



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

631-584-5454

June 23rd, 2024
The Twelfth
Sunday In Ordinary Time



"Quiet, Be Still"

"Why are you terrified?"

"Do you not yet have faith?"

Mark 3: 39-41

*"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

Weekly Collection: Sunday, June 16th, 2024:

Collections from Weekend masses: \$9,924

Mail Collections: 2,121

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

Total Collection: \$15,419.04

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

June 9th, 2024 Collection figures \$13,391.54

A/C Collection: \$3,347.50

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.

Father Tom's Letter

Dear Friends,

The love of Christ impels us...

This line is from today's second reading, and it caught my attention. Impels is a forceful word, saying to me that the love of Christ is what moves us, what keeps us going. It's our life blood. As the time has come for me to move on from SSPJ to a new season of life, the love of Christ impels me to share thoughts and prayers with you.

Holy, holy, holy! I think of how often we have echoed these words together, honoring and celebrating God who comes among us – who comes disguised as our lives. How blessed we are to be invited to receive Jesus not only in Eucharist but also as he reveals himself present in each one of us. The love of Christ impels us to reverence holy possibility, as we are graced and guided to move beyond ourselves to become community - the Body of Christ.

I am deeply grateful to so many people. Let my thanks begin with gratitude to those on the Pastoral Team and all who work in our parish with whom I have had the privilege of ministering. Likewise, the unbelievably generous volunteers who have shared their time, expertise and support have been a source of inspiration, faith-filled witness and embodied hope. Parishioners of SSPJ -- you have answered the call to be Apostles of Hope in so many varied ways! Thank you! Sharing prayer, hopes, work and laughter with you has been a great gift.

SSPJ Apostles of Hope, as I retire and you welcome Fr. Sean Magaldi as your new pastor, I look forward to what God promises in the book of Jeremiah... "I know the plans I have for you...to give you a future filled with hope." My prayers for you will continue, and I ask your prayers for me as our journeys continue. Together we are church.

And finally,

No, no old jokes today at the end of this letter but deep thanks for the untold blessings you have shared with me – inviting me to find, celebrate and know our Emmanuel, God with you!

(However! I would like to note that last week Pope Francis met with more than 100 comedians, telling them "You have the power to spread peace and smiles." He shared a prayer which he said he prays every day: "Grant me, O Lord, a good sense of humor!" Amen and Alleluia!!!)

Peace to each of you my friends,

Father Tom

Mass Intentions, For the week of June 23rd, 2024

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday's

1:30-7pm

In the church



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
 Bill Maynard
 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 Deleo
 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 Acker
 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 Mattered
 Tina Cafaro
 Tiffany Lochan
 Thomas Liffrieri
 Tom Ryan
 Tom Focone
 Vivien & John
 Cordes
 Wayne Smith Sr.

| | | | |
|---|---|----------------------|---|
| Saturday June 22nd Cantor: Feeney | <i>Presider: Father Tom Lector: Healy/Lombardi EM: Byrne/Drechsler/ Taurassi/Toto/Damato</i> | 9:15am 5:00pm | Father's Day Novena Frank Annitto |
| Sunday June 23rd Cantor: Stefanowski | <i>Presider: Father Jude Lector: Cullen/Czujko EM: Dervan/Koke/ Portanova/Sehne/Sica</i> | 8:00am | For the People of SSPJ Parish |
| Cantor Hill | <i>Presider: Father Jude Lector: Contrino/Luna EM: Licari/Conti/Parish/ Clarke/Keane/McKie</i> | 10:00am | Father's Day Novena |
| Cantor: Lohmann | Collective Mass <i>Presider: Father Jude Lector: Smith/Tomasino EM: Consenz/Suski/ Margaret/Settineri</i> | 12:00pm | Patrick J. Kelly Cecilia Force Ralph Marciante Maximo Collado Martin Rizzo |
| Monday June 24th The Nativity of St. John the Baptist | Adoration 1:30-7pm In the Church | 7:30am 9:15am | Fathers Day Novena Mary Roethgen |
| Tuesday June 25th | | 7:30am 9:15am | Kyle Nacimiento Joseph Viglione |
| Wednesday June 26th | | 7:30am 9:15am | Living~Ens. Ryan M. Skows Ettore Orlando |
| Thursday June 27th | St. Cyril of Alexandria | 7:30am 9:15am | Patricia Driscoll Collective Mass: Mark Woods |
| Friday June 28th | St. Irenaeus | 7:30am 9:15am | Martin Rizzo A Holy Soul in Purgatory |
| Saturday June 29th Cantor: McCulloh Sts Peter & Paul | <i>Presider: Father Sean Lector: Merlino/Burke EM: Licari/Rapp/Anderson/ Byrne/Damato</i> | 9:15am 5:00pm | Yvonne & Todd & GinaLei Liring Burrow John Frasca |
| Sunday June 30th Cantor: Cazzaniga | <i>Presider: Father Lector: White/Koke EM: Czujko/Dervan/Diaz/ Rizzo/Kenney</i> | 8:00am | For the People of SSPJ Parish |
| Cantor: Hill | <i>Presider: Father Lector: Zahorodny/Cavooris EM: Conti/Parish/Keane/ Amen/Mulhall/Orlando</i> | 10:00am | Jerry Linder |
| Cantor: Hill | Collective Mass <i>Presider: Father Lector: O'Leary/Rubano EM: Calderon/Suski/ Samson/Stack</i> | 12:00pm | Marie LaDonna Geraldine Syzanski Mary Stngarone Anne Kieshishian |

Rev. Thomas J. Haggerty



Blessing on your

RETIREMENT

46 YEARS OF SERVICE

1000'S OF SUNDAY SERMONS

NUMEROUS SEEDS PLANTED

Many Prayers Lifted Up

CARING  ENCOURAGING

WELL DONE

GOOD & FAITHFUL SERVANT

June 26, 2024

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



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2024

"Yesterday like today, the Kingdom of God grows in the world in a mysterious way, in a surprising way, revealing the hidden power of the little seed, its victorious vitality. Within the folds of personal and social events which at times seem to signal the failure of hope, it is important to remain confident in God's subdued but powerful way of acting. For this reason, in moments of darkness and of difficulty we must not lose heart, but remain anchored in faithfulness to God, to his ever-saving presence. Remember this: God always saves. He is the Saviour."

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
(631) 584-7896

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359 CLINTON AVENUE, ST. JAMES, NY 11780



Music Ministry

The Music ministry would like to thank and recognize Jim Scully, who is the guitar player for the adult choir. Jim has been involved in the music ministry since 2016. He will be leaving us and moving out of state. I thank Jim for his many years of service to this ministry and for playing guitar for the Baptism ministry. He will be greatly missed. The Music ministry along with the SSPJ Parish wish Jim and his wife God's Blessing as they move to the next chapter in their life. May God bless you always.

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

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

Dear Friends,

Surely, a good number of you out there love plants and planting in the garden. Somewhere I heard that it is great to talk to your plants as it helps them grow faster. In researching it, I learned one theory was that the vibrations of the voice helped and that a woman's voice had a larger range and so helped significantly more. **Words, sounds...** They not only have an effect on plants but also on people.

There is a song by Toby Mac, a Christian singer, entitled "[Speak Life](#)." Here are just a few of the words: "*Speak life in the deepest darkest hours... Speak life... Sometimes the tongue gets twisted... Well, it's crazy to imagine words from my lips as arms of compassion... Speak life.*"

I share these words at a time that is very challenging in our world. Everywhere you turn there are some awful displays of violence. Don't you think that speaking words of kindness and life would help to heal all that is going on? That would mean that we all would have to start to think of the other as well as ourselves. All of us have been challenged in some way during the past few months. Have we taken advantage of this Eucharistic Revival year to be Christ for others?

In most situations if not all Jesus spoke words of life that constantly challenge us. Don't you think so? This is not an easy task, and it will take a lot of practice, but the time to "speak life" is now! When you are having a tough day, isn't it uplifting to hear someone give a kind remark or smile or just be thoughtful? It can make a day seem so much brighter.

Are you willing and able to "speak life" to members of your family, those you work with or the broader scope of friends and even to someone whom we have trouble dealing with? Are you willing to retool your brain to speak words of encouragement and compliment, keeping the criticism to yourself? Are you willing to be sensitive to what others may be going through and "speak life" into their day? My challenge for you this week is to listen to Toby Mac's song on YouTube) and really take the words to heart. Speaking words of life at this time and place may be just what the world needs to grow up strong and healthy like the plants we love. Happy planting those words of life.

Till next week as we continue to speak life,
Sister Theresita

*Photo of the innovative garden
our sisters in Elmhurst, NY
planted this spring*





REGISTRATION FOR OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
PROGRAM FOR THE 2024/25 SEASON
WILL BEGIN ON JUNE 9, 2024

SCAN ME!

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!



The Diocese of Rockville Center is hosting its annual Camp Quo Vadis for youth in grades 8 through 12 on July 27th at St. Anthony's High School. This initiative helps high school students better understand the question, "Where are you going?" The day includes Mass with Bishop Barres, inspiring talks, lunch, games, and Holy Hour. To register for this worthy experience, please visit campquovadis.com.

Congratulations to the SSPJ Class of 2024!

Congratulations and God bless the SSPJ Graduating
Class of 2024!



Good luck in High School

Parish Social Ministry

Caring for God's Creation



IT'S EASY TO MAKE CHANGES

Wasting Paper. Although it can be recycled, most paper isn't. We still use disposable paper bags, diapers, napkins, and towels instead of reusable cloth ones. We have utility bills sent by mail instead of digitally, books purchased from stores rather than borrowed from the library...the list is endless.

THE RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

The Respect Life Committee invites you to pray the Rosary with them for all life from conception to natural death. We pray at 8AM weekday mornings in the Prayer Room of the Church. Please join us.



On July 7 blankets will be blessed at the noon Mass. If you have a family member or friend in need of SSPJ love and healing, please take one at the end of Mass.

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**

Our Food Pantry Needs:

Honey Nut Cheerios
Dish Detergent

Thank you so very much!



SSPJ SENIORS

The next meeting of the Seniors will be on
July 8th from 1:30 -3:30
In the Sts. Philip & James Room.
New members are always WELCOME!
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

God Bless Our First Holy Communion Students~ June 8th, 2024



God's Blessings upon our
First Holy Communion Students and their families:

Jake Amatulle, Luke Amatulle, Isabella Bo, Vincent Bo,
Bradley Bocchino, Gianni Bocelli, Gianna Cucci,
Mia Cucciniello,
Colin Gorman, Anthony Lewin, Nicholas Mass,
Caila McCulloch, Bryce Miller, Leah Nava, Harper Nihen,
Lorenzo Pesapane,
Emilio Polidoro-Ramirez, Vitoria Rebelo, Austin Ress,
Declan Rube, Carter Schaentzler, Ally Schiraldi,
Skylar Schmettan,
Antonio Spampinato, Grayson Weisse, Odin Wilkinson



We reached 69% of goal!

TOTALS RECEIVED AS OF

June 19th 2024

GOAL: \$102,000

PLEDGES: \$70,575. PAYMENTS: \$55,245.

2024

**CATHOLIC
MINISTRIES
APPEAL**
DIocese of Rockville Centre

*Revitalizing our Faith –
Renewed by the Eucharist*



"You pray for the hungry. Then you feed them. That's how prayer works."

- Pope Francis

Our Parish Outreach programs provide essential food programs that nourish families, especially those needed during the summer months.

Summer is a wonderful time for youngsters who long for fun-in-the sun activities and a break from the school year. Unfortunately for many families, summer can mean months of worry and hunger, as kids lose access to healthy meals given at school. Food insecurity is real on Long Island. According to LI Cares, more than 200,000 families, almost 70,000 children, do not have access to sufficient food, or food of an adequate quality, to meet one's basic needs. As parents juggle the ongoing rising costs at the supermarket, gas pumps, housing, utilities and medical co-pays, they turn to the Parish Outreach to find relief.



"Working in Parish Social Ministry has taken my faith outside of the Church. It's an opportunity for me to dig deeper into faith and think of the humble servant. It's a gift for me to work here – it feeds my soul."

- Katie Spellman, Director of Parish Outreach
St. John the Evangelist, Center Moriches

Please make check payable to the **Catholic Ministries Appeal**

Name: _____ Parish: _____

Address: _____

City, State and Zip Code: _____

Telephone number: Home _____ Cell: _____

Signature: _____

To make a donation, you can also visit <https://www.drvc.org/CMA/> or call us at 516-678-5800 ext. 296.

THANK YOU

Good News INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

13th Sunday of Ordinary Time

June 30, 2024: Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24 | Ps 30:2,4-6,11-13 | 2 Cor 8:7,9,13-15 | Mk 5:21-43

Pray: Heavenly Father, thank you for your steadfast love. Help us always trust in you.

Trust in God's continuing miracles, even when you are not aware.

Word was getting around that Jesus was miraculously healing people of many ailments, including blindness and leprosy; the disabled could walk again, those possessed by demons were being delivered, a hemorrhaging woman was made well again, and He was even raising people from the dead. More and more people with ailments and trust in Jesus followed Him to ask for healing favors. Jesus always showed much love and compassion when He stepped in to heal someone, but He usually told them not to tell anyone afterward. Scripture scholars think this may be because of His humble desire not to become an earthly king and to keep people from thinking He only gave physical healing.

As we delve into the Gospels, we often focus on Jesus' miracle healings. But what about those who hoped for healing and didn't receive it? This doesn't mean their faith was lacking or their requests deemed unworthy. It's a reminder that our faith is not about getting what we want but about trusting in God's plan, even when our prayers go unanswered.

God sent Jesus into the world because He loves us. Jesus is love because He is also God. He



would never push us away because He only wants the best for us and our world. We must be patient and remember that God is omniscient. He sees and knows things we can't comprehend in our human state. He hears our prayers and pleads and answers our prayers in the best way possible, many of which are invisible miracles that take care of everything. We must trust Him. Jesus came to conquer death, which is the devil's work, and Jesus always wins. He repeatedly tells us in Scripture not to be afraid because He is with us. Jesus is a lifesaver for all who believe in Him, and He does not wish death on anyone. Our Savior brings everlasting and eternal life to all who love and trust Him. The bottom line is that we must remember and follow the First Commandment: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." Because we know He loves us, we must trust Him and never be afraid. He is always with us, and He has everything in control because He loves us.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † How have you come to know that God loves you? How do you know that God hears your prayers? What helps you to be patient when the Lord seems slow to answer your prayers?
- † How have you shared your faith in God with those facing serious illness?
- † How has your faith in God helped you in times of grief over the loss of loved ones?
- † How is God continuing to perform miracles today? If you are aware of a miracle in your life, please share.

GIVING ONE'S DEATH AWAY

According to the renowned mystic John of the Cross, we have three essential struggles in life: *to get our lives together*, *to give our lives away*, and *to give our deaths away*. What is asked of us in the first two struggles is more obvious. But what does it mean *to give our deaths away*?

In essence, it means this: How we die leaves behind a legacy, a particular spirit, which either nurtures or haunts those left behind. If we die in bitterness and anger, not at peace with our loved ones, ourselves, and our God, we will leave behind a spirit which is more toxic than nurturing. Conversely, if we die reconciled and at peace with our loved ones, the world, and with God, then like Jesus, we will leave behind a spirit which nourishes, warms, consoles, and gives our loved ones sacred permission to be at peace. How we die colors our legacy, and that legacy is either a gift or a burden to those we leave behind.

On November 23rd, 2023, Richard (Rick) Gaillardetz, a renowned theologian, died of pancreatic cancer while still in the prime of his life. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, gifted lecturer, friend and mentor to many, a sports enthusiast, with a robust sense of humor. He also had a solid Christian faith that would be put to the test during the months of his terminal illness.

When he was diagnosed with cancer more than a year before he died, his doctors told him it was terminal, there was to be no cure; he needed to face the brutal fact he was going to die within the next two years. He did face that. Moreover, in doing so, he tried (not without some agonizing struggles) to make his death a conscious gift to his family and to the world. During the months leading up to his death, he kept a blog which shared what it is like to know you are dying and to accept that in love and faith, even within the agony of having to let go of life and wrestle with the powerful instinctual resistances within us.

Those blogs have been brought together in a book, *While I Breathe I Hope – A Mystagogy of Dying*, edited by Grace Agolia.

Here are some of Rick's feelings and thoughts:

- Unlike many saints in our tradition, I did not choose this diminishment; it has been thrust, unbidden and unwanted upon me. But I do see in it an invitation to a graced vulnerability, a call to abandon a misplaced confidence in my own vigor and bodily autonomy.
- I am praying for both the grace for diminishment and the grace of diminishment.
- One of the demons I confront daily is an overweening ego that endlessly clamors for attention like a whining toddler, drowning out the needs and concerns of others. One of the unexpected graces of diminishment appears as I am drawn kicking and screaming out of my natural egotism to discover within a much-neglected reservoir of compassion for the suffering of others.
- I must confess to an occasional preoccupation with the final dying process. What will it be like? How will I handle it when my bodily organs begin to break down and the real dying begins? Will the peace I now feel sustain me through that quite 'different' time? ... What I hold most firmly in my heart through all this is the conviction that God has so profoundly encompassed me in love over these past several months since my diagnosis that, surely, God will not abandon me in those final days and hours.
- I now belong to the ragged band of the elderly and infirm. These are now my people, my last tribe.
- Giving my death away is not just a matter of accepting my inevitable physical demise; giving my death away bids me to embrace experiences of passive waiting, diminishment, and marginality as a liberation from the slavery of personal achievement and self-importance. If I give these experiences due space, they beckon me beyond my egoistical self and enlarge my soul. They draw me to a greater compassion for the pain and suffering of others and encourage me to pray for others in the midst of their own suffering and impending death. Herein lies the gentle pedagogy of dying and rising.
- "My final task is to return to God the life graciously given to me."

In his farewell speech to his disciples, Jesus promised that after he had been taken from us, he would leave behind his spirit, the spirit of peace. When we go away we all leave behind us an unspoken spirit which affects those we have left behind. If we die at peace with God, others, and ourselves, then like Jesus, our loved ones, while grieving our loss, will in the deeper part of themselves, feel nourished, warmed, and consoled by their every memory of us.

Rick Gaillardetz RIP, you have left us (family, friends, the world) the gift of peace.