The Parish of Saints Philip and James

One Carow Place, St. James, NY 11780

With Philip and James we pray to live lives worthy of the call to be Apostles of Hope.

Masses

Saturday evening: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m.
Monday thru Friday: 7:30 a.m. and 9:15 a.m.
Saturday: 9:15 a.m.

Eucharistic Adoration in the Church

Thursday 2:00pm - 4:00pm Friday 8:00pm - 9:00pm

April 16, 2017 Easter Sunday

The Parish of Saints Philip and James

PASTORAL MINISTRY:

Rev. Thomas J. Haggerty, Pastor Father Patrick Osei-Poku, Associate Pastor Deacon Ronald Blasius Deacon John Keenan Deacon Kenneth Maher

LITURGICAL MINISTRY:

Margaret Adams, Director of Music Michele Familette, Sacristan

RECTORY STAFF:

John Cordes, Director of Facilities Virginia Portanova, Business Manager

FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY:

Ruth E. Testa, Principal of SSPJ School
Christine Ewald, School Secretary
Suzanne Fitzgibbon, Administrator of Religious Education
Charlotte Czujko-Coordinator Grades 1-2
Barbara Luna-Coordinator Grades 3-6
Dominick Avento-Coordinator Grades 7-8
Frank Brancaccio, Youth Minister

OUTREACH MINISTRY:

Elizabeth Wittish, OFS, Dir. of Parish Social Ministry

TRUSTEE: Jerry Linder & Tina Cafaro

PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Rita Byrne Claire DiCarlo Chris Donnelly Ryan Doyle Richard Frazita Lou Guerra Cynthia Lombardi Martin Marut Ann Mondrone Mary Ann Pose Noel Rannazzisi Tom Sica Robert Thompson

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Celebrated twice a month. In order to participate in this celebration, parents must register at the Pastoral Center for our pre-baptism program.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Couples planning to marry should contact the Pastoral Center before visiting a reception hall. The preparation process is nine months before your proposed wedding date. Call the Pastoral Center for further information.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: Children in the seventh and eight grade are prepared to celebrate this Sacrament through programs of the SSPJ school or the SSPJ Religious Education Office.

Adults prepare for this Sacrament through the RCIA process. Call the Pastoral Center for further information.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: (Confession, Penance) Available Saturdays from 4:00-5:00 p.m. in the Church or by appointment.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: In the case of serious, unexpected illness, please contact the Pastoral Center to arrange for a priest to pray with the ill person. For those about to enter the hospital, Anointing of the Sick is held on the first Sunday of the month following the mass at 12:00 p.m.

R.C.I.A.: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (non-Catholic adults desiring to become Catholic). Please contact the Pastoral Center for information.

PASTORAL CENTER OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY—THURSDAY: 9AM—8PM

FRIDAY: 9AM-5PM SATURDAY: 9AM-2PM SUNDAY: 10AM-2PM Parish Office: 631-584-5454
Parish Fax: 631-862-9675
Religious Education: 631-584-3204
Youth Office: 631-862-SSPJ
E-mail: info@sspj.org
Web: www.sspj.org

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

Father Tom's Letter

Dear Friends,

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad! (Ps. 118)

Happy Easter! May you and your families experience the great joy of Easter – which lasts not for just one day, but for fifty days. Fifty days to celebrate, to rejoice, and to explore. After finding the empty tomb, Mary Magdalene and the disciples shared the experience of seeking and finding Jesus – in unexpected ways. Fr. Larry Gillick, SJ, uses the phrase "now you see him, now you see him differently" to describe the encounters the disciples had with Jesus. This phrase can also describe our own encounters with the Savior. We continue to seek Jesus, and to find and be found by him in often unexpected ways. And when we do experience the presence of Jesus in our lives, what's our reaction? We want more! So we continue our seeking, and our finding, and our desiring more! With God, there is always more!

We are delighted to welcome all who join us for today's joyful celebration. Easter sends us forth as Apostles of Hope, to bring light to dark places and joy to places where sadness needs to be swept away. The Resurrection of Jesus challenges us by filling us with new life, – new life which in order to continue and grow must be shared with others. Rejoice to be an Apostle of Hope!

Many thanks to all who helped to make the liturgies of Holy Week such graced experiences. Congratulations to our newly received candidate, Alexandra Lee, who completed her initiation into the Catholic faith at the Easter Vigil. Blessings upon her and her family, and our RCIA team who continue to journey with her. Thank you to our Music Ministry, our liturgical ministers, all who planned, decorated and assisted with the many details of our liturgies. Our parish is richly blessed.

At each Easter Mass we were invited to renew our baptismal promises. Our liturgies of the Easter season will continue to connect us with our baptismal commitment. Our weekend Masses will begin with an "Asperges" or "Sprinkling Rite", as we celebrate the life giving waters of Easter. Please consider how Easter joy might be encouraging you to be an Apostle of Hope in your family and in our parish. Perhaps this might be the time to inquire about serving in new ways!

We're invited to continue our Easter celebration at home with a Family Blessing. After Mass each family is invited to take home a small bottle of holy water and to ask God's blessing, signaling the new life the Risen Lord bids us to bring into our homes and neighborhoods. A Blessing Prayer is included in today's bulletin.

One of the most common Christian symbols associated with Easter is the lamb with a banner bearing a cross. In ancient times the Jews sacrificed a lamb in the course of the Passover celebration. The early Christians, most of whom were Hebrews, associated the sacrifice of the lamb with Christ's sacrifice on the cross. They connected the joyous Passover festival commemorating the liberation of the Hebrews from years of bondage in Egypt with the liberation from death represented by the Resurrection. Today's bulletin includes a "Paschal Lamb" for you to place in your window from Easter until Pentecost (June 4th).

Many thanks to all who have helped us to almost reach our parish pledge goal for the Catholic Ministries Appeal. When 80% of the pledges are paid, our parish begins to get rebates which we hope to use to continue our parish renovation efforts. We are so close to our goal. Might you be able to help us get there so that like the earliest disciples we too might be party to raising the wounded Body of Christ who comes "in the least of my brothers and sisters"? Pledges and donations of any amount continue to be welcomed!

First Communion celebrations will begin soon. Please pray for our young ones as we welcome them to the Table of the Lord.

And,

A police officer called the station on his radio.

"I have an interesting case here. An elderly lady just shot her husband for stepping on the floor she just mopped."

"Well...have you arrested the woman?"

"Not vet. The floor's still wet."

Peace.

Father Tom

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





\$103,213 In Pledges!

As We Celebrate Easter It is With Sincere Gratitude That We ARE AT 84% of GOAL!

The Catholic Ministries Appeal provides funding for important programs, services, and ministries that strengthen our entire Church.

In order to reach our parish goal of \$122,500, we need the support of all.

In the spirit of generosity, please prayerfully consider your gift to this year's Catholic Ministries Appeal.

We would like to thank the 289 parishioners who have responded to this drive.

Their pledges and contributions of \$103,213 have enabled us to achieve

84% of our goal.

Through a 20% Parish Rebate, when our parish reaches our appeal goal of \$122, 500, we will receive a parish rebate of \$24, 500. With great thanks to YOUR overwhelming generosity, our parish exceeded its goal last year with \$128,781 in paid pledges, returning a rebate of \$27,485 to our parish.

Let us share the abundant wealth of faith, hope and love, that We, as

Apostles of Hope have been graciously entrusted with.,

Please consider donating if you haven't done so.

Please Make Checks Payable to: CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

Catholic Ministries Appeal Office PO Box 4000 Rockville Centre, NY 11571-4000

OR

Sts. Philip & James Church 1 Carow Place St. James, NY 11780

TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR PARISH NEEDS, CATHOLIC CHARITIES AND DIOCESAN SERVICES. I/We agree to make a gift of:

Pledge \$_____ Payment_____ Balance_____

Matching Gift Donation:______

Signature of Donor ______ Date _____

Parish:

A Family Easter Blessing

God of abundant love,

We joyfully celebrate Christ's continuing presence in our midst.

Bless our home and our family with this Easter water that reminds us of Jesus' resurrection and our new life in baptism.

May our home be a place where your love flourishes, And all are welcome. May it be a refuge of peace for all who enter it.

Bless all who live here, and help us to remember That You call us to loving service of our neighbors, both near and far. May we share Your Spirit of gratitude and generosity With those around us, and may we, As members of the Sts. Philip and James Parish community, Continue to be messengers of healing

And Apostles of Hope. We make this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

SSPJ Parish Calendar For The Week of April 16th, 2017

Sunday, April 16th, 2017: Easter Sunday

10:30am Children's Liturgy of the Word 7:00pm AA Meeting

Church Monte Building

Monday, April 17th, 2017:

6:30pm Men's Forum

Church

Tuesday, April 18th, 2017:

1:30pm Spirit of Love Prayer Group

7:00pm Catholic Daughter's Meeting

7:30pm Impact 8th Grade

Prayer Rm in Church Philip & James Rm

Wednesday, April 19th, 2017:

10:00am Yoga 6:00pm Eucharistic Adoration

7:00pm Youth Ministry

Trailer Room Church

Trailer Room

Thursday, April 20th, 2017:

2:00pm Eucharistic Adoration Church

Friday, April 21st, 2017:

7:00pm AA Meeting

8:00pm Eucharistic Adoration Monte Building Church

Saturday, April 22nd, 2017:

10:00am Stained Glass Club

Stained Glass Wkshop

Let the Risen Jesus enter your life; welcome him as a friend, with trust: he is life!

If up till now you have kept him at a distance, step forward.

He will receive you with open arms...He is with you, and he will give you the peace you are looking for and the strength to live as he would have you do. Pope Francis

He is not here;
he has Risen!

THE MEN'S FORUM

AT THE CHURCH OF SAINTS PHILIP & JAMES

A brotherhood of men dedicated to growing in their faith & discipleship in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Real Men, not without Real Struggles. With the Courage to Believe in Today's World. Our Faith Helps us Face Life's Big Questions. Our Strength is Following Christ Together.

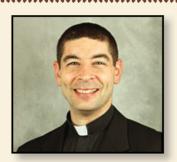


Monday, April 17, 2017

Most Reverend Robert Barron, Video Presentation: The Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

On the Monday after Easter please join the Men's Forum for an audiovisual presentation and group discussion of three video clips of the eloquent and insightful speaker Bishop Robert Barron discussing the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Among the points he explains are: the historical evidence that Jesus actually rose from the dead; why the Christian proclamation of the Resurrection was dangerous and subversive; how Jesus overcomes the evil of the world by forgiveness and love; the meaning and joy we can find in the Resurrection. Each clip will be followed by a brief discussion open to all who attend. As Bishop Barron explains, the Resurrection is an "earthquake." If you have not been shaken by it, you are missing what Easter is all about. Come Monday evening and be rocked!

TIME & LOCATION: Main Church: North Country Rd., Saint James, NY 6:30 PM: Adoration • 7:30 PM: Video Presentation • 8:30 PM: Coffee & Cake



UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Monday, May 1: Father David Atanasio,
- Reflections on the "Our Father"

Monday, May 15: Father Guy Sylvester

Monday, June 19: Closing Liturgy



WE WELCOME ALL MEN TO SHARE IN THIS MISSION.

We are a brotherhood of Catholic men who meet at Saints Philip & James R.C. Church and are dedicated to growing in our faith and discipleship in the Lord Jesus Christ. We gather twice a month to

pray, listen to spiritual wisdom, and draw strength from one another in fellowship. We seek to become better men of Christian virtue and witness in our families, friendships, Church, and community.

www.sspjmensforum.org



CHURCH of SAINTS PHILIP & JAMES

1 Carow Place • St. James, NY 11780 • 631-584-5454 • www.sspj.org

Come for all, or part of our evening's schedule • No membership required. Open to all men!



VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PARTY









PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY GANG SUNDAYS

"When did we see you hungry and feed you?"

What is this? A service opportunity aimed at feeding the hungry on Long Island by making sandwiches for distribution to local social service agencies.

When?: Sunday April 23, 2017

Time?: 10:15 to 11:30 AM

Where?: Auditorium

Who? Any person or family with a desire to make a difference

in the community.

Volunteers are asked to bring **Three loaves of WHOLE WHEAT BREAD, **one jar of jelly and two jars of Peanut butter**. In addition, any youth volunteers are to be picked up in front of SSPJ
School on Clinton Ave. at 11:45 AM.

If you are interested in our next Peanut Butter Sunday, please visit the Parish Center to complete a registration form. Space is limited. Therefore, we encourage you not to delay your response. Those who have not pre-registered may not be accommodated.

Any questions, please leave a message at 584-5454 and we will contact you as soon as possible.



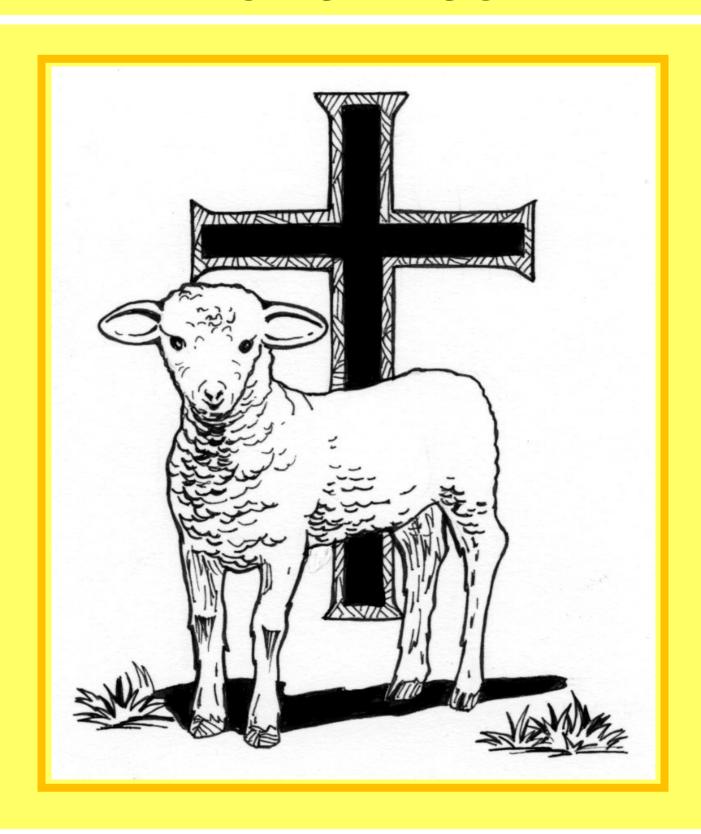
COURT ANNA THERESA #1074 STS. PHILIP AND JAMES PARISH

The Catholic Daughters will be holding their annual Baby Shower to benefit Katie's Way on Tuesday, April 18, 2017, in the Sts. Philip and James Room.

We will begin at 7:00 p.m. with coffee and cake, and will follow at 7:30 with our regular monthly meeting, and speaker, Clare Farrell, founder of Katie's Way. All women of the Parish are invited to join us.



He Is Risen



Alleluia



Easter Memorials



We never walk alone, we walk in hope of Easter Sunday and The Resurrection of Our Lord

Aimee Hayden Ayers & O'Brien Families Barbera & Prato Family Bill & Mary Cole Caponegro & Lombardo Families Dad, Terri & Brett Eleanor I. Bill Burden Eugene & Lillian Carey Fleming, Doran, Russen & Mautone **Families** Gombert & Tschinkel Families Gregory Makris Gussie Lenzi Hedwig & Anthony Zielinski Jack & Lila Klein James Beaton & Gregory Hallahan, Sr. John & Marie Martin Joseph & Rose Patalano Joseph P. Carey Linda Kushins Louis R. Chiorando Mae & Patrick Casey Marie & Ralph Toto Mark Robert Guglielmo Mary & John Michalek Mary Greco Mary Moffatt Roethgen Michael Bohenek

Michael E. Kaleita Michael Gagliardo Michael Mattia Mildred & James Butler Mr & Mrs. James Valdvka Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Manoliakis Mr. & Mrs. William Makris Nagel & Wulforst Family Neil Lenzi O'Hara & Kingston Families Patricia Brown Pennacchio Deceased Family Members Philip Alaimo, Jr. Richard Sorro & Family Robert DeSoto Sheila Conway Thomas & Catherine Moffatt Thomas Petralia Veronica & Bernhardt Wehman Vincent Priebe Vincenza & Paul Fabrizio Vincenza Focarazzo Virginia Darrow & Chris Perri William & Geraldine Heneghan



Mass Intentions, For Week of April 16th,2017

Saturday, April 15th, 2017

8:00pm

Easter Vigil-Easter Novena

Easter Sunday, April 16th, 2017

8:00am 10:00am 12:00noon

Easter Novena Easter Novena Easter Novena

Monday, April 17th, 2017

7:30am 9:15am Easter Novena Joseph Caltabiano

Tuesday, April 18th, 2017

7:30am 9:15am Easter Novena James Brown

Wednesday, April 19th, 2017

7:30am 9:15am Easter Novena John Portanova

Thursday, April 20th, 2017

7:30am 9:15am Easter Novena
<u>Collective Mass:</u>
Philip Vangostein

Friday, April 21st, 2017

7:30am 9:15am Easter Novena
David McCulloch

Saturday, April 22nd, 2017

9:15am 5:00pm Easter Novena

Opm Thomas F. Collins

Sunday, April 23rd, 2017

8:00am 10:00am 12:00noon Easter Novena
Peggy Brodenson
Collective Mass & For the
Parishioners of SSPJ
Thomas J. Collins
Eleanor Knopf
Joanna Ernau
Michael Kaleita
John & Patricia Mignone



Our Altar Candles For This Easter Week of April 16th, 2017

Happy 6th Year Anniversary In Heaven.

We Love You and We Miss You.

Love,

Mom, Panny, Mary and Chris



Our Pro — Life Rose
For This Easter Week of
April 16th, 2017
Is Dedicated to
Christopher & Jennifer O'Hara
On the celebration of their
20th Wedding Anniversary.
Love,
Mom & Dad



Our Bread, Wine

For This Caster Week of April 16th, 2017

Are Being Dedicated to: Christopher & Jennifer O'Hara

On the celebration of their 20th Wedding Anniversary. Love, Mom & Dad

Wedding Banns

Third

Alan Robert Bonistall, Ir St. Gregory the Great, Harrison, NY First Brian McManus St. Barnabas, Bellmore

To

То

Jacqueline Marie Gargulio
SSPI

Alexandra Lee St. Ge<mark>ra</mark>rd Majella, PJS

Keeping You In Our Prayers....

We offer our prayers, thoughts and love to all who are ill, their caregivers, and families, who walk amidst the journey of illness and despair. We welcome requests for healing prayers for those who are ill, and we will graciously include them upon our prayer list for a period of four weeks.



Abbott R. Morgan Alfred Fox Allison Lozada Amy Delgado Andrew Straka Anna Capizzio Ann Falzarano AnnMarie Cortina Anthony Malatesta Anthony Rizzo Antonio Fecca Ashley Picozzi Barbara See Bradlev Shutka Bernadette Esposito Brett Lyons Brett Dowling Caitlyn Sinclair Cathryn Nikiforow Carol Walz Carolann Orefice Carol Napolitano Carole Hennessy Charles Inserillo Christopher Michael Christopher Paul Christopher Tallarico Daisy Abruzzo Dr. Corradino Lalli Diane Weidner Dolores Lacy Dolores & Richard Hauth Donald Stanton Dvlan Beach Dylan Murphy Edward Altmann Eileen Ballerano Eileen Zinck Elinor Glasser Ellen Mary Newill Boyd Emma Clark Eva Alaimo Erica Macrelli Frank Orlik George Seserian George Schweers Giana Imbriale Grace Giordano Helen Astin Helen McDowell Helen Williams Hollie Sramek Jack Jack C Jack Scagnelli James Schreiber Jeanine Esposito-Tansey Jeanne W. Jennifer Jessica Lubrano Joan O'Connor Joel Rapzker John Bongiorno John C.

John McGuire

John Reif

Joseph Parella

Julia McDowell Scott

Julianne Kathleen Newill Kitty Cronin Kylie Quigley Laura Andrucki Laura Michelsen Lee Krauer Linda Lauro Lisa Lisa Bolton Lisa Messana Lorraine Hanley Louis & Ann DeLuca Louis Giordano Louis Maddaloni Lucas Cianci Margaret Monfort Marjorie Morgan Mark Smith Maria Cipriani Marie Napoli-O'Neil Martin D'Amico Mary McCue Mattia Therese Lubrano Mathew DiPietro Mathew White Michelle B. Michael Flynn Michael Kaplon Michael Hoonhout Michelle Bongiorno Nick Gismondi Nicolina Santucci Paula Medeiros Patrick Donnantuono Patricia Esposito Patricia Monetti Patricia Fontana Patricia Nidds Patty Argentino Pete Thompson Ray & Cathy Grayson Richard Belardo Richard Casio Robert Michael Carr Robert P. Wrenn Rosemarie Castoro Rosemarie Pastorelli Ruth Weick Sandy Polster Scott Kirchoffer Sharon Williams Steve Whelan Terrance Martin Terrence Emde Thomas Mooney Tim Kelly Valerie Geye Costas Victor Blum Vincent Briante Vito Montello

Vivien Cordes

William Lanagan

To request prayers for the sick, kindly contact the Parish Center office at 584-5454



"We pray for peace in the world" and for those

who serve.... LCDR. MEGAN M. SHUTKA-VIK, USN CAPT. WILSON MARKS, USN CAPTAIN MICHAEL DOLAN, JR LT. COL. JOHN KAIRES SPC. NICOLE A. CANNON SGM. MICHAEL P. BORRELLI (US ARMY) CAPT. JOHN TULLY, USN LT. COL. JAMES TULLY, US ARMY JOSEPH SAGGIO, ÚSN CAPTAIN PAUL WILLMS STAFF SGT. MICHAEL LONGHENRY LT. COL. PAUL T. JACKSON, SR AIRMAN E4 ALEXANDER PARRELLA RICHARD SOTOMAYER, USAF CPL. CONNOR F. SCOTT, USMC LCPL. DANIEL P. STEELE, USMC SGT. CORY O'HARA USMC JAMEY ALAIMO, U.S.C.G. BRITTANY ALAIMO, U.S.C.G CDR. ROBERT J. MARSH, USN PFC. CHARLES CHRISTOPHER HOWELL JOHN VINCENT KNOBLOCH, USMC STEVEN CAVA, USN ERIC SEELIN, ÚSMC CW2 CHRIS MUNZ CW2 NATASHA WORTMAN LANCE CORPORAL JAMES T. CASEY, USMC GREGORY DEVANEY, USMC SGT. JOSHUA MAHONEY, US ARMY KEVIN JONES, U.S.C.G. RICHARD MAIER, U.S.M.C PRIVATE JOSHUA OLSEN, USARNG GLEN CRIMA-U.S. ARMY PFC. ANTHONY SCIAMETTA MARIO CATANIA, USMC

Weekly Collection: Sunday, April 9th, 2017

Sunday Collection: \$18,064. Faith Direct: \$3,823. Children's Jug: \$175. Total Collection: \$22,062.

Many thanks for your generous support of SSPJ.

If you are able to take a step in your sacrificial offering it would be greatly appreciated.

If you are using a collection envelope, with sincere gratitude, we say, Thank you!

Kindly write the dollar amount of your contribution on the front of the collection envelope.

Celebrating the Liturgy-With Grateful Hearts We Serve

PRESIDER SCHEDULE-FOR April 22nd & 23rd, 2017

Saturday, April 22, 2017 5:00 PM	Sunday, April 23, 2017 8:00 AM MASS	Sunday, April 23, 2017 10:00 AM MASS	Sunday April 23, 2017 12:00 MASS
Father Tom Haggerty	Father Tom Haggerty	Father Patrick Osei-Poku	Father Patrick Osei-Poku
		Deacon John	Deacon John

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS SCHEDULE-FOR April 22nd & 23rd, 2017

Saturday, April 22, 2017	Sunday, April 23, 2017	Sunday, April 23, 2017	Sunday, April 23, 2017
5:00 PM MASS	8:00 AM MASS	10:OO AM MASS	12:00 NOON MASS
G. Alfano	K. Consenz	M. Sehne	L. Keane
J. Alternative	T. Sica	J. Giacalone	A. Santo
I. Arevalo	B. Luna	K. Rapp	M. Dolce
C. Boyen	S. McKie	J. Scott	M. Hoonhout
R. Byrne	M. Morbillo	L. Sisti	G. Iannuccilli
P. Damato	D. Mulhall	J. Sweeney	P. Iannuccilli
D. Doran	L. Beisel	E. Sotomayer	E. Law
J. Duffy	E. Sica	J. Tafra	E. Calvano
G. Patalano	R. Doda, Sr.	C. Zito	H. Collins
R. Bleggi	W. Van Gostein	G. Zito	D. Coppola

ALTAR SERVERS SCHEDULE - FOR April 22nd & 23rd, 2017

Saturday, April 22, 2017	Sunday, April 23, 2017	Sunday, April 23, 2017	Sunday, April 23, 2017
5:00PM MASS	8:00AM MASS	10:00 AM MASS	12:00 NOON MASS

LECTOR SCHEDULE -FOR April 22nd & 23rd, 2017

Saturday, April 22, 2017	Sunday, April 23, 2017	Sunday, April 23, 2017	Sunday, April 23, 2017
5:00 PM MASS	8:00 AM MASS	10:00AM MASS	12:00 NOON MASS
J. Contrino	B. Luna	K. Smith	P. O'Hara
8th Grade Lector	C. Czujko	A. Foster	D. Quadrino

Parish Social Ministry

Our Food Pantry Needs:

Our pantry is in need of the following items:

Canned hams

instant potatoes

Fruit Juice

Cooking oil

Sugar

Coffee/Tea

Plastic wrap

Aluminum foil



As always, thanking you for remembering the face of suffering.

WAY TO GO THIRD GRADE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS: THEY ,AS "APOSTLES OF HOPE" RESPONDED TO THE CALL:

"I CAN DO SOMETHING!"

Mrs. Sehne's third grade religion class responded to the plea of Pope Francis, to protect our environment, during SSPJ's Lent 4.2 journey.

Each student collected bottles they found or drank from. Together, they collected \$25.00 in deposit refunds which they graciously donated to SSPJ Parish Social Ministry! "WE DID SOMETHING!!"





GREATJOB SSPJ YOUTH MINISTRY!

Your kindness, smiles and willingness to help all the eager customers that approached your table of Easter Plants and Easter Memorials is a fine example of your dedication as

SSPJ Apostles of Hope!!!

SSPJ SCHOOL NEWS



The Kindergarten and 8th grade made crosses together for Easter as a gift for parents or other family member!









SSPJ DRAMA CLUB Bake Sale

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT!

Saturday, April 22nd......after 5pm mass Sunday, April 23rd......after the 8am & 10am Masses

Stop by and purchase some delicious baked goods!

All funds raised are to offset cost for the production of <u>Disney's Peter Pan Jr.</u>

Tickets for Peter Pan Jr. are now on sale!

Camp SSPJ Is Getting Ready for The SUMMER!!!





June 26- August 11, 2017 Monday to Friday, 9:00am - 4:00pm

Each day campers participate in sports, arts & crafts, music, drama, dance, games and community service projects! We strive to make your child's summer a memorable one filled with tons of faith and fun! Each week campers also embark on a field trip, which includes: Splish Splash, Adventureland, the Long Island Children's Museum, the Riverhead Aquarium and more! Teen Camp goes on two trips per week!

> Before Care is available from 7:30-9:00am After Care is available from 4:00-6:00pm Before & After Care is an additional cost of \$8.00 per hour

Register your child before May 1st and receive The Early Bird Discount! *Family Discount: \$25 one time deduction for each additional child of the same family for the regular weekly rate only. Family discount cannot be applied to the Early Bird weekly rate or the Seven Week Special.

Prices below include Friday lunch of pizza, snack and a drink.

Grades K-5

Teen Camp Grades 6-9

Early Bird Weekly Registration (\$30 Discount)	Early Bird 7 Week Special (\$350 Discount)	Regular Weekly Rate (After May 1 st)	Daily Price (No discounts can be applied)
\$270 (Week 2 \$2 05)	\$1,680	\$300 (Week 2 \$230)	\$7 5
\$310 (Week 2 \$245)	\$1,960	\$340 (Week 2 \$260)	\$90

*Week 2 is a three-day week in observance of July 4th. **Tuition must be paid in full prior to your child's first day of camp. **



Vacation Bible Camp July 24th - August 4, 2017 9:30am - 12:30pm



Ages 4-7 years old. \$125 for the two-week session

One week of VBC is available at a cost of \$100. *Family Discount: \$25 deduction for each for a 2nd or 3rd child of the same family. This only applies for children enrolled in the full two-week program.

Please go sspjyouth.com for all camp forms or e-mail us at campsspj@yahoo.com

Getting Ready for Next Sunday

April 23rd- 2nd Sunday of Easter —Cycle A

Scripture Readings ONLINE

The website of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops provides the text of the Scripture Readings. Go to: www.usccb.org. Click on the date.

Reflections on Next Sunday's Scripture Readings

Easter morning images are vivid in the Christian imagination. We recall the visit of the women, the discovery of the empty tomb, and the subsequent appearance of the risen Lord. The problem with this comfortable familiarity is that we might become Easter spectators rather than Easter participants. Today's readings show that Easter is a call to action.

Luke, in this section from Acts, paints a picture of the Christian community in the aftermath of Easter. He reveals to his audience some of those basic elements that make the community specifically Christian. He shows that such a community finds its source of unity in the apostolic teaching. He also speaks of the breaking of the bread, which has clear Eucharistic overtones. In addition, he mentions prayer and attendance at the temple.

Luke, author of Acts, elaborates on the communal life, that fellowship by which one's goods are placed at the service of the needy. The basis for such sharing is Easter faith: Those who believe share all things in common. For Luke's audience, faith in the Resurrection means faith in action.

Writing from Rome some eighty years after Christ's death, the author of First Peter addresses himself to rural gentile Christians living in what is now northern Turkey. He sets out to strengthen their Christian lives in a pagan atmosphere. He assures them that they "are being protected by the power of God through faith" (vs. 5). This tried faith will result in the joy of Christ's Second Coming.

In the gospel reading, Jesus' Easter appearance to the disciples links faithful acceptance of the risen Jesus with the command to forgive. When Christian disciples act upon Easter faith by communicating forgiveness either to individuals or communities, they represent the Jesus who greeted the disciples with "peace."

To share with the less fortunate, to reject conformity with the world, to undo the shackles of pride in forgiving is to show that faith in the Resurrection means faith in action.

- John Craghan, Th.D., S.S.L. Copyright 1997, Liguori Publications / Liguori, MO 63057-9999



For reflection...

There are no "doors" locked tight enough to keep Christ out. Explain. Do you have "locked doors"? How has Jesus come through them?

Jesus greeted the disciples with "Peace".

What were the disciples supposed to do
with the peace Christ gave them? What
connection does peace have with the
way we live our lives? with how we
treat one another? with forgiveness of
sins?

Most of us are like Thomas as times, needing help believing. Jesus invites Thomas to touch his wounds. Has "touching" another's wounds (or your own) helped you to experience belief?

The first reading describes how the early church communities lived their discipleship. What enabled the early Christians to "sell their property and possessions and divide them among all according to each one's needs"? How far would you go with the "selling and dividing"?

Spiritual Reflection by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

The Empty Tomb

Easter 2017

Believers and non-believers alike have been arguing about the resurrection since the day Jesus rose. What really happened? How was he raised from the dead? Did an actual dead body really come back to life and step out of the grave or was the resurrection a monumental life-changing event inside the consciousness of Jesus' followers? Or was the resurrection both, a real physical event and an event inside the consciousness of believers?

Obviously nobody was there to see what actually happened. Those who claimed Jesus was alive again didn't see him rise and emerge from the tomb, they met him only after he had already risen and, immediately, believers and sceptics began to divide from each other, persons who claimed to have touched him and persons who doubted that testimony.

There have been sceptics and believers ever since and no shortage of persons, professional theologians and non-scholarly Christians alike, who believe in the resurrection of Jesus as a faith event but not as a physical event, where an actual body came out of a grave. The faith event is what's important, they claim, and it is incidental whether or not Jesus' actual body came out of the grave.

Was Jesus' resurrection a faith event or a physical event? It was both. For Christians it is the most monumental event, faith and otherwise, in history. Two thousand subsequent years cannot be explained, except by the reality of the resurrection. To understand the resurrection of Jesus only as a literal fact, that his body rose from the grave, is to cut the resurrection off from much of its meaning. However, that being admitted, for Christians, the resurrection must also be a radically physical event. Why?

First, because the Gospels are pretty clear in emphasizing that the tomb was empty and that the resurrected Jesus was more than a spirit or ghost. We see, for instance, in Luke's Gospel where Jesus invites a doubting Thomas to verify his physicality: "Look at my hands and my feet. It's really me. Touch me. You can see that I have a living body; a ghost does not have a body like this."

As well, and very importantly, to cut the resurrection off from the literal fact that there was real physical transformation of a once dead corpse is to rob it of some of its important meanings and perhaps of the deepest root of its credibility. For the resurrection of Christ to have full meaning it must, among other things, have been a brute physical fact. There needs to be an empty tomb and a dead body returned to life. Why?

Not as some kind of miracle proof, but because of the incarnation. To believe in the incarnation and not to believe in the radical physical character of the resurrection is a contradiction. We believe that in the incarnation the Word was made flesh. This takes the mystery of Christ and the reality of the resurrection out of the realm of pure spirit. The incarnation always connotes a reality that's radically physical, tangible, and touchable, like the old dictionary definition of matter as "something extended in space and having weight."

To believe in the incarnation is to believe that God was born into real physical flesh, lived in real physical flesh, died in real physical flesh, and rose in real physical flesh. To believe that the resurrection was only an event in the faith consciousness of the disciples, however real, rich, and radical that might be imagined, is to rob the incarnation of its radical physical character and to fall into the kind of dualism that values spirit and denigrates the physical. Such a dualism devalues the incarnation and this impoverishes the meaning of the resurrection. If the resurrection is only a spiritual event then it is also only an anthropological one and not also a cosmic one. That's a way of saying that it's then an event only about human consciousness and not also about the cosmos.

But Jesus' resurrection isn't just something radically new in terms of human consciousness; it's also something that's radically new in terms of atoms and molecules. The resurrection rearranged hearts and minds, but it also rearranged atoms. Until Jesus' resurrection, dead bodies did not come back to life; they stayed dead, so when his came back to life there was something radically new both at the level of faith and at the level of the atoms and molecules. Precisely because of its brute physicality, Jesus' resurrection offers new hope to atoms as well as to people.

I believe that Jesus was raised from the dead, literally. I believe too that this event was, as the rich insights within contemporary theology point out, highly spiritual: an event of faith, of changed consciousness, of new hope empowering a new charity and a new forgiveness. But it was also an event of changed atoms and of a changed dead body. It was radically physical, just as are all events that are part of the incarnation wherein God takes on real flesh.

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