

SS. PHILIP & JAMES

CATHOLIC PARISH

1 Carow Place, St. James, NY 11780

(631) 584-5454

March 30, 2025 Fourth Sunday of Lent



*Jesus healing the sick, also known as the Hundred Guilder Print, Rembrandt, ca. 1648,
Château de Chantilly, Chantilly, France.*

Philip said to him, "Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us." - John 14:8

MASS TIMES

Weekday 7:30 AM, 9:15 AM
Saturday 9:15 AM, 5 PM (Vigil)
Sunday 8 AM (Live-streaming via Facebook), 10 AM, 12 NOON

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4 – 5 PM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday 1:30 – 7 PM

The Parish Directory



Parish Information

GENERAL INFORMATION

Phone Number (631) 584-5454
 Parish Fax (631) 862-9675
 Website www.sspj.org
 Address 1 Carow Place,
 St. James, NY 11780

Office Hours **Mon. & Thu. 9:30 AM - 5 PM**
Tue. & Wed. 9:30 AM - 8 PM
Fri. 9:30 AM - 1 PM

CLERGY

Pastor Rev. Sean Magaldi
 Associate Pastor Rev. Joe Lobo
 Associate Pastor Rev. Dennis Gannon
 Deacon John Keenan

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Sr. Theresita Donach, CSFN

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Phone Number (631) 584-3204

GRADE LEVEL COORDINATORS

Grades 1-3 Charlotte Czujko
cczujko@sspj.org

Grades 4-6 Barbara Luna
bluna@sspj.org

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
 Phone Number (631) 584-7896
 School Fax (631) 584-3258

TRUSTEES

Brendan McGovern
 Jennine Cullen

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Michael Sharkey Lou Guerra
 Cynthia Lombardi Paul Damato
 Lisa Keane Maureen Burke
 Nancy Sanders Matthew Carey
 Sheila Cavoaris

Thank you for your generosity

*Financial Support Needed Weekly
to meet Parish budget: \$16,700*

Weekly Collection - Sunday, March 22-23, 2025:

Collections from Weekend masses: \$12,257.95
 Faith Direct
 (126 Participants Weekly): \$ 3,374.00
Total Collection: \$15,631.95

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

Sacraments and Sacramentals

SACRAMENTAL RECORDS

To request a copy of your certificate of Baptism, Marriage, First Holy Communion, or Confirmation please call the rectory.

OCIA

For adults looking to become Catholic or receive Confirmation, email Sister Theresita at srtheresita@sspj.org to ask about our OCIA program.



BAPTISM

Celebrated twice per month. Parents are asked to contact Sister Theresita at srtheresita@sspj.org for a Pre-Baptism Program.

RECONCILIATION

Available Saturdays from 4 - 5 pm in the Church or by contacting the rectory for an appointment.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

In case of serious, unexpected illness, please contact the rectory to arrange for a Priest to pray with the person who is ill.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

For First Holy Communion, second grade students are prepared to celebrate through Religious Ed or SSPJ School. For Confirmation, seventh and eighth grade students are prepared to celebrate through Religious Ed or SSPJ School. Adults prepare for both sacraments through OCIA.

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.

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, SGT. CORY O'HARA -USMC, LT. COL. JOHN KAIRE, 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, MARIO CATANIA -USMC, SGT. CONNOR F. SCOTT -USMC, PFC. CHARLES CHRISTOPHER HOWELL, STEVEN CAVA-USN, EMMETT MOLONEY -USN, 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, LARISSA DORRIAN -US MARINE CPL, 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, CHRISTOPHER A. HIONIDIS -USAF, MICHAEL HIONIDIS -USM, ELIZABETH C. OLIVER -QM 2nd CLASS SW USN, HANK MOLONEY -USAF, CARL JOSEPHSON -USAF, DANIEL JOSEPHSON -USAF, ERIC SEELIN -USMC, MIDN ERIN NICASTRO -USNA, MLDN KATE NICASTRO -USNA, SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON -USAF, MATTHEW PATRICK GALLAGHER -US ARMY, LT. COMMANDER CHRISTOPHER SHANK MD, RICHARD WULFORST, III -USA ANG, JAMES A KOESTER -USA 2ND LT., MAJ. BRENDAN JOHNSTON -USAF, CONNOR TOOMEY -USM LT. , DAKOTA BARNETT -2ND CLASS USN, ERIN MORPHEY -2ND CLASS USN, JUSTENE PATCH -2ND CLASS USN

The Pastoral Letter from Rev. Sean Magaldi

My Dear Friends in Jesus Christ and Our Blessed Mother,

The Fourth Sorrowful Mystery is Jesus takes His Cross. Crucifixion was an excruciating and humiliating way to die. The word excruciating comes from the word crucifixion. It was reserved for the worst offenders and was considered so cruel and brutal that Roman citizens were not able to be put to death by crucifixion. Wesley Huff, a biblical scholar, made the argument that it was more difficult for the people of Jesus' time to believe someone would worship a man who was crucified than it was to believe a man rose from the dead.

We can see this in St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians when he writes, "We proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles" (1 Cor. 1:23). Just how scandalous crucifixion is is lost on a modern audience. Therefore, the fact that Jesus embraces His cross is even more profound. Jesus was willing to endure all that pain, suffering, and embarrassment for our sake. In the taking of His cross, Jesus shows us that suffering can be redemptive.

As Catholics, we contend with a world that tells us that we should avoid suffering at all costs. Fr. Jacques Philippe, in his book *Interior Freedom*, writes, "What really hurts is not so much suffering itself as the fear of suffering. If welcomed trustingly and peacefully, suffering makes us grow. It matures and trains us, purifies us, teaches us to love unselfishly, makes us poor in heart, humble, gentle, and compassionate toward our neighbor. (*Interior Freedom*, 46). For Fr. Philippe, trying to avoid suffering, because of fear can lead to disastrous effect. He writes, "Fear of suffering, on the other hand, hardens us in self-protective, defensive attitudes, and often leads us to make irrational choices with disastrous consequences" (*Interior Freedom*, 46). Where does this leave us?

To imitate Jesus, which is our ultimate goal, is to embrace our crosses in life. I heard a quote from Mets Hall of Famer Gary Carter, a devout Christian, recently. Carter said something along the lines of, "Sometimes you need to play in pain." We know we're with Christ when we find ourselves in painful and difficult situations. To embrace our cross may seem ridiculous to the world, but it was absurd to the people of Jesus' time as well. As we pray during this Lent, let us ask Christ not to fear suffering but rather accept it the same way He accepted His cross.

In Christ,
Fr. Sean

Altar Memorials, Prayer Intentions, Mass Intentions and Schedule

THE BREAD AND WINE ARE OFFERED IN MEMORY OF

Michael Kaplon, Happy Heavenly Birthday to our dear and beautiful son, All our love, Mom & Dad.

THE PRO-LIFE ROSE IS DEDICATED TO

Please contact the rectory at (631) 584-5454 to request a memorial.

THE ALTAR CANDLES ARE BURNING IN MEMORY OF

Please contact the rectory at (631) 584-5454 to request a memorial.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP IS LIT IN MEMORY OF

Please contact the rectory at (631) 584-5454 to request a memorial.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER

Please contact the Office of Parish Social Ministry, (631) 584-5454, to include the name of a brother or sister in need of prayer.

Louis Fabiano, Maria Lee, Margaret Remhild, Samya Salama, Barbara Hobbes, Michael Mattia, Michael Scorca, Grayson Danielski, Alan Piscak, Ann Marie, Amanda Rose Critella, Amanda Cacoperdo, Benito Fernandez, Carmela Montesano, Donna Fabrizio, David Beleck, Brittany Lundberg, Ed Ceraso, Edward Luna, Jessie Lokai, John V Leone, Kathleen Martin, Kerry Larry, Mia Mednick, Patrice Henry, Rose Bruno, Rob Remhild, Ronnie Reichert, Stephanie Seban, Tonia Perdue, Joan Cooper, Tim Tippett, Madeline Kelley, Diane Toto, Phillip Giarrupeto, Judy Hanrahan, Mary Di Carlo, Patricia Schecher, Nora Danko, Joanna Szymanski, Luke Salvatore Montesano, Anthony D'Angelis, Katie Hobbes

<i>Saturday, March 29nd</i>	Reconciliation 4:00-5:00pm	9:15am	Richard Klouda
	Cantor: McCulloh Lector: Tomasino/Smith EMs: Byrne/Drechsler/Taurassi/Toto/Anderson	5:00pm	Catherine Gleason
<i>Sunday, March 30th</i>	Cantor: Meringolo Lector: Marino/Kollmer EMs: Dervan/Koke/Portanova/Sehne/Sica	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
	Cantor: Stefanowski Lector: O'Connor/Waldmann EMs: Napolitano/Conti/Parish/Consenz/Clarke/Keane	10:00am	Alfred Fox
	Cantor: Lohmann Lector: Rubano/Just EMs: Latino/Rubano/Rubano/Kaleita	12:00pm	<u>Collective Mass</u> Agnes & Bill McGinnigle, Jeanne Axelrod, Stefania Bator, Raymond Grayson, Michael Colletta, Carter (Living) & Rob Remhild (Living)
<i>Monday, March 31st</i>	Adoration 1:30-7:00pm In the Church	7:30am	Victor Noche, Jr.
		9:15am	Ralph & Theresa Guzzo
<i>Tuesday, April 1st</i>		7:30am	Pat Henrich
		9:15am	Michael Kaplon
<i>Wednesday, April 2nd</i>		7:30am	For the Pope
		9:15am	Raymond & Ruth Bensin
<i>Thursday, April 3rd</i>		7:30am	Raymond Grayson
		9:15am	For the Souls in Purgatory
<i>Friday, April 4th</i>		7:30am	Brigid Winters
		9:15am	Anthony Hurtado
<i>Saturday, April 5th</i>	Reconciliation 4:00-5:00pm	9:15am	Gregoria Diaz
	Cantor: LoCastro Lector: Thompson/Hoffman EMs: Licari/Sisti/Anderson/Ruggieri/Drechsler	5:00pm	Frances Francica
<i>Sunday, April 6th</i>	Cantor: Stefanowski Lector: White/Czujko EMs: Kenney/Czujko/Sehne/Tully/Tully	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
	Cantor: Hill Lector: Lombardi/Tomasino EMs: Napolitano/Conti/Parish/Mulhall/Orlando/Consenz	10:00am	Barbara Morgan
	Cantor: Hill Lector: Geier/Latino EMs: Stack/Samson/Margaret/Chilton	12:00pm	<u>Collective Mass</u> Joey Morda, Anna & Edward Ceraso, Jack Steele, Peter O'Hara (Living), Tina Cafaro, Michael Colletta



A Weekly Reflection from
SR. THERESITA DONACH, CSFN

Dear Friends,

Believe it or not, we are halfway through Lent. How is your journey to deepen your relationship with God going? Most of us usually start off strong and somewhere in the middle of Lent we lose some steam. How do we stay on track? How do we continue to nurture our goals so that when Easter comes, we can really celebrate Jesus' Resurrection and our own as we see how this Lent has helped transform us. I was thinking about this after reading about growing your relationship with God.

One way to help you stay on track is to wake up each morning and be grateful for the fact that you are seeing the light of another day. Then, as you enter the day focus on the small things that bring a smile to your face. These things help us to stay in a positive frame of mind. Another way to stay on track is to leave behind the baggage we may be carrying. I love this quote from Ed Hays in his book, *A Lenten Hobo Honeymoon*, where he says, "Nothing is so rich as the crap of one's life for the fertilizer of one's soul/spirituality." Why not follow his advice and use the things that challenge us to our advantage.

Early in my religious life when challenges appeared I would say to God "Nowhere in my contract did I sign up to re-write the book of Job!" Now through the grace of God and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit I have learned to say, "What am I to learn from this challenge? Perhaps someone will come to me who is experiencing something similar and needs to be understood." It is all on how we approach the challenges.

Lent is a time when we have the chance to renew and enrich our relationship with God – a time to fall back in love with our God. Am I using my time wisely and truly preparing for a glorious Resurrection Day? Only you can answer that question. Take the time this week to check in on how you are doing. Whatever it is that you are doing this Lent to deepen your relationship with God, to develop a positive attitude, and cultivate gratitude in your life, know you are loved.

Happy Lent,

**Till next week,
Sister Theresita**



Music Ministry

WEEKLY REFLECTION FROM MUSIC DIRECTOR MARGARET ADAMS

4th Sunday of Lent Rejoice Sunday. God loves all saints and sinners.

In our Communion song, “We Remember”, we remember how Jesus loved us even to his death. We remember, we celebrate, we believe. With “Lift High the Cross” we see that accepting the cross Jesus again showed his love for us.

Just like in today’s Gospel, love prevailed no matter what happened. Eyes were opened and the way home was found. God is Love.

SSPJ Faith Sharing Group



We’ll be meeting each Wednesday of Lent, from 10-11am starting March 12th. There are still books available for this Lenten journey, “Walking with Mary to Jerusalem”. All are welcome to join!



The 2026 Mass Intention Book is now open in the Parish Office!



The Catholic Ministries Appeal helps lay paths of evangelization through the formation of our priests, deacons and lay leaders. It assists in training our religious education catechists and adult faith formation leaders who educate our youth and parish families, and programs that promote the sanctity of life at all stages. Working together, we are all enriching the lives of all Long Island. For more information, look for the pamphlet or visit: catholicministriesappeal.org.

As many of you are aware, the front walkway and steps to the church have been problematic and have even created flooding in the auditorium. We will be replacing the walkway and steps starting on March 31st. It is hoped that the work will be completed by April 5th. In the interim, the front entrance to the church will not be able to be used. Entry into the church can be made using the school lobby entrance. We apologize for the inconvenience.



Parish Social Ministry

WE REMEMBER, ALL THOSE WHO ARE SAFELY HOME IN THE ARMS OF JESUS

Zdzislaw Stanislaw Drejer

PRAYER BLANKETS

Blankets will be blessed at the 8 AM Mass on April 6. If you have a family member or friend in need of the love and support of the SSPJ Family, please feel free to take one.

THE RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

The Respect Life Committee invites all to join us in praying the rosary at 8 AM, M-F, in the prayer room of the Church.

God bless your Lenten journey! Don't forget to check the kiosk in the lobby for more Lenten reading choices. Please continue to pray all life especially for the unborn. Please join us for the rosary @ 8AM in the prayer room.



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**

OUR FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:

Bubble Bee Chub Mackerel
School Snacks
Dove Soap (Bar)



LENT

Lord, may the grace of this holy season open our hearts to Your life and love. Stir Your Spirit within us that we may follow your way of generous service and ready forgiveness.

LAUDATO SI

The environment is God's gift to everyone, and in our use of it we have a responsibility towards the poor, towards future generations, and towards humanity as a whole. Our duties towards the environment are linked to our duties towards the human person. It would be wrong to uphold one set of duties while trampling on the other.
-Pope Benedict XVI

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

You are never alone

AA 24 Hour Hotline	(631) 669-1124
Al-Anon	(631) 669-2827
Birthright	(631) 821-9727
Child Abuse	(800) 342-3720
Dept. of Social Services	(631) 854-2300
Domestic Violence	
-Brighter Tomorrow	(631) 395-1800
-Vibes	(631) 360-3607
-The Retreat	(631) 329-2200
LI Against Domestic Violence	(631) 666-8833
Elder Abuse	(631) 761-7470
Food Stamps	(631) 789-9546
Gamblers Anonymous	(855) 222-5542
Good Shepherd Hospice	(631) 376-3758
Mental Health Emergency	(631) 952-3333
Narcotics Anonymous	(631) 689-6262
Nassau/Suffolk Law	(631) 232-2400
Poison Control	(516) 542-2323
Hope House	(631) 473-6030
Office for the Aging	(631) 853-8200
Overeaters Anonymous	(631) 260-6615
Rachel's Hope-Post Abortion	(888) 456-4673
Suicide Hotline	(631) 751-7500

Congratulations to Our Newly Baptized Catholics!



Marcello Anthony La Franca
with parents Noelle and Sal, and
celebrant Rev. Dennis Gannon,
Baptized on March 9, 2025.

Colin James Matura
with parents Briana and Tom, and
celebrant Rev. Dennis Gannon,
Baptized on March 9, 2025.



Callen Frances Wilms
with parents Emily and Kenneth,
and celebrant Rev. Dennis Gannon,
Baptized on March 9, 2025.

**Rylie Eugenia &
Reid Michael Papka**
with parents Eva and Michael , and
celebrant Deacon John Keenan,
Baptized on March 23, 2025.

The Missionary Sisters of St. Benedict

The Missionary Sisters of St. Benedict direct a Home for children with disabilities in Elk, Poland which has a long history of caring for children who need help for various reasons.

A few words from history:

After World War II, the Missionary Sisters of St. Benedict created an orphanage for war orphans in Elk, Poland. Seeing the need to provide care and concern for children whose parents and loved ones were brutally taken away by the war, the Sisters made great sacrifices to raise funds to maintain the house and meet the children's needs. After several years of difficult, and at the same time beautiful educational work, the communist authorities decided to take healthy children away from the Sisters and placed mentally disabled boys in the Home instead. With a heavy heart, the Sisters parted with the children, but at the same time fully accepted the new conditions and new challenges as an expression of God's will.

Currently:

110 boys with various disabilities live in the Home. When working with children, we use the latest methods of rehabilitation and special education. The most important goal remains to provide children with a family atmosphere and comprehensive support.

In our Home, each child is treated individually and guided to the greatest possible independence in life. Children take part in educational activities at the Primary School located in the Home. The adolescent residents are prepared for occupational work whenever possible. Those who can work are employed as farm workers, horse therapy assistants or laundry workers.

Rehabilitation includes: physical therapy, massage, hydrotherapy, classes at the gym, and swimming pool; speech therapy, pedagogical therapy, occupational therapy, and psychological support ensure that children develop as best as they can.

The youngest resident of the Home is just one year old, while the oldest will celebrate his 50th birthday in March. Each of the boys is different, each unique. The boys have different passions (Lego blocks, puzzles, music, animals, dinosaurs, sports, agricultural machinery, medical rescue), they have favorite foods, games and select people with whom they like to spend time.

Every day they delight us with their sensitivity and perceptiveness. Everyone who visits our Home is warmly welcomed and invited to visit us again. And although "the first meeting with the boys may be uncomfortable, the next ones are just a joyful return to little friends" - that's what our volunteers say.

In order to serve Christ in our disabled children, we want to provide the best environment, so their lives will be less difficult. We have many needs: the purchase of a new bus adapted to transport children in wheelchairs, renovation of the attic, and the replacement of beds and used equipment.

Every donation is a great help for us in the functioning of the Home, and the prayers and kindness of many people make miracles happen in our Home, which could be written about for a long time...



SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL



**CLOTHING
DRIVE**

**OUR SCHOOL IS HOSTING A USED CLOTHING
DONATION EVENT!**

WE ARE COLLECTING: WEARABLE & USABLE
CLOTHING, SHOES, BELTS, HANDBAGS,
BEDSHEETS, TOWELS, STUFFED ANIMALS, SMALL
HARD TOYS AND BIKES

**OUR SCHOOL WILL RECEIVE MONEY FOR EVERY
POUND WE COLLECT**

DATE: 05/10/2025

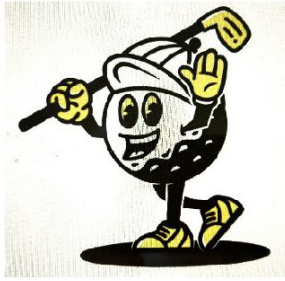
TIME: 9:00AM - 12:00PM

**LOCATION: Sts. Philip and James
School SIDE Parking
Lot!**

**CONTACT: Call/Text Faye Saladino
646-573-9014**

NOTE:

Please put all that
you are donating into
tightly tied plastic
bags



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Sts. Philip and James Council #12839

Save The Date July 9th, 2025



The Annual KofC Charity Golf Outing at Crab Meadow Golf Course in Northport.

Our Pastor, Father Sean Magaldi is this year's Honoree.

Father Sean, from Albertson, Nassau County, graduated from Chaminade HS and Adelphi University. He entered the Seminary in 2010 and was ordained in June 2015. He was first assigned to St Patrick's Parish in Smithtown. Fr Sean was later appointed Vocations Director for the Diocese of Rockville Center. In 2021, he was appointed Chaplain at Stony Brook University and Director of Campus Ministry, while continuing as Vocations Director. Fr Sean was appointed as the 12th pastor of Sts Philip and James Parish in 2024 and remains Chaplain at SBU and Director of SBU Campus Ministry. Our Council welcomes Fr Sean as this year's Golf Outing Honoree.



All proceeds support local charities: Food Pantries, Food For Families, Coats For Kids, The Light House Mission, SSPJ Parish Outreach, Veterans, and more.

1:30 PM Shot Gun Start - \$225 per golfer. Come out and play a round for charity.

Golf, Cart, Driving Range, Lunch, Dinner, Beer, Wine, Soda, Dessert, Great Prizes, Raffles

T Sign Sponsors - \$100, **Lunch Sponsors** - \$1000, **Dinner Sponsor** - \$2000,

Sponsors for Beverages on the Course - \$1000.

Sponsor the Welcome Bags - promote your business with a donation to purchase or provide a bag, sleeve of golf balls, hat, towel, tees, etc., with your name/logo on them, given to each golfer.

Sponsor Golfing Prizes - closest to the pin, etc.; **Sponsor Prizes for the Silent Raffle.**

All Sponsors will be recognized by a sign on the Course, listed in the SSPJ Bulletin after the outing, and on our web site. *Sponsor donations are tax-deductible as advertising.*

Members and participants are strongly encouraged to patronize our business sponsors.

Amount of donation: _____ Business Name: _____

Name of Contact: _____

Address: _____

Telephone number / Email _____

Type of sponsorship _____

Content on sign: _____

For us to use your logo or business card, please enclose or send it to me as a pdf.

If you plan to play golf, please provide: Name – Phone – Email

Contact: Stephen Yazulla to discuss Outing and Sponsorship details.
631-806-5534; syazulla@gmail.com.

Please copy Stephen by email, send Checks and the completed Form to:
SSPJ KofC #12839 [Golf Outing]
P.O. Box 201,
St James, NY 11780



Marriage Struggling?



Do you feel hurt and angry? Is your marriage heading in the wrong direction? Does talking make it worse?

WE CAN HELP CALL TODAY 516.405.0323


HelpOurMarriage.org
RETROUVAILLE
A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES



REGISTER NOW!

**APRIL
25-27**

HUNTINGTON, NY
REGISTER BY: APRIL 11TH
HELPOURMARRIAGE.ORG

No Marriage is Beyond Hope.

God's Gift of Forgiveness

A Pastoral Exhortation on the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

“Peace be with you!” With these words, the Risen Lord greeted his frightened Apostles in the Upper Room on the day of his Resurrection. They were troubled, anxious, and fearful—much like each one of us at some point in our lives. Christ repeated the words, “Peace be with you.” But then he added, “Receive the holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them” (Jn 20:19-23).

What an extraordinary gift! The Risen Lord was proclaiming that all the suffering he had just endured was in order to make available the gifts of salvation and forgiveness. He wanted the Apostles to receive these gifts. He wanted them to become apostles of this forgiveness to others.

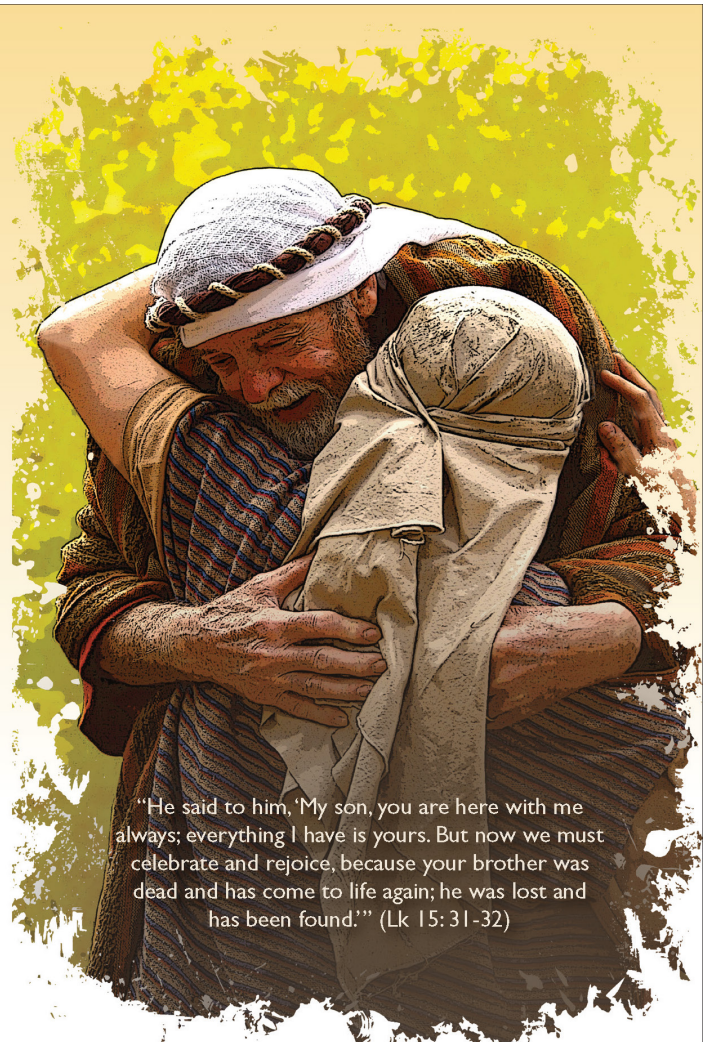
In the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, also called confession, we meet the Lord, who wants to grant forgiveness and the grace to live a renewed life in him. In this sacrament, he prepares us to receive him free from serious sin, with a lively faith, earnest hope, and sacrificial love in the Eucharist. The Church sees confession as so important that she requires that every Catholic go at least once a year.¹ The Church also encourages frequent confession in order to grow closer to Christ Jesus and his Body, the Church. By the grace of the Holy Spirit, we seek forgiveness and repentance, let go of patterns of sin, grow in the life of virtue, and witness to a joyful conversion. Since the graces of the sacrament are so similar to the purpose of the New Evangelization, Pope Benedict XVI has said, “The New Evangelization . . . begins in the confessional!”²

We bishops and priests are eager to help you if you experience difficulty, hesitation, or uncertainty about approaching the Lord in this sacrament. If you have not received this healing sacrament in a long time, we are ready to

FAITH
WORSHIP
WITNESS



JOURNEY
WITH CHRIST



“He said to him, ‘My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.’” (Lk 15:31-32)

welcome you. We, whom Christ has ordained to minister this forgiveness in his name, are also approaching this sacrament, as both penitents and ministers, throughout our lives and at this special moment of grace during Lent. We want to offer ourselves to you as forgiven sinners seeking to serve in the Lord’s name.

During Lent—in addition to the various penitential services during which individual confession takes place—we bishops and priests will be making ourselves available often for the individual celebration of this sacrament. We pray that through the work of the Holy Spirit, all Catholics—clergy and laity—will respond to the call of the New Evangelization to encounter Christ in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. Come to the Lord and experience the extraordinary grace of his forgiveness!

¹ *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, nos. 1457-1458.

² Pope Benedict XVI, Address to the Annual Course on the Internal Forum Organized by the Apostolic Penitentiary, www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/speeches/2012/march/documents/hf_ben-xvi_spe_20120309_penitenzieria-apostolica_en.html.

How to Go to Confession...

May the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ,
the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of all
the saints,
whatever good you do and suffering you endure,
heal your sins,
help you grow in holiness,
and reward you with eternal life.
Go in peace.

—*Rite of Penance*, no. 93

- 1 PREPARATION:** Before going to confession, take some time to prepare. Begin with prayer, and reflect on your life since your last confession. How have you—in your thoughts, words, and actions—neglected to live Christ’s commands to “love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind,” and to “love your neighbor as yourself” (Mt 22:37, 39)? As a help with this “examination of conscience,” you might review the Ten Commandments or the Beatitudes (Ex 20:2-17; Dt 5:6-21; Mt 5:3-10; or Lk 6:20-26).
- 2 GREETING:** The priest will welcome you; he may say a short blessing or read a Scripture passage.
- 3 THE SIGN OF THE CROSS:** Together, you and the priest will make the Sign of the Cross. You may then begin your confession with these or similar words: “Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It has been [*give days, months, or years*] since my last confession.”
- 4 CONFESSION:** Confess all your sins to the priest. If you are unsure what to say, ask the priest for help. When you are finished, conclude with these or similar words: “I am sorry for these and all my sins.”
- 5 PENANCE:** The priest will propose an act of penance. The penance might be prayer, a work of mercy, or an act of charity. He might also counsel you on how to better live a Christian life.
- 6 ACT OF CONTRITION:** After the priest has conferred your penance, pray an Act of Contrition, expressing sorrow for your sins and resolving to sin no more. A suggested Act of Contrition is:

My God,
I am sorry for my sins with all my heart.
In choosing to do wrong
and failing to do good,
I have sinned against you
whom I should love above all things.
I firmly intend, with your help,
to do penance,
to sin no more,
and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.
Our Savior Jesus Christ
suffered and died for us.
In his name, my God, have mercy.
(Rite of Penance, no. 45)
- 7 ABSOLUTION:** The priest will extend his hands over your head and pronounce the words of absolution. You respond, “Amen.”
- 8 PRAISE:** The priest will usually praise the mercy of God and will invite you to do the same. For example, the priest may say, “Give thanks to the Lord for he is good.” And your response would be, “His mercy endures for ever” (*Rite of Penance*, no. 47).
- 9 DISMISSAL:** The priest will conclude the sacrament, often saying, “Go in peace.”

If it has been a while since your last confession, remember, “Do not fear” (Is 41:10). The priest will help guide you. And feel free to take this how-to guide with you! (For more information, visit www.usccb.org/confession.)

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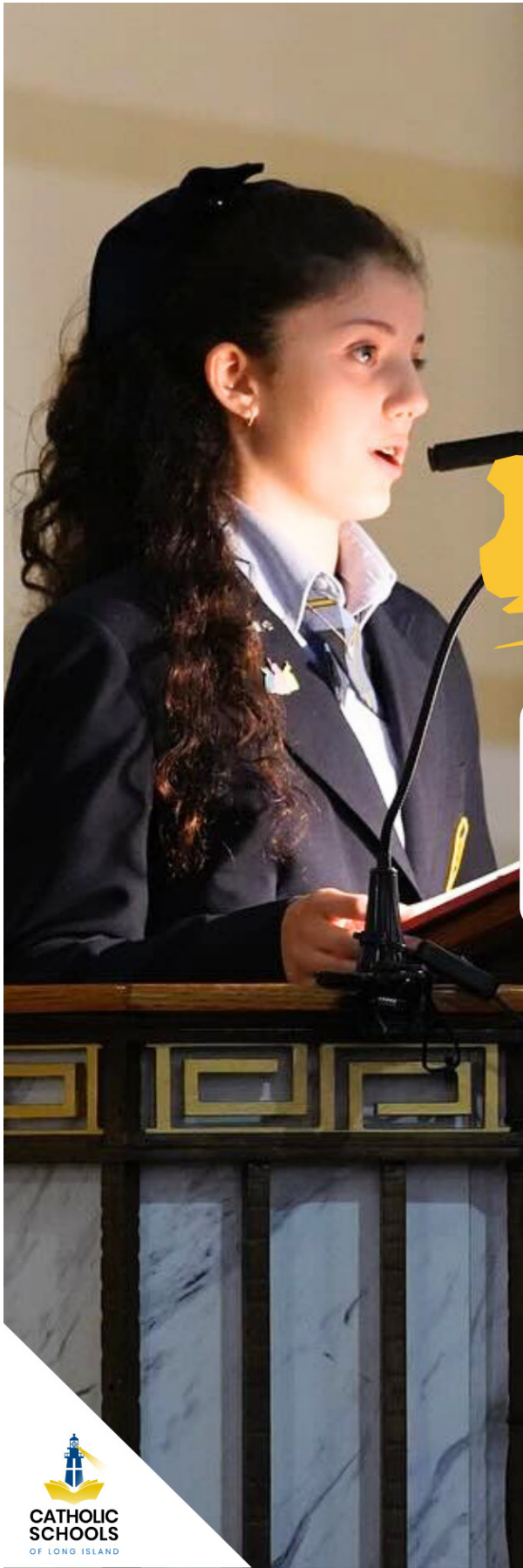
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Gospel Reflection

Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year C

April 6, 2025

Gospel - John 8: 1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.
But early in the morning he arrived again in the temple area,
and all the people started coming to him, and he sat down and taught them.
Then the scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman
who had been caught in adultery and made her stand in the middle.
They said to him,
"Teacher, this woman was caught
in the very act of committing adultery.
Now in the law, Moses commanded us to stone such women.
So what do you say?"
They said this to test him, so that they could have some charge to bring against him.
Jesus bent down and began to write on the ground with his finger.
But when they continued asking him, he straightened up and said to them,
"Let the one among you who is without sin
be the first to throw a stone at her."
Again he bent down and wrote on the ground.
And in response, they went away one by one, beginning with the elders.
So he was left alone with the woman before him.
Then Jesus straightened up and said to her,
"Woman, where are they?
Has no one condemned you?"
She replied, "No one, sir."
Then Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you.
Go, and from now on do not sin any more."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel Reflection Process

- ◆ **Pray** a simple prayer to the Holy Spirit: "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."
- ◆ **Read** the passage slowly. As you listen, ask in silence, "Lord, what are you saying to me in this passage?"
- ◆ **Listen** for a word or phrase that calls your attention or touches your heart.
- ◆ **Share** a brief story or experience of how the word or phrase connects to your life at this moment.
- ◆ **Ask** in silence, "Lord, what do you want me to do?" Share what Jesus is inviting you to do.