 4th through 8th grade!

Join us for a fun, faith-filled, and competitive basketball experience where players will grow in their skills, build friendships, and learn the value of teamwork, sportsmanship, and respect both on and off the court.

Whether you are new to the game or an experienced player, everyone is welcome! Come be part of a great team and a wonderful CYO community.

🏀 Coaches Needed!
If you have a passion for basketball and enjoy working with young athletes, we would love for you to join our coaching team.



For more information, please contact:
Ross Baldwin, SJE CYO Basketball Director cyo@SJEcm.org

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 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!

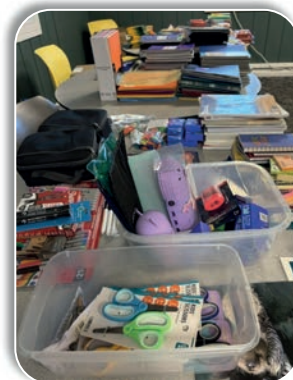
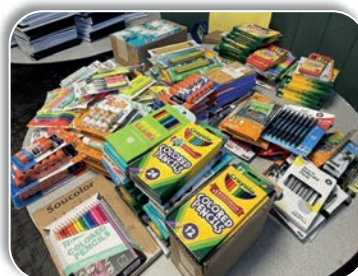
We are grateful for any non-perishable donations. Please place donations in the brown bin located outside of Ernie's Place or in the wagon inside Church near the main entrance. Thank you for your generosity!

Requested items:

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



A heartfelt thank you to our parishioners for the many donations we received from our outreach request for school supplies and also to the Knights of Columbus, who donated backpacks. Due to your amazing generosity, we were able to give school supplies to over 50 children in need in our local community. It was the largest outpouring of need Parish Social Ministry has seen in a few years. Each family who registered their children received folders, spiral and marble notebooks, pens, pencils, markers & highlighters, crayons, glue sticks and more! We are so thankful to be able to give families a great start to their child's school year.



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 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

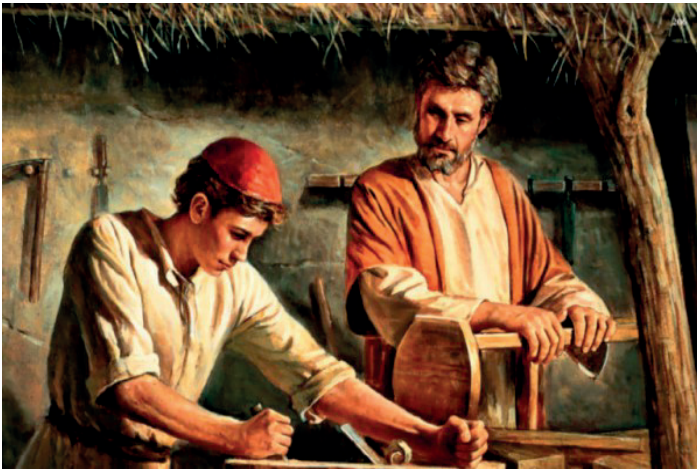
Scan the QR code to register online or
call the St. Paul Center's customer service line
at (740) 264-9535



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

Call Tara - 631-877-7322 or Barbara - 516-313-4029 for Parish Information
or go to EVENTS@STPAULCENTER.COM





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*

THE
Journey
TO
EMMAUS

A Day Retreat for Men and Women
Seeking Post-Abortion Healing
Through Faith, Reflection,
and Renewal

 REFLECT Step away from the noise. Make space for what matters.	 CONNECT Build authentic relationships and grow in fellowship.	 RENEW Be inspired. Be encouraged. Return with a renewed heart.
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Location given upon registration.

 Date: Saturday September 19th 2026	 For more information, please contact Lorraine Gariboldi (631) 463-4399 or DCN Fred Ferrara (201) 481-0800
 Time: 8:30 am- 4:30 pm	

A Message from Monsignor Walden...



One of the realities we face as we go through life is that as much as we have free will, take the initiative, and have a sense of accomplishment, there are so many things we are not in control of. Life is a gift. We did not ask to be born but our parents wonderfully gave us the gift of life. As we mature into adulthood, we find ourselves making decisions and doing many good things. Frustration and divisions come in when we have disagreements and find ourselves at odds with each other.

In the Gospel for today's Mass (Mathew 16:21-27), we see "Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised." In the creed that we proclaim after the homily at Mass, we profess that Jesus "came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man." Our true God became one with us in our humanity. Like us, He was dependent on Mary and Joseph as He grew into adulthood. As an adult and the Son of God, He preached truly Good News, worked many miracles and spoke the word of God day in and day out. As He embraced His humanity He found himself facing people in leadership positions in the Jewish community and, as we see in today's Gospel reading, St. Peter trying to dispute that Jesus will be rejected and crucified. As much as we pray we certainly cannot tell God what we think should be done. Humbly putting our faith in Him, we need to find some quiet time and place where we can open our minds and hearts to Him. Prayer time becomes fruitful and life giving when we have the attitude Jesus expressed in His prayer in the Garden as He was about to be arrested and crucified: "He advanced a little and fell prostrate in prayer, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet, not as I will, but as you will." (Matthew 26:39) Jesus literally lived that prayer as He was arrested, tried, and crucified in a matter of less than twenty-four hours after praying that prayer.

Traditionally there are four types of prayer: petition, praise, thanks, and sorrow. The more we can just put ourselves into God's presence as we

pray, the more we can see God's blessings in our lives and find the light of hope in our difficult and confusing moments as well as in the joyful, thankful moments. Prayer is a conversation with our God. A conversation is a two-way communication. Our words and attention put us into God's presence and open our minds and hearts to His goodness, love, mercy, wisdom, and presence. We certainly learn a lot more by listening and just focusing on our presence to God and His presence to us than rattling off a litany of petitions. The blessing we need to recognize everyday is that Jesus is walking with us. The more we allow Him into our minds and hearts, the more peace, hope, mercy, and love we have in our minds and hearts. Yes, we can tell Him what we think should be done but it is humble gratitude for His loving presence that illumines the good we have and the good we are every day of our lives.

I offer Psalm 63 for your prayerful reflection:

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.

My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water.

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise.

So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast. Glory...

Psalm Prayer: *Father, creator of unfailing light, give that same light to those who call to you. May our lips praise you; our lives proclaim your goodness; our work give you honor, and our voices celebrate you for ever.*

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.

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Miércoles - Granero
Miércoles de 9:00 AM a las 12:00 PM.

COMIDA COMUNITARIA

Último lunes del mes 6:00 PM
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Jueves - Estación de tren Mastic-Shirley
7:15 PM (aproximadamente)

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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!

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Weekly Calendar

Monday, August 31st, 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, September 1st, 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, September 2nd, 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, September 3rd, 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, September 4th, 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, September 5th, 2026

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

Sunday, September 6th, 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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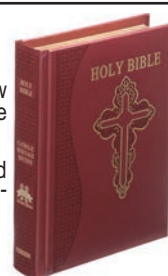
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