

Journey with

Jesus through Lent



LENTEN BAG CHALLENGE

During Lent, we are called to the spiritual practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Rest assured, you can do all those things here! If you are able, please take one reusable shopping bag, you'll find them at each exit of the Church. There's a small list of items in need inside, please fill the bag throughout the season of Lent. Donations can be left inside the main doors of the Church. Thank you for your generosity!



ABSTINENCE & FASTING

All Catholics who have reached their fourteenth (14th) year are bound to abstain entirely from meat on all the Fridays of Lent.

All Catholics between the ages of eighteen (18) and fifty-nine (59) are also bound to observe the law of fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This means limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Two other light meals, which together do not equal a full meal, may be taken during the day. Those whose work or health would be impaired are excused from fast and abstinence. Individual conscience should decide proper cause for excuse. A more serious reason is required to excuse oneself from the Ash Wednesday and Good Friday fast and abstinence.

OUR PARISH LENTEN JOURNEY

Each of us is invited to grow closer to Jesus, especially during this beautiful season of Lent.

When you come to Mass, think about the different ways that you have prayed and served and fasted and given to others, add a pom-pom to our Resurrection Cross.

As we sacrifice and pray our way through Lent, we will marvel at how beautiful the once-empty cross will become, symbolizing how our parish family is shining the light of Christ more and more brightly each day.

Let's remember to pray for one another!

THE LITTLE BLACK BOOK

This Lent, St. John's is once again offering everyone a little black book. These books are available at the doors of the Church.

You can carry it with you, leave it in your car or keep it in a place at home where you will see it every day. It's a nice, simple way to bring the spirit of the season to each day of your Lenten journey. **The books are free of charge.** If you'd like to make a donation, please place it in the Poor Box to support the work of Parish Social Ministry.

Special thanks to the Knights of Columbus; Queen of All Hearts Council, for financially helping us to provide these books.

A Lenten Message from our Pastor, Fr. Patrick...

Lent: Another Opportunity to Draw Closer to God!

My **New Year's resolution** back in January was to "become" more like Mary and less Martha. (Lk 10:38-42) I wanted to focus more on Jesus and His Word and spend less time running around. My hope this new year was to be more still and silent in prayer before the Lord and less anxious and worrisome about worldly affairs. I wanted to spend more time in prayer and silence, reflecting on the presence of God in my life and less time doing worldly activities that, at times, are totally unnecessary and not productive. It is so easy for me to get distracted with worldly activities instead of relying and focusing more on the Lord. There is no question that much is expected of us in this world, but how much time gets wasted doing stuff that is not productive or necessary in the long run?

Lent for us is another opportunity to get it right. It is another opportunity for us to draw closer to God through the spiritual disciplines of Lent: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The purpose of Lent is to enter more deeply into the sacred mysteries of God. It is a time to draw closer to the Lord who is the fullness of God's revelation and our saving hope and joy in this world. Each year the Church gives us another opportunity to grow in our relationship and understanding of God. This new season of Lent invites to grow in our knowledge and appreciation of the greatness and the presence of God in our lives. It is a time for spiritual growth and renewal.

A lot of times we say, "What can I do for Lent?" Maybe this year we can ask ourselves why we are doing the things we choose to do for Lent. Why pray, fast and give to those who are in need? Most of the time, we just do things that are expected of us especially during Lent when it comes to prayer, fasting and almsgiving. We are creatures of habit and obedience. We just do what is expected of us. But in reality, if this Lent is going to be more meaningful and productive than in past years, then we have to have proper disposition and pure motives. We have to understand what we are doing. We have to understand the why behind the what! Why are we doing the things that we are doing? What is our motive behind the traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving? Do we enter Lent with a deeper understanding of what is required of us during these next 40 days?

For example, when we spend more time in prayer this Lent, how are we going to pray? Will we just go through the motions of prayer or be more reflective on our personal relationship with God? Are we just going to go through litany of prayers, or spend more time listening to God in the silence of our hearts? It is not easy to be still and silent before the Lord, especially with so much going on in our lives! That is why we need to make more room for God in the sanctuary of our hearts and homes. We need to have a place where we can be more reflective and silent with God. The purpose of prayer is to encounter the Lord more fully in our lives...to listen to Him and to be extra grateful for the countless blessings in our lives.

When fasting, why do we fast? Do we fast for the right reasons? Or do we fast because it is required of us at different times during Lent? The purpose of fasting is, again, to lead us closer to the Lord. We need to fast from anything that is counterproductive. We need to

fast from anything that prevents us from living in full communion with God. For example, maybe we need to fast from watching TV instead of not having chocolates, if TV is keeping us away from prayer and Jesus. Again, there is nothing wrong watching television in and of itself. However, if we spend too much time in front of the TV watching news and sports, and less time in prayer, then how will we grow in our relationship with Jesus? How will we grow in our own spirituality?

Finally, why do we give the things we give when it comes to almsgiving? Do we give just from our surpluses, or do we give from our hearts? So many people are in need all around us, but do we give just from our excesses, or do we give sacrificially, mindful of those less fortunate than we are? Only we can answer this question honestly. There is always more we can give when it comes to those in greatest need of the most basic necessities in life. As long as there is one child going to bed hungry each night, there is more we can do each day. Hopefully, this new season of Lent will help us to be more grateful for the blessings in our lives and extra mindful of the poor among us.

Even though we celebrate Lent for 40 days, in reality it should be a way of life because Lent affords us a new opportunity for change and renewal. Lent draws us closer to God in so many ways, especially if we take this season seriously. Lent really brings us home to God. It gives us another opportunity to do something different that will change us and draw us closer to the Lord. We need Lent because we need more of God in our lives. Lent invites us to make more room for God in our hearts each day. It shows us how important it is to keep God first above all other things.

Lent is a game changer! It is everything! Lent is a new beginning for all of us to journey with the Lord again with new hope, wonder and understanding. It is another opportunity to reconnect with Jesus and soften our hearts. It is a time to be more disciplined in the areas of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. If Lent is going to be more prayerful and reflective for us and give us a better outlook on life, then we must enter this new season with simplicity of hearts. We have to have the proper disposition that is required, and our motives behind the spiritual practices of Lent have to be sincere and genuine.





St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church

25 Ocean Avenue, Center Moriches, New York 11934-3698

631-878-0009 | rectory@sjecm.org



PASTORAL TEAM

Reverend Patrick M. Riegger
Pastor

Reverend Abin Panicker
Parochial Vicar

Reverend Monsignor Ellsworth R. Walden
Retired, In Residence

Reverend Jerry DiSpigno
Parish Assistant

Reverend Peter D'Abele
Parish Assistant

Ed Grieb
Deacon

Michael Hoonhout
Deacon

John Pettorino
Deacon

Heather Crayne
Director of Parish Social Ministry

Carolyn Lapham
Director of Family Ministries

Michelle Pirraglia
Director of Faith Formation

Katie Waller
Director of Operations

Angela Werner
Director of Music Ministry

Our Lady Queen of Apostles Regional Catholic School (on the campus of SJE)

2 St. John Place
Center Moriches, NY 631.878.1033
www.olqany.org

Dawn Waller, Principal
dwaller@olqany.org (ext. 201)

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 pm—7:00 pm

OFFICE HOURS

Parish Office - Blue House

Monday - Thursday:

9 AM - 8 PM

Tuesdays: 6-8 PM Spanish-speaking support.

Friday - Saturday

9 AM - 2 PM

*We ask that you call before
visiting any parish offices.*

PARISH REGISTRATION

Are you new to our parish? Have you been a part of our parish but are not yet registered? Do you need to update your contact information? Now's the time!

So many people who come to St. John's often wonder why it's important to register. By registering in a parish you make a formal commitment to this community of faith - basically saying, "I want to belong...". This parish makes a formal commitment to you, basically saying, "We want to be here for you!" and you will be better informed about all that is happening here at SJE, basically saying, Get involved... we need you. To register or update your address information, visit <http://www.stjohntheevangelistcm.com/> and click "Join St. John's" on the homepage. Registration is currently done online only. For more information, contact the Parish Office at 631.878.0009 or email rectory@sjecm.org.

God
Saints
Mystics
Miracles
and YOU!

A Mission of Wonder

with Father Jerry Kaywell

APRIL 7th, 8th and 9th
7:30 p.m. in the Church

God, Saints, Mystics, Miracles and YOU!
Join us for our parish Lenten Mission
April 7th, 8th and 9th

A Mission of Wonder with Father Jerry Kaywell

Father Jerry Kaywell is the pastor of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Punta Gorda, Florida, known for his engaging and dynamic approach to delivering sermons. He combines eloquence, inspiration and humor in his preaching. Music has been a defining part of his life, with Father Jerry composing music from a young age and working in film and television as a composer and producer. He co-created award-winning digital commercials and contributed to a Grammy-winning gospel album.

Father Kaywell's life has also been marked by personal struggles, including surviving two bouts of cancer, including stage-three lymphoma. His experiences with cancer deeply influence his ministry, particularly his ability to offer counsel and comfort to those with terminal illness. Father Jerry's journey to the priesthood was delayed by his pursuit of a secular career in music. However, after surviving his cancer battles, he returned to Florida, earned degrees in theology and divinity, and was ordained as a priest in 1991.

Father Jerry's commitment to his parish has extended to the rebuilding of Sacred Heart Church, which was destroyed by Hurricane Charley in 2004. Under his leadership, the church was rebuilt and opened in 2008. He continues to serve his parish with joy. Father Jerry is delighted to be giving the parish mission here at St. John the Evangelist this year.

REMEMBERING

Loved Ones...

SJE offers a number of ways to remember loved ones, or to honor someone living.

Mass Intentions. Remembering one who has passed away during the celebration of 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.

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.

To make an offering, visit or contact the Parish Office at 631.878.0009 or email to rectory@sjecm.org



All Holy Men and Women, Saints of God, Pray for us!

We have a number of prayer cards around the Church and in the Our Lady's Chapel in the church. These are for you to take and use for your own prayer or share with someone you know who can use a prayer! There is no fee or donation expected for the cards. Prayers to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and seeking the intercession of St. Michael the Archangel, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Dymphna, St. Joseph, and St. John the Evangelist are available for your prayer and use.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Our parish Baptism Ministry assists parents who wish to have their child (children) receive the Sacrament of Baptism. The mission of the Baptism Ministry is twofold. We want all families to feel welcome at St. John the Evangelist parish, and we want them to feel fully informed and prepared for this life changing Sacrament. Baptism is such an important step in the faith life of both parents and children and we accompany the families throughout this journey.

In January 2025, we made some changes to enrich our Baptism preparation program by making it more personal and expanding the content so that families not only feel welcomed here at St. John's, but also understand what how wonderful it is to feel God's transforming Love in the Sacraments.

Where do you start? Parents who want to have their child baptized should go to the parish website and click on the 'Baptism' icon to begin the process. Complete the initial inquiry form online and a member of the Baptism ministry will contact you shortly to explain the preparation program. The program includes attending an in-person Baptism preparation class, taking a short on-line video course, and submitting required paperwork; all of which is explained at the in-person class. Once everything has been completed, we will arrange a date for your child's Baptism.

If you're interested in learning more about this ministry or would like to volunteer, please email us at Baptism@sjecm.org.



**REJOICE
AND RESOLVE
TO SIN NO MORE!**



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CONFESSIONS

Sinners - Welcome & Wanted

Come and celebrate the
Sacrament of Reconciliation!

Monday—Friday after 7 a.m. and 12 Noon Masses
Saturdays after 8 a.m. Mass and from 4 p.m. - 4:45
p.m. Saturdays from 7 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. (Spanish)
Sundays from 5:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Diocesan Day of Reconciliation

Monday, April 14th

3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 17th

4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday, April 19th

4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Of course, you may call the Parish Office and make
an appointment with one of our priests.
Confessions are heard in Our Lady's Chapel which is
located in the Church to the right side of the altar.

*Lent is a beautiful time to draw closer to
Christ. Please accept this heartfelt invitation
to journey together as a parish family. There
are many opportunities for prayer, faith-
building and service at St. John's in the weeks
ahead.*

Please check our parish website sjecm.org and
click on the Church Bulletin or call the Parish
Office at 631-878-0009 (Mon-Thurs 9:00 am-
8:00 pm, Fri. 9:00am-2:00 pm) for additional
information.

Stations of the Cross



We invite you to join us for the
Stations of the Cross in the church,
Friday evenings during Lent.

Beginning Friday, March 14th

7:00 PM English
8:00 PM Spanish





The Office of Family Ministry at St. John's focuses on engaging parish families in fun activities, service projects and prayerful experiences. With the purpose of deepening faith, strengthening good Catholic family practices and building our parish family, our office works in conjunction with Faith Formation and Parish Social Ministry to meet the varied needs of our parish families. If you would like to learn more about our ministries or need additional information about any of the upcoming events, please call us at 631-878-0009 x 124 or email Clapham@sjecm.org. Here are some of our ministries!

Children's Liturgy of the Word

This program meets during the 10:00 Mass every Sunday. Our young parishioners leave Mass after the Collect (Opening Prayer) and return in time for the Liturgy of the Eucharist. While at CLTW, the children enjoy the readings, responsorial psalm and gospel presented in language that is easy for them to understand. An interactive homily and prayer of the faithful allow the children to participate more fully in the Liturgy of the Word. All children ages 4 and up are welcome. No registration is necessary...just come to the 10:00 Mass and have your children join the group when the priest invites the children to come up. This program is a joy-filled blessing for all!

Moms on the Journey

Our moms' group is going strong! We meet on the 4th Wednesday of every month from 7:00 pm-8:30 pm in the upper meeting room of the Barn. A casual, fun-filled, Spirit lead group, "Moms on the Journey" provides an opportunity for busy mothers to be pampered...to grow in their faith... and to share the joys and challenges of Christian motherhood with other moms. This ministry has been a true blessing for all those who come. If you're a mom who wants to go deeper and enjoy the company of other Christian moms, please consider joining this amazing group of women. Our next monthly gathering will be **Wednesday, March 26, 2025**. Bring a friend and come on down.

Family Life Ministry

Our Family Life Ministry provides varied opportunities for families of all ages to come together to pray, to serve others and to share in some good clean family fun. We meet every month on the first Wednesday of the month, at 7:00 pm in the upper meeting room of the barn. We pray, brainstorm, share ideas and plan family activities, events and service projects. All are welcome!

Family Life Ministry Events for Lent 2025

- | | |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| March 9 | Sandwich Sunday 11:00-12 noon-School Cafeteria |
| March 21 | Lenten Soup Supper 6:00-7:00 pm-School Cafeteria, <i>followed by Stations of the Cross</i> |
| April 2 | Monthly Planning Meeting 7:00 pm-Upper Room of The Barn |
| April 4 | Lenten Soup Supper 6:00-7:00 om-School Cafeteria, <i>followed by Stations of the Cross</i> |
| April 13 | Sandwich Sunday 11:00-12 noon-School Cafeteria |
| April 17 | Holy Thursday Children's Service 4:30 pm- Church |
| April 18 | Good Friday Children's Service 12:00 noon-Church |
| April 19 | Holy Saturday Easter Egg Hunt-Great Lawn after the 11:00 am Prayer Service |
| April 20 | Easter Sunday Masses (Sunrise Mass, 8:00am, 10:00 am, 12:00 noon) |





Martha & Company

All of you “Marthas” out there, this ministry is for you! We are chefs and bakers, movers and shakers, festive environment coordinators, shoppers, organizers clean and specialists when it comes to setting up and cleaning up! This ministry of hospitality provides opportunities for fellowship in conjunction with weekend Masses, prayer services and special events. The beauty of this ministry is that you do *what you can, when you can*. There is no major time commitment. All are welcome to join this multi-generational ministry comprised of joyful people who generously share their time and talents with our parish family!



SJE Youth Service Corps

YOUNG PEOPLE answering the call to serve!

This ministry provides varied opportunities for the young people of our parish to respond to the call to serve others, here at St. John's and beyond. Geared for middle school, high school and college students, the SJE Service Corps enlists the help of our youth volunteers to serve in a variety of capacities from volunteering as actors and actresses for our faith formation program, to leading our children at our vacation bible camp, to setting up and serving at parish events and helping those in need through the outreach efforts of our parish social ministry office. There are so many ways to help throughout the course of the year. Young people help when they are available. There is never any as we are sensitive to the busy lives that our teenagers lead. The SJE Youth Service Corps is great way for teens to use their talents, connect with other faith-filled young people, serve the parish and the community, and have fun!



Vacation Bible Camp

This year our amazing VBC will be held from Monday July 14– Friday, July 18. (9:00 am-12:00 noon). Students who are **currently** enrolled in Pre-K through Grade 4 are eligible for VBC. This is a wonderful program of faith, fellowship and fun for our young parishioners. Youth and adult volunteers are most welcome as our program runs completely on volunteer power! Check the parish website and the upcoming bulletins for additional information. Registration will begin in April.

For information regarding any of these family ministries please email Carolyn Lapham, Coordinator of Family Ministry, at clapham@sjecm.org or call the Office of Family Ministry at 631-878-0009 ext. 124.





CHECK OUT FAITH FORMATION ON THE PARISH WEBSITE! Registration Begins June 2025!

FAST FACTS:

- 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.
- Information about our registration process & programs will be available on the parish website (sjecm.org) in June!
- If your child was not baptized here at SJE, we will need a copy of the child's baptismal certificate (or a copy of their birth certificate if they were not baptized).



HELP WANTED!

• Can You Give Back?

Are you looking for a way to serve our community? We are always looking for parishioners to help teach our young people about the faith. You don't have to be a theologian —simply have a desire to share your faith and be willing to relate it to our youth.

♦ FAMILY OF FAITH (Grades 1-6)

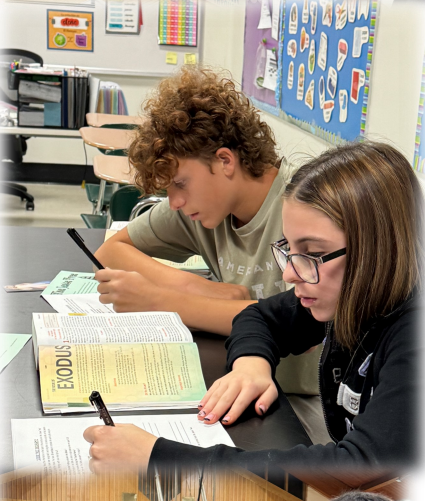
Would you like to help with our Family Catechesis program for Grades 1-6? We would love to add you to our Family of Faith Team of volunteers who help organize, plan and present at our sessions!

♦ CONFIRMATION PREP! Small Group Leaders: Grades 7 & 8

Are you looking for a new challenge and would like to get involved in our Confirmation Prep - we have a spot for you! Our new Confirmation prep program is based on a small-group model and we need your help! We are particularly looking for Level 7 leaders for the incoming Level 7 class in Fall 2025!



Interested? Contact Michelle at 631-878-0009, ext. 123 or via email at mpirraglia@sjecm.org





The Parish Social Ministries at St. John's work to provide not only food and nourishment, but dignity and honor to those in need. Seeking to respond to the Lord's call in the Gospel of Matthew, our ministries seek out and find Christ in the hungry and feeds them, in the thirsty, gives them drink, in the stranger, invites them in and in the naked, gives them clothes. (25:35) Thank you for your continued support at a most important time, as we have seen an increase in the need for food and other necessities from many struggling families in our local area.

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

Garden Ministry

Are you more of an outdoor person? Do you love being outside and getting your hands dirty? If so, then the Garden Ministry is perfect for you!

Our Garden Ministry works in Heaven's Harvest, the garden located between the Convent and Rectory, which produces bushels and bushels of produce which we donate to Ernie's Place and our Street Ministry. We plant, water, weed and harvest from the end of March through November and we are always looking for help. What is great about the Garden Ministry is you can choose a time that works for you and coordinates with the weather and what needs to be done. We have raised beds; it doesn't have to be strenuous, and you can work alone or bring a friend. This can be a great family activity as well. All ages are most welcome. This is a rewarding ministry and can be personally and deeply spiritual as well. To learn more about the Garden Ministry, please call the Parish Social Ministry office at 631-878-0009 ext. 120 or email at socialministry@sjecm.org

We hope to see you in the Spring!



If you are in need or know someone that is, or would like to volunteer and support our programs, please call or email our office.



socialministry@sjecm.org

631.878.0009 ext. 120

Heather Crayne – Coordinator of Parish Social Ministry



STREET MINISTRY

Our Street Ministry is an amazing community of volunteers who provide hot meals, clothing and toiletries to individuals and families every Thursday night, many of whom are homeless or unable to receive other supportive services. We need your help! Come use the awesome gifts that God gave you to serve those in need in our local community. All are as on the Street Ministry team need volunteers including - cooking hot meals at home and dropping them off on Thursday nights (we provide the take-out containers!), making PB&J sandwiches, using your muscles to load our van and participating in our van runs where you can hand out meals and clothing to those in need. The Street Ministry has a place and a job for everyone! Scan the QR code for more details about how you can be part of our Street Ministry. To get started please call 631-878-0009 ext. 120 or for more information email socialministry@sjecm.org and once you are ready to start volunteering look for emails from StreetMinistry@sjecm.org to sign up in your area of interest. We hope to hear from you! We are tremendously grateful for all our volunteers and the donations we receive; both allow us to continue to do this work every week.



STREET MINISTRY

@ the Barn

Are you looking for an opportunity to volunteer but feel more comfortable behind the scenes? Do you love to organize and fold? If so, the Street Ministry Sorting Closet @ the Barn is the ministry for you! This dedicated group of volunteers work at the Barn on Wednesday mornings sorting, organizing and packing donations that go out in the van on Thursday nights for the Street Ministry. They also provide clothing and toiletry items for struggling families in our community year-round and are delivered several times a year to local shelters. If you want to learn how you can be part of this team, reach out by calling 631-878-0009 ext. 120 or via email at socialministry@sjecm.org





COMMUNITY MEAL

Welcome to the Community Meal Ministry!

Our ministry invites people from all sectors of life to sit and enjoy a hot meal. Once a month we serve a full course, sit down hot meal to those in need, complete with beverages and dessert! Each month we post a different menu with food suggestions and ask volunteers to bring what they can, and each month it comes together as an amazing meal made and served with great love. If you are thinking, "I can't even commit once a month" then this really is the ministry for you! You can volunteer every other month or even just a few times a year. Just dropping off food is great too if that works for you; but if you are able to stick around, you'll love what we do even more because you'll feel that sense of care and belonging. We always need people who can help set up, serve the meal and clean up too! There really is a role for everyone. All we ask is that you commit when you are able, and that you cook with love - and food safety - in mind! We meet once a month, usually on the last Monday of every month, at 5:30pm, serve from 6-7pm and clean up after. If you have ever wanted to become more involved, felt passionate that no one should be hungry, or wanted to help your community -then consider this a personal invitation to join our Ministry!

Pope Francis has a beautiful quote that we use in the Community Meal Ministry, really a bit of a mission if you would, "You pray for the hungry. Then you feed them. That is how prayer works." So please come share your love, your meal and put your prayers to work!

How do you sign up or get more information? Please contact the Office of Parish Social Ministry at 631-878-0009 ext. 120 or via email socialministry@sjecm.org and once you are ready to start volunteering look for emails from communitymeal@sjecm.org to sign up in your area of interest.

ERNIE'S PLACE

SJE FOOD PANTRY

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our parishioners who make donations of food, an amazing team of volunteers who work together to stock the shelves of our pantry a few days a week and a group who welcomes and helps our families shop every week, Ernie's Place provides food assistance to approximately 194 families per month, feeding over 6,500 people in 2024. The doors to Ernie's Place are open to everyone in our community.

We are most grateful for the support we receive from our parish community. There are many ways you can help; you can leave your donations in the bin outside of Ernie's Place, coordinate a food drive, or volunteer your time. No commitment of time is too small, and all are most welcome to join our Ministry. Ernie's Place is a place of friendship for our volunteers and a place of support and hospitality for the families we serve each Monday night from 6:30pm to 7:30pm and on Thursdays from 3pm to 4pm.

Please contact Heather Crayne at 631-878-0009 ext. 120 or via email at socialministry@sjecm.org to learn how you can become an active volunteer at Ernie's Place, we would love to have you join the team!





THRIFT SHOP

Wednesdays—9 a.m. to 12 Noon

St. John's Thrift Shop is open every Wednesday from 9am to 12 noon offering many great items at super reasonable prices. You'll find all sorts of treasures, from brand name clothing to beautiful jewelry, housewares, toys and children's clothes, really there is something for everyone. All proceeds from the Thrift Shop support our Outreach programs.

The Thrift Shop is always looking for donations of gently used clothing and household items. Donations can be left in the green bins located in the school parking lot (not in the bins behind the shop) or preferably dropped off on Monday or Tuesday mornings between 9am and 11am. When you are cleaning out your closets in the spring, your child's toy box, garage or kitchen cabinets, please consider donating to the Thrift Shop, your donation will make a difference in our community!

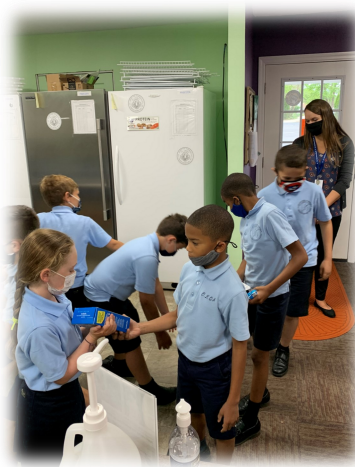


PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

Memorial Cards

This is a beautiful way to honor one who has passed away. These cards allow you to express your sympathy while also benefitting the less fortunate in our local community. The memorial offering made will benefit Parish Outreach, our Homeless Initiative, Food Pantry and Thrift Shop and the many works of Parish Social Ministry at SJE.

To obtain a Parish Social Ministry memorial card, visit the Rectory Office during regular hours or contact the Parish Social Ministry Office.



THANK YOU

Our Parish Social Ministry could not do what we do without the incredible donations that we receive from St. John's. Your support with monetary donations, gift cards, food and clothing all support the very practical needs of our programs. But we truly cannot do what we do without our volunteers, each one serving with great love, compassion, and respect; using their many God-given talents to serve those in need and to see the face of Jesus in every person they encounter.

With gratitude always for the amazing generosity of the people of the parish of St. John's.
- Heather Crayne

Please join
Queen of All Hearts Council 4126
for a complementary...

Pancake Breakfast

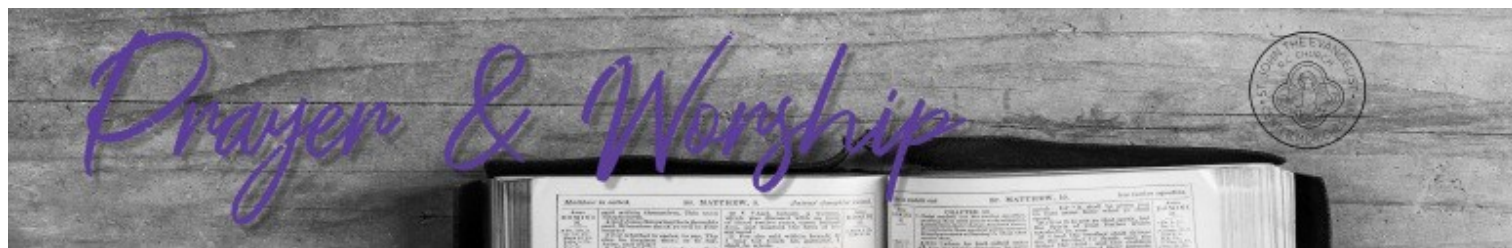
Pancakes, Sausage, Coffee, Tea & Juice

Sunday
April 13th

SJE Parish Auditorium

After the 10am Mass





EXTRAORDINARY MINISTRY OF HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND

When you serve the parish as an Extraordinary Minister for the Homebound you take your place in a long line of disciples who enjoyed the company of Jesus, listened to his word, wondered about his commands, cared for his people, and most importantly, are doing what he asks of us. You represent our parish to the sick and homebound by providing Holy Communion to our fellow parishioners who are unable to participate at Mass but can still be recipients of the Body of Christ.

In 2023, members of this Ministry visited 2126 members of the parish at their homes, or in a facility where they were being cared for. Some people who are sick and homebound probably feel that they don't want to be a bother to anyone. But quite to the contrary, the Extraordinary Ministers are anxious to make the extra effort to bring Holy Communion to those in need. The level of appreciation expressed by the receiving parishioner is unmatched. But it is important to note the equal satisfaction felt by the visiting minister that makes the Ministry such a unique experience.

It is common for extraordinary ministers to visit the same people week after week, and often develop a special bond with them, and in some cases their families. It becomes a shared friendship in faith. Interested? Please contact the Rectory for further information regarding this very special and significant mission right here at Saint Johns.



THE LEGION OF MARY

Our Lady of Hope Praesidium

The Legion of Mary is a ministry which undertakes apostolic work to give Christ to the world through the love of Mary. Members become instruments of the Holy Spirit through a balanced program of prayer and volunteer work, which includes visits to the sick and aged, religious education, prison ministry, community outreach, communion to the homebound and more. Many good intentions are brought to fruition through Legion membership. Come join us in giving glory to God by spreading the love of Jesus with Our Lady's help. Please call Judy Paulsen or Christine Cappiello at 631.878.0009.



CALLING ALL MEN!

Men's Prayer Group

Come join the Totus Tuus Men's Prayer Group on Saturday mornings at 9am 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 call
the Parish Office at
631.878.0009 or
email to recto-
ry@sjecm.org.



*Come visit Jesus in the
Blessed Sacrament this Lent...*



Forty-Hour Eucharistic Adoration

March 21st, 22nd, 23rd Seton Chapel (Convent)

Adoration will begin at 3:00 PM on Friday, March 21st and end at 7:00 AM Sunday, March 23rd

SIGN UP WEEKEND - March 1st & 2nd, 8th & 9th and 15th & 16th after Masses or
complete and return below to the basket in the convent chapel or to the rectory office



SELECT A DAY AND HOUR (S)

NAME:

PHONE #:

Friday 3/21 {3:00PM - Midnight} _____

Saturday 3/22 {Midnight - Midnight} _____

Sunday 3/23 {Midnight - 7:00 AM} _____

"Come to me all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest" -Mt. 11:28

Get Involved at SJE

CONSOLATION MINISTRY

We are seeking new members to help us lead and comfort families through the funeral process.

There are several roles available depending on what **you** are comfortable with. Greeters attend the funeral and assist in welcoming families to the church. **Companions** are directly involved with the families preparing for the funeral mass. **Bakers** make something for the family at the time of the funeral. If you are more interested in a clerical/ support role, **booklet makers** prepare a worship aid for the funeral and coordinators contact members to provide for each of these roles.

We currently have no bilingual, English- Spanish, members, but our Ministry needs them!

We are a joyful ministry and would love to share with you how positive this ministry. Email: rectory@sjecm.org

ALTAR LINENS

LAUNDRY HELP NEEDED!

We are in need of help with our altar linens. It would need a commitment once every two weeks or so to care for, launder, dry, iron and return the cloth items used at Masses in the Church and Seton Chapel. Great job for those who love to do wash, iron, use starch, and more! For more information, contact the Parish Office at 631.878.0009 or e-mail to rectory@sjecm.org.

CHURCH CLEANERS

St. Zita Society

Our dedicated volunteer cleaning staff members meet every Thursday at 12:30 (after Noon Mass).

At present, there are six of us who do light cleaning, i.e., window washing, vacuuming, dusting and mopping.

When we have a full crew, the job is completed in about an hour depending on weekly weather conditions that produce sand and salt, etc.

We, as a group, are proud of our lovely church and the continuous religious activities that emanate from it. If you wish to join us, just show up. We welcome you! For more information, contact the Parish Office at 631.878.0009 or e-mail to rectory@sjecm.org.

Art & Environment

The Art and Environment ministry cares about making the church and Seton chapel a prayerful and peaceful space for all to enjoy here at SJE. Using our passion for nature, we use a variety of flowers, plants, assorted foliage and other natural elements to highlight each liturgical season. We aim to create an environment where parishioners feel welcome throughout the year. We invite you to consider joining our ministry to lend a hand in keeping our parish a warm and inviting place for all to come and worship.



OFFICE WORKERS

St. Genesis Guild

Are you interested in working in an office environment? Meeting and helping your fellow parishioners? Then the St. Genesis Guild would be a great fit! We are a volunteer ministry where we help out with office work in the rectory on Saturdays.

Some of our duties are to answer the rectory phone, direct callers to the proper ministries, assist the priests with appointments, help with mass cards, print funeral booklets, general office work, etc. Please e-mail Rosanne Giese in care of rectory@sjecm.org for more information. Please reference St. Genesis Guild in the subject line.



Do you know someone who is interested in becoming Catholic?

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

[OCIA]

Jesus said to his apostles, “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19). The Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ is meant for all peoples, and the Catholic Church is open to all who believe. A non-Christian becomes a Catholic by baptism, and those Christians who are already baptized in the Name of the Trinity enter fully into the Catholic Church by receiving Confirmation and Eucharist. These three Sacraments of Initiation are given to adult candidates once a year on the most Solemn Feast of Easter.

The preparation to become a Catholic through the Easter sacraments, known as the OCIA, involves coming to know the faith taught by the Church and by prayer and ritual receiving the grace to commit to living that faith. Informal classes on the Catholic Faith are offered to candidates over fifteen weeks leading up to Easter. And in the six weeks of Lent preceding Easter candidates will be formally welcomed by the faith community.

For more information on becoming a Catholic through the OCIA program, contact Deacon Michael at mhoonhout@sjecm.org.



Do you or someone you know need Confirmation?

Confirmation for Adult Catholics

For those who were never confirmed as a child, there is a way to receive this holy sacrament as an adult. The Sacrament of Confirmation is a strengthening in the indwelling, action and grace of the Holy Spirit. Without it, one is not fully initiated into the Catholic Church, because this Sacrament confirms your baptism and empowers you to live a genuine life of witness as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Preparation is needed to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, which is given to adult Catholics once a year on the Solemn Feast of Pentecost (Sunday, June 8, 2025). The process to be confirmed as an adult requires a mature grasp of the Catholic faith and freely committing oneself to live it. Informal classes on the Catholic Faith are given to adult candidates for Confirmation over the seven weeks leading up to Pentecost (April 23 – Jun 4, 2025).

For more information on receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation as an adult, contact Deacon Michael at mhoonhout@sjecm.org.

Comunidad Hispano

La Comunidad Hispana de nuestra Parroquia de Center Moriches, te invita a celebrar la Santa Misa en Español
Martes 7:30pm La Santa Misa (Capilla del Convento)
Sabados 7:00pm El Santo Rosario / Confecciones (en la Iglesia)

7:30pm La Santa Misa (en la Iglesia)
Viernes 7:30pm Grupo de Oracion (Capilla Convento)

MINISTERIOS Y SERVICIOS

Bautismos: Segundo Domingo a las 2p.m. en la Iglesia.

Clases pre-bautismales el tercer Miércoles de cada mes.

Requisitos: (con 2 meses de anticipacion)

1. Certificado de nacimiento del niño (a).
2. Certificado de inscripción de su Parroquia (padres y padrinos)
3. Los padres deben traer estos documentos a la oficina de San Juan para fijar las fechas de charla pre-bautismal (OBLIGATORIA para padres y padrinos) y la fecha del Bautismo.

Matrimonios:

Parejas que planean su matrimonio, deben hacer una cita con uno de los sacerdotes antes de su boda. De este modo tendrán suficiente tiempo para recibir las instrucciones prematrimoniales y obtener los documentos necesarios. Para más información llame al oficina.

Permítanos ayudarlo !

DESPENSA DE COMIDA DE ERNIE

Abierto - Lunes 6:30 p.m. a las 7:30 p.m.

Jueves 3 p.m. a las 4 p.m.

TIENDA DE SEGUNDA MANO

Miércoles - Barn 9 a.m. a 12 p.m.

COMIDA COMUNITARIA

Último lunes del mes 6 p.m.

Auditorio de la escuela

MINISTERIO DE LA CALLE

Jueves - Estación de tren Mastic-Shirley

7:15 p.m. (aproximadamente)

Comidas sencillas y ropa disponible.

También necesitamos voluntarios para ayudar a traducir para aquellos que lo necesiten

Exposición del Santísimo Sacramento

Lunes - Viernes

Considere ofrecer una hora por semana ante el Señor en el Santísimo Sacramento.

Si puede estar presente durante una hora específica,

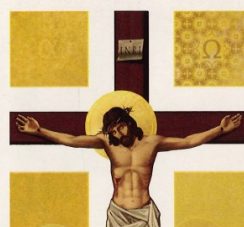
· Los feligreses siempre son bienvenidos a venir y orar ante el Santísimo Sacramento, incluso si no pueden cumplir con el compromiso de horario regular.



En el Santísimo Sacramento

Dios nos ama con tanta ternura que se vacía por completo!

CUARESMA



Profundiza tu oración esta Cuaresma con **Hallow**

ORACIONES DIARIAS

Comienza tu día con el Evangelio del Día, el Rosario, la oración imaginativa o una de las más de 10,000 sesiones, que incluyen meditaciones diarias, homilias, reflexiones y estudios bíblicos.

CONTENIDO FAMILIAR Y RETO PARA NIÑOS

Ora en familia con la Introducción a la oración para peques y escolares, y enseña a tus pequeños a orar y a fortalecer su conexión con Dios durante esta temporada.

HISTORIAS BÍBLICAS Y CONTENIDO PARA DORMIR

Termina tu día con Cristo con la Oración de la Noche, un Examen o un Rosario con invitados como El Padre Pablo López y Taliana Vargas.

"¡Amén! Hallow me ayudó a caminar en la fe, caminar con el hombre y caminar con Jesús... ¡la mejor Cuaresma de todas!"

Descarga en Google Play

Consíguelo en la App Store



Escanea con tu teléfono
hallow.com/oremos

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

If you are in 4th grade or higher and you would like to serve the church in this special ministry, we would love to have you! Altar servers assist the priest or deacon with sincere devotion and decorum in the spirit of the Liturgy by carrying the incense, processional cross, lighting candles at Eucharistic celebrations, Sacraments, funeral masses, benediction, and prayer services. This ministry allows the youth of the parish to become involved and contribute to the Liturgy of the Mass by serving others.

OUR NEXT PARISH TRAINING SESSION WILL BE...

March 17th 4:00-5:30 PM

March 19th 4:00-5:30 PM

March 22nd 11:00AM-12:30PM

(Pizza will be served at the conclusion of the final session)

We will celebrate a special installation Mass of all our new altar servers on **Sunday, March 23rd** at the 10:00am Mass at which all our new trainees will serve at the Mass for the first time.

Please email your child's name, grade level, email, phone number to servers@sjecm.org BEFORE Friday, March 14TH if you are interested in becoming an altar server.



Music Ministry

Join our Adult Choir!

SJE Adult Choir sings at the 10 o'clock Mass Sunday mornings and rehearsals are held Wednesday evenings at 7 o'clock in the church.

For more information, please email music@sjecm.org



**Knights of
Columbus**

Queen of All Hearts Council 4126



2025 Palm Cross

FUNDRAISING SALE

\$15 per cross

March 29th & 30th

AFTER MASSES

Proceeds from the sales will go to
assist vocations to religious life.

KOFC4126.COM



Our Lady Queen
of Apostles
Regional
Catholic
School

**Pre-K -8th Grade
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2025-26**

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&
See!**

**Schedule a
Tour Today!**
Scan QR Code



About Us

- ✓ -Grounded in our Catholic Faith & Service
- ✓ -Small, Individualized Educational Program
- ✓ -Special Education Program
- ✓ -Before & After Care
- ✓ -Financial Aid
- ✓ AND MORE...

Get IN Touch



631-878-1033



2 St. John's Place
Center Moriches, NY 11934



olqany.org





Mission Statement


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.

Come to know Mary, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal


The Miraculous Medal Novena is prayed on Mondays after the 7 a.m. and 12 Noon Masses. Booklets are provided. We ask that you take the booklet and keep it, bringing it back each Monday.

Come and spend some time with the Lord!

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place in Seton Chapel Mondays —Fridays from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. All are invited to quiet times of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament when the Church and Seton Chapel are open.




Coffee with Jesus...
*Lenten Reflections on the Meaning of
Season in Christian Life*



Join Bishop Andrzej
All Fridays of Lent
March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11
at 3 pm for Webinar Lenten Reflections

Registration Required
Call Suzanne at 516.744.6850
or email -westernvicariate@drvc.org
to receive Zoom Webinar Link



40
LENTEN LESSONS
ON THE
SACRAMENTS
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"FR. ROCKY"

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PASCHAL CANDLE

The Paschal Candle we have now has served as an incredible reminder of the light that shines through the darkness. At the Easter Vigil this year, we will prepare a new Paschal Candle. Because of our increased use of Seton Chapel we also purchase a smaller Paschal Candle for this space.

Both candles will burn throughout the Easter season and for all baptisms and funerals throughout the remainder of the year. It is a sign of the "Light of Christ" that shatters the darkness of our world. Our new candles are handmade from beeswax and will be a beautiful sign of Easter light and hope. Because it is beeswax and handmade, it is expensive.

A nice tradition has developed over the years at SJE. Members of the parish who had lost family members in the past year made an offering in memory of their loved one to assist with the costs related to the candles. If you and/or your family would like to do that, we would be most grateful and appreciative. You can send a donation to the Parish Office. Please note clearly that it is for the new Paschal Candles and list the name of who you wish to remember.



All are encouraged to stay connected with our local and global church through the Catholic Faith Network .

CFN is available on Optimum channel 29/137, Verizon FiOS TV channel 296,
and Charter Spectrum channel 162/471
and can be accessed via
catholicfaithnetwork.org

