



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

631-584-5454

July 28th, 2024  
Seventeenth Sunday  
In Ordinary Time



“Where can we buy enough food  
for them to eat?”

John 6:5

“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 Sean Magaldi, Pastor

Father Joe Lobo-Associate Pastor

Father Dennis Gannon-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

Sandra Rago

### 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

### LIVE-STREAMING THE 8:00AM SUNDAY MASS

The Sunday 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.

**Collections: ~7/21 collections unavailable at print date**

*Thanking you for your generosity*

**Financial Support Needed weekly to meet Parish budget:**

**\$16,700**

**Weekly Collection: Sunday, July 21st, 2024:**

Collections from Weekend masses: \$.

Mail Collections: \$.

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

**Total Collection: \$**

FAITH DIRECT: VISIT SSPJ.ORG CLICK ON FAITH DIRECT ICON: USING  
SSPJ PARISH CODE: NY232

### 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 KAIREAS  
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  
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, USNA  
MLDN KATE NICASTRO, USNA  
MAJ. BRENDAN JOHNSTON-USAF  
CHRISTOPHER A. HIONIDIS-USAF  
MICHAEL HIONIDIS, USM  
EMMETT MOLONEY—USN  
HANK MOLONEY—USAF  
CARL JOSEPHSON-USAF  
DANIEL JOSEPHSON-USAF  
SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON-USAF  
RICHARD WULFORST, III USA ANG

## *Father Sean's Letter*

My Dear Friends in Jesus Christ and our Blessed Mother,

I have returned from the 10th National Eucharistic Congress, and it was a fantastic experience. There were over 50,000 people at the Congress, including many bishops, priests, religious, and lay faithful. The procession at the beginning of Mass lasted almost twenty minutes because of all the clergy. There are so many things I can talk about, but if you permit me to sum up my experience with one word, I will defer to Cardinal Tagle's homily at the closing Mass: gift.

Cardinal Tagle's words, 'Jesus is sent to be given by the Father to others ', resonate deeply. The Eucharist, for the Cardinal, is the epitome of this gift, as Jesus offers His Body and Blood for the salvation of the entire world. According to Cardinal Tagle, when we receive this gift, we are not to hoard it but to share it with others. Each of us is called to be a missionary, inviting others to partake in the beauty of our faith. As disciples, we are not to keep the gift of our faith to ourselves but to extend the invitation to others.

As we hear the words 'Go forth, the Mass has ended' at the conclusion of Mass, we are reminded of our duty to share the gift we have received. We are not to keep it to ourselves, but to let it shine, just as one wouldn't light a lamp and then conceal it under a bushel basket (Mt. 5:15). Jesus shares His very self with us in the Eucharist, and we are called to share that gift with others. I am eagerly anticipating the many graces that will flow from the 10th National Eucharistic Congress. The entire experience was indeed a gift.

In Christ,

Fr. Sean

# Mass Intentions, For the week of July 28th, 2024



*We Pray for those who are ill...*

*All powerful God and ever living God, the lasting health of all who believe in your, hear us as we ask your loving help for the sick, restore their health, that they may again offer joyful thanks in your church.  
Amen*

*Please contact the Office of Parish Social ministry, 631-584-5454, to include the name of a brother or sister in need of prayer*

Alan Piscak  
Amanda Rose Critella  
Benito Fernandez  
Bob Remhild & Family  
Brenden Toomey  
Brian Carr  
Carmela Montesano  
Donna Fabrizio  
Ed Ceraso  
Jessie Lokai  
Kathleen Martin  
Larry Baldwin  
Mia Mednick  
Patrice Henry  
Peter Portanova  
Rose Bruno  
Tina Cafaro  
Tonia Perdue  
Tom Foccone

<i>Saturday July 27th Cantor: LoCastro</i>	<i>Presider: Father Gannon Lector: Healy/Smith EM: Rapp/Damato/Sisti/ Byrne/Toto</i>	<i>9:15am  5:00pm</i>	<i>Mary Jo Rae  Valerie Kratochvil</i>
<i>Sunday July 28th Cantor: Feeney</i>	<i>Presider: Father Sam Lector: Carey/White EM: Czujko/Kenney/Koke/ LaSerra/P. Tully</i>	<i>8:00am</i>	<i>For the People of SSPJ Parish</i>
<i>Cantor Lohmann</i>	<i>Presider: Father Sean Lector: Geier/Piliero EM: Luna/McKie/Clarke/ Keane/Amen/Sotomayer</i>	<i>10:00am</i>	<i>Carol Walz</i>
<i>Cantor: McCulloh</i>	<i><u>Collective Mass</u> Presider: Father Joe Lector: Hurlburt/Rubano EM: Licari/Consenz/ Latino/Stack</i>	<i>12:00pm</i>	<i>Lawrence McGinn, Jr Patrick Jameson Kelly Isabella Andriano Gennaro Napolitano</i>
<i>Monday July 29th St Martha &amp; Mary and Lazarus</i>	<i>Adoration 1:30-7pm In the Church</i>	<i>7:30am  9:15am</i>	<i>William Paravano  Carr &amp; Baglivi Families</i>
<i>Tuesday July 30th</i>	<i>St Peter Chrysologus</i>	<i>7:30am  9:15am</i>	<i>Ruth Alofsia  Rose Keating</i>
<i>Wednesday July 31st</i>	<i>St Ignatius of Loyola</i>	<i>7:30am  9:15am</i>	<i>Anthony Hurtado  Mary Ellen Klaus</i>
<i>Thursday August 1st</i>	<i>St. Alphonsus Liguori</i>	<i>7:30am  9:15am</i>	<i>Living~Dan &amp; Priscilla Liddy <u>Collective Mass:</u></i>
<i>Friday August 2nd</i>	<i>St. Eusebius of Vercelli</i>	<i>7:30am  9:15am</i>	<i>Sr. Marie Gerard Hoffman  Anthony Annunziato</i>
<i>Saturday August 3rd Cantor: Feeney</i>	<i>Presider: Father Sean Lector: Thompson/O'Connor EM: Mantia/Duffy/ Drechsler/Toto/Urce</i>	<i>9:15am  5:00pm</i>	<i>Patrick Kelly  Jack Steele</i>
<i>Sunday August 4th Cantor: Stefanowski</i>	<i>Presider: Father Sean Lector: White/Dervan EM: Rizzo/Kenney/Koke/ Portanova/Ramos</i>	<i>8:00am</i>	<i>For the People of SSPJ Parish</i>
<i>Cantor: Hill</i>	<i>Presider: Father Gannon Lector: Zahorodny/Franco EM: Luna/McKie/Mulhall/ Orlando/Parish/Amen</i>	<i>10:00am</i>	<i>William Olsen</i>
<i>Cantor: Lohmann</i>	<i><u>Collective Mass</u> Presider: Father Joe Lector: Tomasino/Just EM: Calderone/Margaret/ Bleggi/Rubano</i>	<i>12:00pm</i>	<i>Barbara Kemper Marie Melo Rose Keating Neil &amp; Mary Garguilo</i>

## Altar Memorials for the Week of July 28th, 2024

*Our Bread and Wine  
Are offered in thanksgiving to*

**Father Samson**

*In recognition of his 25th anniversary of ordination.*

*Your presence at SSPJ Parish was pure GIFT!*

*Please remember us as we remember you in our prayers...*

*Our Altar Candles  
Are burning in memory of*

**Carol Walz**

*“On your 6th anniversary in heaven”*

*With love from,*

**Karl, Karl Jr. and Tim Walz**

## A Special Word of Thanks from Bishop Peter Paul Saldanha

*Dear Friends,*

*As I return to my Diocese, I would like to take this time to send you my heartfelt thank you to all of you, very particularly the pastor Fr. Sean, Fr. Gannon, Fr. Joe, Fr. Sam and the entire parish community, for your warm and cordial welcome to Sts. Philip and James parish.*

*I reached Mumbai this morning..!!! I was filled with joy at seeing you all... your love, appreciation and kindness. I also am touched by your generosity towards our seminarians and your prayerful generous support towards their formation.*

*I remain deeply grateful for your support, kindness, and love. I look forward visiting you and hope to spend more time with you in my next visit.*

*May the grace of the Lord be with you all.*

*Assuring my prayers,*

*+ Bishop Peter Paul Saldanha*



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



SUNDAY, JULY 14, 2024

"Jesus does not eliminate the concern and search for daily food. No, he does not remove the concern for all that can make life more progressive. But Jesus reminds us that the true meaning of our earthly existence lies at the end, in eternity, it lies in the encounter with Him, who is gift and giver. He also reminds us that human history with its suffering and joy must be seen in a horizon of eternity, that is, in that horizon of the definitive encounter with Him."

## FAITH SHARING GROUP!

*Meets Wednesday mornings from 10 to 11 o'clock in the Philip and James room. For the first four weeks, we will be discussing*

**Matthew Kelly's book *Holy Moments***

*July 31st sharing Chapter 4 of Holy Moments...*

*Beginning August 7th, we will be opening up the pages of Joyce Rupp's book:*

*The Cup of Life~ available on amazon for purchase*

*Any questions, please call the parish center office at 631-584-5454*

## *Sister T's Reflection for Us All This Week and Always...*

Dear Friends,

I am sure many of you have heard or experienced this saying 'If you want to improve Your tennis game play with someone who is more experienced.' The same holds true with our faith life, to improve it, challenge it, help it to grow, you need to share with others who are also developing their faith.

With that in mind I would like to share with you some of the thoughts that Fr. Samson (Our visiting priest from Nigeria) shared with us during our faith sharing on the book **Holy Moments** by **Matthew Kelly**, this past Wednesday.

*"On page 23 of his book 'Holy Moments' Kelly defines Holy Moments. He couches it thus: **A Holy moment is a single moment in which you open yourself to God You make yourself available to Him. You set aside personal preferences and self-interest, and for one moment you do what you prayerfully believe God is calling you to do.***

*From this definition it is presented to be taken and believed that Holy Moments must be occasions or occurrences not devoid of the recognition of the active involvement of God. ... God is, in faith, viewed to be critically in the center of the ensuing/emerging moment. God functions as the pull and organizer of the experiences we are calling Holy Moments. ... the realization of the reality of God's sustained presence is akin to what Kelly identifies as that moment of awakening, the moment of a deeper awareness and enlightenment about the presence and continued work of God in and around us, in our life and experiences.*

*A Holy Moment wherein God is perceived in faith to be in and around us can serve to become a great tool of inner control and effective spiritual guide. That is, serve as a rudder properly navigating between what is right and wrong, what is moral or immoral. All of this, therefore, can transmute into a veritable resource for not just meaningful spiritual life experience but seeking and maintaining an integrated lifestyle.*

*May God grant us the grace to recognize and own holy moments that may occur in our lives and use them as a veritable resource to not only live better and holier but achieve a well ordered and integrated self."*

Thank you, Fr. Samson, you have certainly given us much to reflect on during this upcoming week. For those of you who may not be familiar with this book, it is truly worth the read. (You can purchase them through Dynamic Catholic) May your week be filled with many Holy Moments.

Till next week,

Sister T

**Music Ministry**~ Seeing with the eyes of amazement.

Jesus leads us to the God of the unlikely, unexpected, ---- the impossible!

All we need to do is see it.

Where will He lead you today?.....Maybe the Music Ministry????

I know you want to join. Well September is the time. You have one more month to think about it.

Give us a try, you never know.

Children – Grades 3-6 Teens – Grades 7-12 Adult – 18 and up

There are many ways to participate. A lot or a little. Think about it.

Maybe God's is moving you toward Music.

How wonderful!!



SCAN ME!

REGISTRATION FOR OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**REGISTRATION ENDS ON SEPTEMBER 1ST 2024**

**KINDLY REGISTER NOW, SO THAT WE CAN ENSURE A GREAT BEGINNING TO OUR NEW YEAR AHEAD!!**

**CONTACT THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WITH ANY QUESTIONS 631-584-3204**

**THIS YEAR, FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE, ALL GRADE LEVEL REGISTRATIONS, AS WELL AS PAYMENTS, WILL BE COMPLETED / SUBMITTED ON-LINE.**

Upon completion of the registration forms please click the "New" or "Renew" registration tab to submit payment via **Faith Direct**. While on-line registration is open 24/7, please direct any inquiries to the Religious Ed office during business hours.

Please note that our First Communion program is a two-year program...all first graders should register as soon as possible. First and Second Grade will continue to be taught on-site. All other grade levels will continue via Google Classroom.

Upon receipt of all completed forms and payment you will be notified of your child's(ren) placement in a class (grades 1 & 2) or access to google classroom.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. Please direct any concerns to the parish office, we will be happy to assist you.

We look forward to guiding your child(ren) in developing a relationship with Jesus and understanding of our faith. Wishing you all a fun-filled summer!

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION BOOK DISTRIBUTION DATES

**Aug. 14 (Wed) – 2 pm – 5 pm**

**Aug. 20 (Tuesday) – 5 pm – 7 pm**

**Aug. 22 (Thursday) - 9 am – noon**



**The books will be distributed from the Sts. Philip and James Room in the back of the Rectory**

# SSPJ YOUTH GROUP

**SATURDAY AUGUST 10TH**

**3:30PM-5:00PM**

**FOLLOWED BY 5PM**

**MASS**

ALL RISING 7TH-9TH GRADERS

ARE INVITED TO OUR

OLYMPICS THEMED SUMMER

YOUTH GROUP MEETING!

EMAIL SANDY AT

SRAGO@SSPJ.ORG TO RSVP.



## BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION

To avoid a last-minute scramble, assembling backpacks with the students' requirements, and to enable you to take advantage of 'sales', we are continuing our school supply drive. We have children in our community in need of teacher mandated items.

If you can help, kindly take a school supply card from the baskets in the back of the church. You may return your UNWRAPPED donation, along with the card, to the parish office during the week, or items may be placed in the St. Anthony's Bread Closet, also in the back of the church.

As always, thank you for all you do to help Parish Social Ministry.



***GOD'S ABUNDANT BLESSINGS  
UPON OUR NEWLY BAPTIZED CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES  
SUNDAY, JULY 21ST, 2024***



***Welcome  
Riley Alesia Cerna***



***Welcome  
Nora March Masky***



***Welcome Cecilia Violet  
Cash***



***Welcome Elina Simone  
Stabile***



***Welcome  
Antonia Lola Manning  
and Father Dominick***



***Welcome  
Julian Banks Stillitano***



***Welcome  
Wren Navy Randolph and  
Weston Walker Randolph***

# Parish Social Ministry

*We remember,*

*Alfred Fox*

*Safely home in the arms  
of Jesus*



## Our Food Pantry Needs:

**Paper Towels, Toilet Paper  
Facial Tissues**

**Thank you for your kindness and  
generosity**



## Laudato Si Ministry

It's easy to make changes:

Improper Disposal: Toxic garbage must be taken to a hazardous waste collection site. That includes batteries, light bulbs, paint, chemicals and even CD's and DVD's. Recyclable materials such as plastic and aluminum need to be separated and sent to the appropriate recycling facilities.



Prayer blankets will be blessed at the 5 PM Mass on August 3. If you have a loved one who is sick and in need of the prayers, love, and support of the SSPJ family, please feel free to take one after Mass

## THE RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE...

*Won't you join us to say the rosary for your  
special  
intentions, for all life, and for the mothers in  
crisis  
pregnancies? God hears all our prayers.  
Come Mon. thru Fri. 8 AM in the prayer room.*

## 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](http://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](http://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](http://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



## 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**

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

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS FOR 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](http://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***

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

**WE ARE AT 72% OF GOAL**

**TOTALS RECEIVED AS OF**

**July 23rd, 2024**

**\*GOAL: \$102,000\***

**PLEDGES: \$73,945. PAYMENTS: \$60,319.**



Dear Friends:

As we continue to celebrate our National Eucharistic Revival, we are bringing true love into the world by sharing and supporting opportunities for the faithful to fall deeper in love with Jesus in the Eucharist and to cast nets of Eucharistic charity to all of Long Island and to the world.

In our Diocese, the Catholic Ministries Appeal helps us to cast these nets. From Elmont to Montauk, because of this Appeal, the Church is present in each community helping those in need.

Our Parish Social Ministry programs assist those in the community with basic necessities like food, clothing or just a helping hand. Catholic Charities assists our fellow Long Islanders with housing, substance abuse issues and maternity management. It supports seminarians through their discernment and formation and ensures that our young people can continue to grow in their knowledge and love of our Catholic faith.

*The Catholic Church on Long Island serves the mission of the Church and the common good by assisting so many people spiritually, emotionally, and physically.*

At the recent Eucharistic Pilgrimage that brought the Blessed Sacrament in a Monstrance from the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Shrine in lower Manhattan across the Brooklyn Bridge in view of the Statue of Liberty, I was inspired by the many people, a mosaic of many faces and ages, witnessing to the truths of our faith and encouraging those who are inactive in their faith to rekindle their love for the Eucharist and the Mass.

Your gifts to the Catholic Ministries Appeal are integral to this Eucharistic mission. If you have not done so already, I ask you to please consider making a gift to the 2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal.

May God bless you and your loved ones.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend John O. Barres

## Good News INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

### 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 4, 2024: Ex 16:2-4,12-15 | Ps 78:3-4,23-25,54 | Eph 4:17,20-24 | Jn 6:24-35

Pray: Heavenly Father, thank you for giving us the gift of Jesus, the bread of heaven. Amen.

**Christ nourishes our hungry and thirsty souls with His own Body and Blood.**

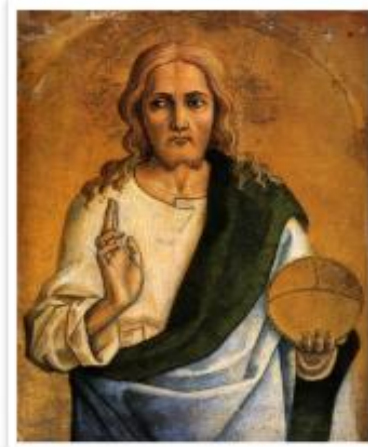
Jesus loved using simple examples to teach about Himself, the way to holiness, and about heaven. He knew everyone would understand the natural experience of hunger and thirst for food and drink and how it affects people's lives. A baby cries when it is time to nurse. Children get fussy before dinnertime... sometimes adults do, too! Students and workers who do not eat breakfast might notice that their concentration and work performance suffer. Those who go shopping on an empty stomach tend to make unhealthy choices and do more impulse buying.

Hunger can affect mental health and cognitive abilities, causing fatigue, depression, and irritability. On the other hand, those who maintain a healthy, balanced diet on a regular schedule feel better, have more energy, lead more active lives, have fewer diseases, have happier moods, and usually live longer lives.

Beyond hunger and thirst for food and drink, many naturally crave other things that can shape their lives for the good or the bad. Some have a strong desire for acceptance, popularity, power, control, pleasure, or wealth. These powerful forces of hunger can destroy us through things like obsessive gambling, drugs, alcohol, sex, and other addictions.

Jesus sought to help the crowds following Him to

Capernaum make a new spiritual connection to satisfy their hungry hearts and souls. He wanted them to understand the real meaning behind the manna in the desert and the miracle of the loaves and fishes. The Father had sent Him to nourish our souls as heavenly food. His wholesome grace would give us the power to avoid temptations, satisfy our unhealthy passions, and draw us to holiness.



Christ is the Bread of Life sent from God to feed their souls and ours. It is a gift of the Father to draw believers to Jesus. All that is required is that we truly believe that He is the Son of God and follow Him and His teachings with our whole hearts and lives. We must sincerely believe in and receive the gift of His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist. This holy food for our souls will nourish us in faith, hope, and love and lead us to eternal life.

#### Reflect & Discuss:

- † Are you hungry for Jesus in your life, or do you hunger for something else?
- † How is the True Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist transforming your life in Communion with Him?
- † How does receiving Christ in the Holy Eucharist help us in today's challenging world?

## THE ILLUSION OF OUR OWN GOODNESS

One of the great tragedies in all literature is the biblical story of Saul. Saul makes Hamlet look like a Disney character. Hamlet, at least, had good reasons for the disaster that befell him. Saul, given the gifts with which he started, should have fared better, much better.

His story begins with the announcement that in all of Israel none measured up to him in height, strength, goodness, or acclaim. A natural leader, a prince among his peers, his extraordinary character was recognized and proclaimed by the people. The beginning of his story is the stuff of fairy tales. And so, it goes on, for a while.

But, at a point, things begin to sour. That point was the arrival on the scene of David – a younger, more handsome, more gifted, and more acclaimed man. Jealousy sets in and envy slowly turns Saul's soul to poison. Looking at David, he sees only a popularity that eclipses his own, not another man's goodness, nor indeed how that goodness can be a gift to the people. He grows bitter, petty, cold, tries to kill David, and eventually dies by his own hand, an angry man who has fallen far from the goodness of his youth.

What happened here? How does someone who has so much goodness, talent, power, and blessing, grow into an angry, petty man who kills himself out of disappointment? How does this happen?

The late Margaret Laurence, in a brilliant, dark novel, *The Stone Angel*, gives us an interesting description of exactly how this can happen. Her main character, Hagar Shipley, parallels somewhat the biblical Saul.

Hagar's story begins like his: She is young, good, and full of potential. What's to become of such a beautiful, bright, talented, young woman? Sadly, not much at all. She drifts into everything: adulthood, an unhappy marriage, and into a deep unrecognized disappointment that eventually leaves her slovenly, frigid, bitter, and without energy or ambition. What's as remarkable as it is sad, is that she doesn't recognize any of this as happening to her. In her mind, she remains always the young, good, gracious, popular, attractive young girl she was in high school. She doesn't notice how small her world has become, how few friends are around, how little she admires anything or anyone, or even how physically unkempt she has let herself become.

Her awakening is sudden and cruel. One winter day, shabbily dressed in an old parka, she rings the doorbell of a house to which she is delivering eggs. A young child answers the door, sees Hagar, and Hagar overhears the child tell her mother: "That horrible, old egg-woman is at the door!" The penny drops.

Stunned, she leaves the house and finds her way to a public bathroom where she puts on all the lights and studies her face in a mirror. What looks back is a face she doesn't recognize, someone pathetically at odds with whom she imagines herself to be. She sees in fact the horrible, old egg-woman that the child saw at the door rather than young, gracious, attractive, big-hearted woman she still imagines herself to be. How can this happen? she asks herself. How can we, imperceptible to ourselves, grow into someone we don't even recognize?

To a greater or lesser degree, this happens to us all. It's not easy to age, to absorb the death of much of what we dreamed for ourselves and to watch the young take over and receive the popularity and acclaim that once were ours. Like Saul, we can easily fill with a jealousy and an anger to which we are blind and, like Hagar, do not notice inside ourselves. Others, of course, do notice.

But, for most of us, as this is happening, we remain still good and generous people, except that we are more caustic, cynical, and judgmental than we once were. We remain good people, but whine too much, feel too sorry for ourselves, and curse more than bless those who have replaced us in youth, popularity, and status.

Hence, one of the pre-eminent human and spiritual tasks in the second-half of life is precisely to recognize this jealousy, this ugliness, inside ourselves and to come back again to the love and freshness of our youth, to revirginize, to come to a *second naivete*, and to begin again to give others, especially the young, the gaze of admiration.

At the beginning of the Book of Revelations, the author, speaking in God's voice, has this advice for us, at least for those of us who are beyond the bloom of youth: "I've seen how hard you work. I recognize your generosity and all the good work you do. But I have this against you – *you have less love in you now than when you were young!* Go back and look from where you have fallen!"

We might want to hear those words from scripture before we overhear them from some young girl telling her mother that a bitter, ugly, old person is at the door.