



The Parish of Saints Philip and James
1 Carow Place, St. James, NY 11780

631-584-5454

May 26th, 2024

The Most Holy Trinity



“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.
And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:19-20

“With Philip & James we pray to live lives worthy of the call to be
Apostles of Hope”

Daily Mass: 7:30am and 9:15 am
Saturday 5pm Sunday: 8am 10 am 12noon

STS. PHILIP & JAMES PASTORAL STAFF

Parish Center Phone: 631-584-5454 Parish Fax: 631-862-9675

Website—www.sspj.org

PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

Open Monday, Tuesday Wednesday 9am-6pm

Open Thursday 9am-6pm

Closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday

CLERGY

Father Tom Haggerty, Pastor
Father Joe Lobo-Associate Pastor
Deacon John Keenan

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Sister Theresita Donach, CSFN

BUSINESS MANAGER

Virginia Portanova

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: 631-584-3204

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 1-3

Charlotte Czujko~cczujko@sspj.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 4-6

Barbara Luna~bluna@sspj.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 7-8

Dominick Avento~davento@sspj.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Margaret Adams

COORDINATOR OF PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

Lynn Sisti

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

Dominick Avento

DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES

John Cordes

SSPJ SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Diane M. Anderson

School Phone-631-584-7896 School Fax: 631-584-3258

TRUSTEES

Brendan McGovern ~ Tina Cafaro

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Michael Sharkey, Lou Guerra, Cynthia Lombardi, Paul Damato
Lisa Keane, Maureen Burke, Nancy Sanders, Peter Suski, Sheila Cavooris

Collections: ~

Thanking you for your generosity

Financial Support Needed weekly to meet Parish budget:

\$16,700

**5/19 COLLECTIONS UNAVAILABLE AT PRINT
DATE**

Weekly Collection: Sunday, May 12th, 2024:

Collections from Weekend masses: \$8,965.

Mail Collections: \$2,060.

Faith Direct(126Participants) WEEKLY \$3,374.04.

Total Collection: \$14,399.04

Ascension Collection: \$2,056.00

Sacraments

Baptism— Celebrated twice per month. Parents are asked to register at the Pastoral Center for Pre-Baptism Program.

Marriage—Couples are asked to contact the Pastoral Center before visiting the reception hall. The Marriage Preparation process is nine months before your proposed wedding date.

Confirmation—Seventh and Eighth grade students are prepared to celebrate through Religious Ed or SSPJ School. Adults prepare through RCIA.

Reconciliation— Available Saturdays from 4:00pm-5:00pm in the Church or by contacting the Parish Center for an appointment.

Anointing of the Sick— In case of serious, unexpected illness, please contact the Parish Center office to arrange for a Priest to pray with the person who is ill. Anointing of the Sick is held on the first Sunday of the month following the 8:00am mass please see the Sacristan before mass.

R.C.I.A.— Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (non-Catholic adults desiring to become Catholic) are asked to contact the Parish Center Office.

Eucharistic Adoration In The Church— Monday 1:30pm -7pm

PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVE FOR US IN YOUR PRAYERS



LCDR. MEGAN M. SHUTKA-VIK, USN
CAPT. WILSON MARKS- USN
CAPT. MICHAEL T. DOLAN- JR. -D.O, US ARMY
LT. COL. JOHN KAIREZ
SPC. NICOLE A. CANNON
SGM. MICHAEL P. BORRELLI-US ARMY
CAPT. JOHN TULLY- USN
LT. COL. JAMES TULLY-US ARMY
JOSEPH SAGGIO- USNC
CAPTAIN PAUL WILLMS
STAFF SGT. MICHAEL LONGHENRY
LT. COL. PAUL T. JACKSON-
STAFF SGT ALEXANDER PARRELLA-USAF
RICHARD SOTOMAYER- USAF
SGT. CONNOR F. SCOTT- USMC
SGT. CORY O'HARA -USMC
CDR. ROBERT J. MARSH-USN
PFC. CHARLES CHRISTOPHER HOWELL
STEVEN CAVA-USN
ERIC SEELIN- USMC
CW2 CHRIS MUNZ
CW2 NATASHA WORTMAN
CORPORAL JAMES T. CASEY-USMC
SGT. JOSHUA MAHONEY- US ARMY
KEVIN JONES-USCG
PRIVATE JOSHUA OLSEN-USARNG
GLEN CRIMA-US ARMY
MARIO CATANIA-USMC
RYAN ANTHONY NASCIMENTO-USMC
KYLE ANTHONY NASCIMENTO-US ARMY
ENS. RYAN M. SHOWS -USN
STAFF SGT. RYAN REXRODE-USMC
DR. KARA VANDEKIEFT, COL.-USAF
SGT. STEPHEN D. OUTCAULT-USMC
PAUL MUMOLO-USN
VICTORIA ZEMAN, USCG
KYLE J. GRUNER -US ARMY
MARK GIORDANO—US COASTGUARD
KELLI MCLAUGHLIN— LT. US ARMY NATL.GUARD
1 LT MICHAEL J BANG—MILITARY INTELLIGENCE US ARMY
MATTHEW PATRICK GALLAGHER US ARMY
LT. COMMANDER CHRISTOPHER SHANK MD
MIDN ERIN NICASTRO, USN.
MAJ. BRENDAN JOHNSTON-USAF
CHRISTOPHER A. HIONIDIS-USAF
EMMETT MOLONEY -USN
HANK MOLONEY—USAF
CARL JOSEPHSON-USAF
DANIEL JOSEPHSON-USAF
SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON-USAF

LIVE-STREAMING THE 8:00AM SUNDAY MASS

The Sunday mass at 8:am is available to view on our SSPJ Church Facebook page, while it is live at the 8am mass, it can be recalled at any time.

While Father Tom Is Away~ A Reflection from Sister T~

Dear Friends,

Last week we were able to celebrate the feast of Pentecost. We spoke of the gifts of the spirit and hopefully spent some time with them. This week I would like to share the Fruits of the Spirit.

We have heard the saying 'by their fruits you shall know them'. I am sure that you have witnessed in your life as well as experienced the fruits I will name. Living a life in and of the Spirit we cannot help but produce the good fruit of a faith filled life. The fruits of the Spirit are these:

***Love** is the primary fruit of the Spirit and encompasses selfless, sacrificial, and unconditional affection and care of others, regardless of circumstances.*

***Joy** is the ineffable presence of God in one's life despite external circumstances.*

***Peace** develops an inner state of tranquility and harmony, both with God and others despite difficult circumstances.*

***Patience** is the ability to endure trials calmly without becoming easily angered or frustrated.*

***Kindness** is characterized by a compassionate attitude toward others showing goodwill and empathy in actions and words.*

***Goodness** involves excellence and integrity to do what is right and honorable.*

***Faithfulness** refers to a loyalty in fulfilling commitments and responsibilities both in relationships with others and God.*

***Gentleness** is the quality of being humble, gentle, and considerate in interactions with others avoiding harshness.*

***Self-control** is the ability to exercise restraint over one's desires, impulses, and emotions, leading to disciplined and balanced living.*

There you have it. Being human there are many times that we may fail to produce these fruits, but there is always another season. God loves us just the same and offers us other opportunities to bear fruit for others in need.

Take sometime this week to examine these fruits. Which ones are easier for you to live out? Which are more difficult? Who are people who you have experienced these fruits with? Choose one fruit that you feel strongest with and bless it. Take the most difficult one and practice living it. Am I a bearer of good fruit?

Till next week,

Sister Theresita

Apostles: We Who Are Sent...Hope: God's constant gift of new possibilities

Mass Intentions, For the week of May 26th, 2024



We Pray for those who are ill...

Alan Piscak
Andy
Amanda Rose Cretella
Anna Capizzio
Anna Maria
Alfred Fox
Antonette Sabatino
Angie Mingione
Angela Amoroso
Arthur Gureck
Austin Rocky
Baby Ben
Baby Penny Grace
Candela
Barbara Bombace
Brian
Mattia Rose Lubrano
Barbara Sammarco
Belinda Groneman
Benito Fernandez
Betty DiSimone
Brian Carr
Bob DelCiello
Rob Remhild
Brenden Toomey
Carol
Carmela Montesano
Carolyn Nehl
Cathleen Henchey
Chase Addonisio
Christella Stewart
David Beleck
David McCue
Deirdre W.
Diane LaPorte
Donna Patrissi
Dorothy Mitchell
Ed Ceraso
Eleanor Bayley
Elizabeth Martin
Elizabeth Smith
Elspeth Bigoness
Eileen
Emily Schiaratta
Emily Souders
Flo Donohue
Gail Lumley
Gloria Montesano
Ginny & John Rief
Gregory Parker
Helen
Harold Scott
Jack Donohue
Jackie Sikorski
Jakob King
Jamie Accardi
Jean Saladino
Jenny Bonanno
Jerry
Jessie Lokai
Joelle Nicholas
Joni Dele
John Capizzio
John Cronin
John DeStefano
John Maynes
John Mattia
Joseph

Joe Benaburger
Joseph Domizzio
Judy Rampola
Joe Dorrian
Joseph Costa
Joseph Domizzio
Kaitlyn Remhild
Kathleen Draper
Kathleen N.
Kerry
Karl Walz
Kitty Cronin
Kristin Galetta
Laura Kennedy
Larry Baldwin
Lauretta Prague
Laura Bode
Leon Donach
Lola Santangelo
Lori Cearney
Marjorie Fox
Mary Monte
Margaret Remhild
Mark Hildreth
Mark Wagner
Mary Ryan
Marie Feicco
Maria Clark
Maria Collaro
Marie del Ciello
Maureen Litten
Mary Ann Cesarski
Mary Beth McGovern
Matthew Parrella
Mia Mednick
Michael Fisher
Mike Lofaro
Michael
Nick Lella
Patrice Henry
Patricia Aaker
Pasquale Savarese
Pat McCumber
Peter Donach
Peter Portanova
Ricardo Buffit
Rob Remhild & Family
Riordan Cavooris
Rogelio Martinez
Ronnie Paciella
Rose
Ryan Duffy
Sara Jean Andersen
Stanley Stura
Stephen Dolce
Susanne Smith
Tonia Perdue
Tara Cesarski
Teresa Mattera
Tina Cafaro
Tiffany Lochan
Thomas Lifrieri
Tom Ryan
Tom Focone
Vivien & John
Cordes
Wayne Smith Sr.

Saturday May 25th Cantor: Murtha	Presider: Father Joe Lector:Merlino/Healy EM:Rapp/Damato/Sisti/ Byrne/Toto	9:15am 5:00pm	Helen Salvador Thomas Ginty
Sunday May 26th Cantor: Meringolo	Presider: Father Jude Lector:Marino/White EM:Czujko/Kenney/Koke/ LaSerra/P. Tully	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
Cantor Meringolo	Presider: Father Joe Lector:Zahorodny/Cullen EM:Luna/McKie/Clarke/ Keane/Amen/Sotomayer	10:00am	Charles Salomon
Cantor: Lohmann	Collective Mass Presider: Father Joe Lector: Rubano/Smith EM:Chilton/Consenz/ Latino/Stack	12:00pm	Deacon & Mrs. Frank Crivello ~50th Wedding anniversary Dottie McMahon Richard Grudens
Monday May 27th Memorial Day	Adoration 1:30-7pm In the Church	7:30am 9:15am	Living~Pvt. Joshua Olsen, Army Harrison Thrasher Jr.
Tuesday May 28th		7:30am 9:15am	Living~Maria, Steve, Veronica Aghabkian Patricia Peters
Wednesday May 29th	Saint Paul, VI	7:30am 9:15am	John J. Kelly Maria Fazio
Thursday May 30th		7:30am 9:15am	Jack Steele Collective Mass: Dorothy McMahon
Friday May 31st	The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	7:30am 9:15am	Elizabeth Stiervater The Connolly Family
Saturday June 1st Cantor:	Presider: Father Tom Lector:Schor/Burke EM:Mantia/Duffy/Taurassi/ Toto/Urce	9:15am 5:00pm	Geraldine Szymanski Anthony J. Sisti
Sunday June 2nd Cantor:	Presider: Father Tom Lector:Sehne/Baker EM:Rizzo/Kenney/Koke/ Portanova/Ramos	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
Cantor:	Presider: Father Joe Lector:Lombardi/Piliero EM:Luna/McKie/ MulhallOrlando/Parish/ Amen	10:00am	Anthony J. Sisti
Cantor:	Collective Mass Presider: Father Joe Lector: Latino/Just EM:Calderone/Margaret/ Bleggi/V. Rubano	12:00pm	Maria Fazio Frances Francica Tina Grange Edward Hildebrandt

Please join us for a parish celebration of Corpus Christi!

(Also known as
The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Jesus)

After the noon Mass on **June 2nd** we will have an outdoor Eucharistic Procession, praying the rosary and joining in song as we walk to each outdoor altar to adore the Eucharistic Lord. We will conclude the procession back in the church for a benediction.

Following this, we invite all to head down to the auditorium to view a beautiful display of dozens of religious icons. There will be an opportunity to meet iconographer Janine Manheim, find out a bit about the ancient art of icon writing, and learn about Eucharistic miracles and the celebration of Corpus Christi in other countries.



Blessed Carlo Acutis

Ice cream will be available at the end of the Corpus Christi celebration, so bring the family and enjoy our parish community!

**HIS WORDS.
YOUR JOURNEY.
TOGETHER.**



MAY 16TH, 2024

"Let us never forget when we proclaim the Word, that even where it seems that nothing is happening, in reality the Holy Spirit is at work, and the Kingdom of God is already growing, through and beyond our efforts. Therefore, go ahead joyfully, dear brothers and sisters! Let us remember the people who placed the seed of the Word of God in our life: each one of us, let us think: "How did my faith begin"? Perhaps it germinated years after we encountered their examples, but it happened thanks to them!"

It's never too soon to prepare

Test for Admission into Catholic High Schools (TACHS)

Dynamic prep course taught by experienced teachers from

St. Anthony's High School

CALL DAC TEST PREP for an application **631-663-3303**

**SPACE IS LIMITED!
CALL TODAY!**

DOWNLOAD THE APPLICATION ON OUR WEBSITE

WWW.DACTESTPREP.COM

DAC TEST PREP, P.O. Box 134, Kings Park, NY 11754



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

After 11 years as our beloved Pastor and friend it has come time to say goodbye and wish Father Tom well as he embarks on a new chapter in his life: RETIREMENT!

Father Tom has faithfully served God's people and the Diocese of Rockville Centre for the past 46 years.

You are cordially invited to join us in celebrating his years of devotion, guidance, and inspiration on Saturday, June 22nd at the 5 pm. Mass followed by a retirement reception in his honor.

Your presence will truly make this occasion memorable as we express our gratitude and best wishes for the future.

Date: Saturday, June 22, 2024

Time: 5 pm. Mass followed by Reception (light dinner/dessert)

Location: SSPJ Auditorium 6-9 pm.

RSVP: please email vportanova@sspj.org or call (631) 584-5454 X 202

Confirm number of people attending.

You may also complete and return in the collection basket:

Name _____ # attending _____

Here is a Sign
For You



And our Lives Must Be A Sign
That God continues To
Gently Embrace His Children



Blood Drive

Roll up your sleeve in honor of someone special.



Peter Portanova

***Blood Drive at The Parish of Saints Philip and James
In Honor of Peter Portanova***

Date: Thursday, June 6, 2024

Time: 1:00pm – 7:00pm

Place: 1 Carow Place, St. James

Room: Parish Outreach



To make an appointment please visit our website www.nybc.org/donate, or call (800)933-BLOOD or scan the QR code above.

Please remember to eat, drink, and bring your ID with your name and photo. Appointments are preferred however walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits. Visit nybc.org/coronavirus for COVID-19 safety protocols.

About Peter:

Peter went to St. Catherine of Siena Hospital in December 2022 with a stomach pain that ended up being a life-threatening intestinal issue and fell into critical condition. He was hospitalized for 3 months, the majority of which was spent in Intensive Care Unit. During his stay Peter underwent multiple procedures and over the course of his stay received numerous transfusions requiring over 35 units of blood.

Peter was ultimately discharged to a Skilled Nursing Facility where, a year later, he is still currently trying to recover. Please donate in his honor.



#nybloodcenter    
800.933.BLOOD • nybc.org

Music Ministry

*Today is Trinity Sunday and Memorial Day weekend.
We sing to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit Three in one.
Memorial Day weekend, we pay tribute to our service men and
woman in the armed forces.*

*Prayer of St. Francis, our peace song will move to the Presentation as we continue our
commitment to singing for peace and our Sending Forth will be America the Beautiful. It
sounds great when everyone sings in full voice, this popular hymn to our country.
How I wish all our songs could be sung with so much enthusiasm.*

*Sooo. Happy Trinity Sunday
Happy Memorial Day and
God Bless America!!*



**SSPJ SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE GETTING READY FOR THE MASTERS!!
CONGRATULATIONS!!**

**SSPJ Academy boys did a great job competing in the
first round of the Diocesan Golf Championship!**



Cantiague Golf Course in Hicksville



NURSERY-8TH GRADE



ST. JAMES, NEW YORK



FEATURES OF THE SCHOOL & COMMUNITY

EXCEPTIONAL EARLY
CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

SMALL CLASS SIZES

INDIVIDUALIZED INSTRUCTION

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
Students Graduate With Two Regent
Courses, Algebra I & Living Environment

ACADEMY ELECTIVE PROGRAM

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ALL STUDENTS

*Schedule a Tour Today With
Principal Anderson & come see all
the good things SSPJ has to offer!*

DANDERSON@SSPJSCHOOL.NET

WHY STS. PHILIP & JAMES SCHOOL & ACADEMY?

- For over 100 years, SSPJ has offered academic excellence, which fosters individual growth and development according to time-tested, Catholic faith-based models of teaching and learning.
- SSPJ's primary commitment is to integrate the Gospel message with the spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social, and physical development of students, enabling them to become the leaders of tomorrow.
- SSPJ cultivates a robustly Catholic culture centered on the spiritual, intellectual, sacramental, and liturgical life of the Church.
- SSPJ provides a safe and supportive community that recognizes the dignity of every person and promotes human flourishing in a familial atmosphere.



 sspjschool.net
 (631) 584-7896

 @SSPJAcademyandSchool
 @SSPJSchool

 359 CLINTON AVENUE, ST. JAMES, NY 11780



A place where students learn and grow in their faith, strive to answer their call of being an Apostles of Hope, and become active members in their faith community



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

STS. PHILIP & JAMES COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IN CONCERT WITH STS. PHILIP & JAMES SCHOOL PRESENT THE INAUGURAL MID-SUMMER GOLF CLASSIC

MID-SUMMER GOLF CLASSIC

JULY 17, 2024

CRAB MEADOW GOLF COURSE. NORTHPORT

REGISTRATION 12:00PM-SHOTGUN START 1:30PM

BBQ LUNCH, DINNER, BEER, WINE, *RAFFLE PRIZES*



Honorees Arthur Dunn & Jack Steele



Proceeds to benefit Sts. Philip & James Knights of Columbus Charity Outreach Efforts and Sts. Philip & James School



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Number of Players: ___ \$200.00 per person
 ___ \$ 750.00 per foursome

(includes Driving Range, Cart, Lunch, Dinner)

Dinner only: ___ \$90 per person

SPONSORSHIPS

- ___ Prizes @ \$2,500 (2 Available)
- ___ Dinner @ \$2,000 (2 Available)
- ___ Lunch @ \$1,500 (2 Available)
- ___ Driving Range @ \$500 (2 Available)
- ___ Tee Signs @ \$100 each
- ___ Putting Green @ \$500 (2 Available)
- ___ Pin Flag @ \$125 (18 Available)

Sponsor Information

Please Make Checks Out To:
 Sts. Philip & James K of C Council #12839
 PO Box 201 St. James, NY 11780
 Credit Card & More Info: Scan QR Code



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CONTACT : TOM SICA (631)521-4771

SIKACHU45@HOTMAIL.COM



Parish Social Ministry

Our Food Pantry Needs:

Paper Towels
Canned fruit

Thank you so very much!



Prayer Blankets will be blessed at the 10 AM Mass on June 2. If you have a member or friend in need of the prayers and love



SSPJ SENIORS

The next meeting of the Seniors will be on June 10th from 1:30 -3:30 I n the Sts. Philip & James Room. Please join us for an afternoon of faith, fun, and friendship.

Helpful Phone Numbers~ YOU ARE NEVER ALONE

Dept. of Social Services: 631-854-2300
Alcoholics Anonymous 24-Hour Hotline: 631-669-1124
Al-Anon Suffolk County: 631-669-2827
Alzheimer's Disease: 631-954-2323
American Red Cross L.I.: 516-747-3500
Birthright (Pregnancy Support): 631-821-9727 or 1-800-550-4900
Brighter Tomorrow (Domestic Violence): 631-395-1800
Brookhaven Youth Counseling: 631-451-8011
Catholic Charities (Food Stamp Info): 631-789-9546
Child Advocacy Center (CAC) (Child Abuse): 631-439-0480
Children's Community: 631-585-2020, 631-476-9698
www.childrenscommunityhs.org
Domestic Violence Hotline (Vibes): 631-360-3607
Elder Abuse: 631-761-7470
Fidelis Insurance (Family Health Plus): 1-888-343-3547
Gamblers Anonymous Hotline: 1-855-222-5542
Good Shepherd Hospice: 631-376-3758
Hope House Ministries: 631-473-6030
In Home Care- Home Instead: 631-724-2273
LI Against Domestic Violence: 631-666-8833
LI Head Start: 631-732-7100
L.I. Women's Coalition (Domestic Violence): 631-666-8833
Memory Care in NY: www.memorycare.com
Mental Health Emergency: 631-952-3333
Narcotics Anonymous: 631-689-6262
Nassau/Suffolk Law: 631-232-2400
National Aging in place-L.I. Chapter: 631-383-4341
National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-784-2433
Office for the Aging: 631-853-8200
Overeaters Anonymous 631-260-6615 www.SuffolkOA.org
Rachel's Hope (Post Abortion): 888-456-4673
Response Crisis Center: (Suicide Hotline): 631-751-7500
The Retreat (Domestic Violence Hotline): 631-329-2200



"Rooted in Hope: Growing a Greener Church" is a campaign which will run from May to July 2024. It is about nurturing hope and change within our Church and our planet. Our Church and its members should lead by example, cultivating

The Respect Life Committee invites you to join them each morning at 8AM in the Prayer Room of the Church as they pray the Rosary for the protection of all life.



Katie's Way

Collecting new and gently used baby items and delivering them to the Life Center of Long Island. These items benefit mothers, children, and expectant mothers in need. Your donations build a community that supports mothers who choose life for their unborn children under difficult circumstances. **Suggested donation items:** Diapers, wipes, bottles. Gently used baby and toddler items such as car seats, high chairs, strollers, clothing, toys, etc. New baby and toddler items, including diapers, wipes, formula, baby food, clothing, etc. **PLEASE DROP OFF AT: 56 TILLOTSON AVENUE, ST.JAMES, NY**

SPECIAL REQUEST: SUMMER CLOTHES SIZE 2T-4T BOYS AND GIRLS

CAN WE REACH OUR GOAL BY JUNE 26TH? WE ARE AT 65% OF GOAL!!

TOTALS RECEIVED AS OF
May 15th, 2024 ~updated figures unavailable at submission date*

GOAL: \$102,000
PLEDGES: \$65,955 PAYMENTS: \$47,925.

2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal

As Catholics, we are called to spread the Good News to all those we meet. Jesus says to His Apostles (and all of us), "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20).

How are you answering this call in your life? As members of the Catholic Church on Long Island, we can answer this call and help spread the Faith to our youth and young adults, as well as to many others who depend on us, by supporting the Catholic Ministries Appeal

Your gifts help to fund formation programs that bring people closer to Christ. One such program is *Camp Quo Vadis* for our youth. This camp is so vital to the mission of the Church because it quenches the spiritual thirst that so many young people on Long Island experience. The more our young people seek out Christ and the more the Church helps them to navigate their journey—the better our future will be.



"The camp revitalizes the faith by helping young people understand who God is and develops their relationship with Him. It keeps young people close to God by learning more through the sacraments by offering Mass and time for Eucharistic Adoration. Seeing their faith grow and seeing faith through the eyes of our youth strengthens my faith."

There are many other ministries funded by the CMA that support the education of youth and young adults in addition to seminarians and those preparing for the Diaconate. I invite you to visit the website for the CMA to learn more about what the CMA does: <https://www.catholicministriesappeal.org/>.

Let us come together to spread the Good News to the people of God on Long Island so that we can build a solid foundation for the future of our Catholic Community.

Please know that I thank you for your consideration of this special request to make a gift to the 2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal. I remind you that no gift is too small, and every gift makes a difference in the lives of our young people - the now and the future of our Catholic Church.

Reflecting and Preparing for Next Sunday, June 2nd, 2024

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

June 2, 2024: Ex 24:3-8 | Ps 116:12-13,15-18 |
Heb 9:11-15 | Mk 14:12-16,22-26

Pray: Loving Jesus, open our hearts to savor the wonder and joy of Your most precious gift, the Most Holy Eucharist. Amen.

Jesus Gives Us His Very Self in the Holy Eucharist

How humbling it is that Jesus, our promised Savior, our Emmanuel, fulfills His promise to save and be with us always in the gift of the Holy Eucharist! Today, we gratefully celebrate the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, which unites the feast of the Eucharistic sacrifice, the feast of the Sacrament of the Eucharist, and the feast of the Real Presence of Jesus in this Sacrament. Replacing the Old Covenant with the New and eternal Covenant, Jesus transformed the Jewish Passover by offering His own Body and Blood to be poured out for all to take away the sins of the world.

Are you amazed by the miracle of transubstantiation, the process by which the bread and wine of the Eucharist are transformed into the Body and Blood of Jesus after the priest says the words of Consecration? Pope St. John Paul II sought to rekindle "Eucharistic amazement" when he wrote his beautiful encyclical, *Ecclesia de Eucharistia* (the Church of the Eucharist.) I highly recommend it if you have not read it before or if it's been a while. Released in 2003, this critical Church document is excellent and will deepen your understanding and appreciation of the Eucharist, enriching your spiritual journey. It is also very rich in meaning for today's world.

Jesus modeled what it means to surrender to God's Holy Will when He sacrificed His whole life



for the good and love of others, including us. He suffered and gave the ultimate Sacrifice of His life on the Cross. He loved us enough to share His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity in the Sacrament of the Eucharist so we would never be alone and that we, too, might share in His Kingdom here on Earth as we journey to the Kingdom of God in Heaven. As the source and summit of our Christian faith and spiritual lives, Jesus in the Eucharist provides a way for us to unite our sacrifices and sufferings to His in an offering of charity and service to others. May all who receive the Bread of Life in the Holy Eucharist become one body by the Holy Spirit and become a living sacrifice, united with Jesus Christ.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † How does the Eucharist nourish and keep your Christian life healthy?
- † In what ways have you offered your personal life as a living sacrifice enjoined with Christ's?
- † How have you encountered the Real Presence of Christ in Adoration?
- † As a sign of Christ's love, how can the Eucharist help us minister to the poor and outcast?
- † As a sign of unity, how can the Eucharist help us embrace those different from us with open hearts?
- † As a bond of charity, how can the Eucharist help us be living signs of Christ's presence and love in our troubled world?

A EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

As a seminarian, I was privileged one summer to take a course from the renowned liturgist, Godfrey Diekmann. This was back in those heady days shortly after Vatican II when it was very much in fashion to frown on prescribed ritual prayers and write your own. This was particularly true for the Eucharist Prayer, the “Canon” of the mass, which a number of priests began writing for themselves. Diekmann, it turned out, was not a great fan of this. Asked about it in class one day, he said, “It seems today that everyone who has a tiny bit of imagination and even less theology feels obliged to write a Eucharistic Prayer.”

Because of the Covid restrictions this year, I have often celebrated some form of the Eucharist virtually. At first, leading those services, my thought was, what’s the value of a Eucharistic prayer if there is to be no communion? Therefore, I simply jumped from the Liturgy of the Word straight to the Lord’s Prayer. Eventually though I deemed that something more might be offered. Thus (with Godfrey Diekmann’s words now forty years distant) I wrote a Eucharistic Prayer for a virtual mass.

What is a Eucharistic Prayer? Most people would say it’s that part of the Eucharist where the priest consecrates the bread and wine, but that’s only part of it. The Eucharistic Prayer is that part of the Eucharist where we make *memorial* (*Zikkaron*, in Hebrew) of the major event by which Christ saved us, in order to make that event present for us to participate in today. We come to the Eucharist not just to receive the body and blood of Christ, but (just as importantly) to participate in an event, namely, the saving action of Christ as he undergoes his *Passion, Death, Resurrection, Ascension, and Pentecost*. The Eucharist is the Christian Passover Supper and, like the Jewish Passover Supper, its purpose is to make a past event present to us.

How does this work? We don’t have a metaphysics within which to understand this. In sacred ritual, in the Eucharist, as in a Passover supper, something happens that transcends time. This doesn’t contradict the intellect, the imagination, or the laws of nature; it only takes them beyond their normal limits.

Here’s a Eucharistic Prayer for those times when there is no bread and wine to be consecrated.

Lord, God, you break into our lives in extraordinary ways to manifest your love and save us.

For your chosen people you miraculously parted the waters of Red Sea and led them to safety by suspending the laws of nature. Then, in the desert, you miraculously fed them with manna and revealed to them the law within your heart.

Since only one generation walked through the parted waters of the Red Sea and only that generation ate your manna in the desert, You, Lord God, instituted the Passover supper as a ritual through which every generation until the end time could walk through the parted waters of the Red Sea and eat your bread in the desert. The Passover supper calls these saving events to mind in a way that, in your timelessness, makes them real again for us today.

This is true too for the saving actions of your son, Jesus Christ. His Passion was a new bondage; his trust in Death a new faith; your raising of him in the Resurrection and his Ascension a new Exodus; and his sending of the Spirit at Pentecost a new entry into the Promised Land.

Therefore, Lord God, on the night before he died, your son left us the Eucharist as a Passover Supper through which you make these saving events present again.

We ask you, therefore, to send your Spirit upon all of us gathered here to make memorial of your Son’s saving acts. Grant that through this ritual remembrance each of us, and all of us as one community, may be united with Christ in his Passion, Death, Resurrection, Ascension, and in his Sending of the Spirit. You who are beyond time, grant us today the grace of being one with Christ in his sacrifice, one with him in his dying and rising.

As we celebrate this memorial, help us know that we are one with Your Son, our Lord, Jesus, united with him as he is undergoing his Passion, Death, Resurrection, Ascension, and Pentecost.

Lord, God, help us to know that the food of this Eucharist is the new manna by which You feed your people with heavenly food.

Lord, as we make this memorial, above all we ask you to help us break down everything that separates us from each other, all division in our world, so that You may be able to feed us all at one table, as one family, as one God of us all.

We pray all of this through, with, and in your son, Christ, our Lord ... AMEN.