



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

631-584-5454

Nineteenth Sunday
In Ordinary Time
August 12, 2018



*"Blessed is the womb of the Virgin Mary,
which bore the Son of the eternal Father."*

Luke 11:27

"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

Parish Center Office Hours:

Sunday ~ Closed
Monday: 9am-8pm

Tuesday & Wednesday: 9am-5pm
Thursday: 9am-8pm

Friday: 9am-12 Noon
Saturday: 10am-2pm

Parish Center Phone ~ 631-584-5454

Parish Center Fax~ 631-862-9675

Web ~ www.sspj.org

Pastoral Team

Father Tom Haggerty

Father Patrick Osei-Poku

Deacon Ronald Blasius

Deacon John Keenan

Deacon Ken Maher

Margaret Adams

Virginia Portanova

John Cordes

Lynn Sisti

Charlotte Czujko

Barbara Luna

Dominick Avento

Catherine Darrow

Frank Brancaccio

Pastor

Associate Pastor

Deacon

Deacon

Deacon

Director of Music

Business Manager

Director of Facilities

Coordinator of Parish Social Ministry

Religious Education Coordinator Grades 1-2

Religious Education Coordinator Grades 3-6

Religious Education Coordinator Grades 7-8

Religious Education Administrator

Youth Minister

Pastoral Council

Claire DiCarlo, Chris Donnelly, Richard Frazita, Lou Guerra, Kelsey Greco, Cynthia Lombardi,
Martin Marut, Ann Mondrone, Mary Ann Pose, Noel Rannazzisi, Tom Sica,

Trustees

Jerry Linder ~ Tina Cafaro

SSPJ School—Principal Diane M. Anderson

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

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 12:00mass 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— Thursday 2-4pm Friday 8-9pm

A Note From Father Tom,

“Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere!” No, it’s not Christmas, but it is in fact a new and exciting time for our school. I’m delighted to tell you about it, and, to welcome you into it!

Our new principal, Ms. Diane Anderson, is bringing and opening amazing gifts! It has been exciting to share in her hopes, dreams and faith-filled academic vision for shaping hearts and minds for and in Christ. And this year that includes nursery school through eighth grade!

Building on our long history of academically outscoring area public and Catholic schools, Ms. Anderson continues to bring Jesus, the Teacher, as the foundation of our efforts. Her energy, scholastic accomplishment and rooted faith makes Jesus accessible and readily knowable to our students and families.

We also have some terrific new teachers joining our already accomplished faculty. SSPJ School is ready to journey forward with great hope. Thank you for joining in writing this new chapter of SSPJ together for the greater glory of God!

Parish Social Ministry Back to School Supply Collection

In an effort to assist the families of children within our community who are in need of mandated school supplies we ask of you, your help and generosity.

We have obtained listings of the specific school supplies needed by our children in need.

If you are able to assist in this effort, kindly take a school supply tag, from the boxes located by the rear and side doors of the church this weekend, August 11th and 12th.

Please obtain the noted supplies listed on the card, and return them, with the “color coded” card attached.

Items may be returned during the week of August 13th to the Parish Center office, or by next weekend: August 18th & 19th at mass. There will be collection boxes in the back pew of church into which, you may place your donation.

Kindly return your donation of school supplies no later than Monday, August 20th.

If you should have any questions, kindly contact the Parish Center Office at 631-584-5454.

Thank you for your generosity and kindness.



Sts. Philip and James School
WELCOMES
Jennifer Long and Deena Carfora!



Jennifer Long is currently working towards her Master of Arts in Literacy and Cognition at St. Joseph's College where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Child Study with a Concentration in Psychology.

Miss Long holds NYS Initial Teaching Certification In Early Childhood Education (Birth-Grade 2), Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), Students with Disabilities (Birth-Grade 2), and Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6).

Miss Long comes to us from St. Isidore School where she began her teaching career in 2016. During her time at St. Isidore School, Miss Long had the privilege to work closely with students, faculty members, and parents to ensure the best education for her students. Miss Long is looking forward to engaging her Pre-Kindergarten students throughout numerous subject areas by creating meaningful lessons that students can apply to their daily lives.

Deena Carfora received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Dowling College and is currently enrolled in a Masters of Education program at Touro College.

Miss Carfora also holds NYS Teachers Assistant certification and has previously worked at The Peanut Gallery Pre-School in Greenlawn.

Miss Carfora is looking forward to working closely with Miss Long to ensure that all students are safe, happy and engaged in learning!



SSPJ Pre- K
Students are
bound to
have a
GREAT year!

SSPJ continues to grow in God's love and light... we are pleased to announce
The Katie Farrell Memorial Playground

In memory of Katie Farrell, SSPJ Graduate Alumni, who loved children more than anything, and whose son attends the school now.



*Angel of God, My Guardian dear to whom God's
love commits me here.*

*Ever this day be at my side, To light and guard,
to rule and guide.*

Amen



Angel Patron \$50

Patron of a place for children to play for generations and Listing in program at dedication blessing

Archangel Patron \$100

Patron of a place for children to play for generations, listing in program at dedication blessing, Name or family name included in prayer at dedication blessing

Guardian Angel Supporter \$250

Patron of a place for children to play for generations, listing in program at dedication blessing, Name or family name included in prayer at dedication blessing, Name or family name memorialized at playground

Become a Patron/Supporter:

_Guardian Angel Supporter \$250 Name: _____

Address: _____

_Archangel Patron \$100

_Angel Patron \$50

Phone: _____

Memorial will include a name or a family name, please indicate your choice, below: (i.e., John Smith or The Smith Family)

*Checks made payable to SSPJ Church with playground in memo- mail or return in Sunday collections
For more information e-mail Ms. Diane Anderson at danderson@sspjcschool.net or call 631.584.7896*



Catholic Archdiocese Of Kumasi

Archbishop's Office

*P. O. Box KS 99, Kumasi
Ghana West Africa*

Please quote Ref. No. in your reply.....

Ref.: RG XXI/06/2018/517

June 26, 2018

Rev. Fr. Thomas Haggerty
Pastor
Sts. Philip and James R/C Church
1 Carrow Place
Saint James, New York 11780
U.S.A.

Dear Rev. Thomas,

Expression of Gratitude

Please receive greetings from the Archbishop's Office, Kumasi, Ghana.

I write to inform you that I have received, through the instrumentality of Rev. Fr. Patrick Osei-Poku, copies of the Bank Transfer Notes with regard to the additional donation of **U.S. \$4,000.00 (four thousand United States Dollars)** from your Parish to complete the roofing of Nahinso St. Thomas R/C Church building in Kotei Parish.

I write to express my gratitude to you and your noble Parishioners. I am very grateful to you all for this wonderful show of Christian solidarity.

Kindly pass on my deepest thankfulness to your Parishioners and Co-Workers for me.

May the Lord continue to bless the labour of your hands.

Yours sincerely,

Most Rev. Gabriel Justice Anokye
ARCHBISHOP OF KUMASI

Cc: 1. Rev. Fr. Michael Kofi Akowuah, Financial Administrator
2. Rev. Fr. Joseph Asante, Development Director
3. Rev. Fr. Thomas Acheampong, Parish Priest, Kotei Parish

GJA:yja

SSPJ HELPED: RAISE THE ROOF!

With the generosity and kindness of Our SSPJ Parish Family, a total of \$10,000 was raised For St. Thomas Church in Nahinso, Ghana

On July 29, 2018, Father Patrick Osei-Poku celebrated mass at St. Thomas church under their NEW ROOF!

The congregation expressed their gratitude for the kindness and generosity of all who contributed to the SSPJ Raise the Roof effort.

They asked Father Patrick to thank each and everyone who helped them to achieve this monumental goal.

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'
Matthew 25:40



*Holy Day of Obligation
The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Wednesday, August 15th, 2018*

**Schedule of Masses for the
Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary:**

**Tuesday, August 14, 2018 at 5:00pm
Wednesday, August 15, 2018:
7:30am, 9:15am and 7:30pm**



**CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF THE
ASSUMPTION OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**JOIN YOUR FELLOW PARISHIONERS
ON WED. MORNING AUG 15TH AFTER
THE 7:30AM MASS
IN FRONT OF THE St. Bernadette Grotto
(by the rectory office)
(We will meet in the main church if it is
raining)
All are invited**

**WE NEED THE INTERCESSION OF
OUR LADY**

*She is our mother who will grant us all the
graces we need.*

*This week we celebrate the Holy Day of the Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary. Our music for this day will be mostly
Mary hymns:*



*Immaculate Mary
Jesus Come To Us
Hail Mary: Gentle Woman
Hail Holy Queen*

*All traditional Songs so sing loud and strong, singing your praise
to honor Mary.*

*Baptism Music is in **desperate need** of accompanists!!!
Keyboard, flute, guitar, teenager or adult. If you are interested
please call Margaret Adams at 631-584-5454.*

Every other Sunday at 2pm.

The more people that can help the less the commitment.

Please consider helping out.

Thank you

Religious Education Ministry

REO 1st GRADE PARENTS MEETING

**TUESDAY
AUGUST 14, 2018**

AT 7PM

IN THE STS PHILIP & JAMES ROOM



REO 1st GRADE PARENTS MEETING

**THURSDAY
AUGUST 16, 2018**

AT 10:00AM

IN THE STS PHILIP & JAMES ROOM

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2018-2019 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHOOL YEAR HAS ENDED

*If you should have any questions regarding our Religious
Education Program, kindly contact them at 631-584-3204
Or Email: sspjreo@optonline.net*

*"Participating in the faith formation of our children,
That is where a relationship with Jesus, is born...
It begins with loving parents and continues in the faith filled hands of a Catechist"*

**Our Religious Education Program Is still seeking Catechists
For Grades 3, 4, 5 & 6**

*We encourage you to pray upon the vocation of Catechist,
If you sense the Holy Spirit inviting you to this special vocation,
Please pray about it...*

He will give you everything you need to accomplish this awesome task.

If you would like more information
On becoming a Catechist,
please contact
our Religious Education Office at 631-584-3204.

Are You Being Called To Become a Catechist?

JOIN TOGETHER WITH
THE
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE
CENTRE
AS WE STUDY:

Presence™

THE MYSTERY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRESENCE IS COMPRISED OF FOUR SESSIONS:

AUGUST 4/5 EPISODE 1 - GOD IS WITH US
AUGUST 11/12 EPISODE 2 - THE STORY OF THE EUCHARIST
AUGUST 18/19 EPISODE 3 - BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY
AUGUST 25/26: BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST

THE 4 PART PRESENCE CAN BE FOUND ON FORMED.ORG
IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY SIGNED UP, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR
PARISH

The message below is from Bishop Barres regarding
FORMED's new series: ***Real Presence***.

From the Weekend of July 28-29 (17th Sunday of Ordinary Time) to the Weekend of August 25-26 (21st Sunday of Ordinary Time), we will focus on the Bread of Life Discourse in the Sixth Chapter of the Gospel of John. It is an ideal time to reflect, pray, evangelize and engage in a vibrant liturgical catechesis of the Eucharist and the Mass.

So many of our parishes are now actively invested in the Augustine Institute's FORMED (a Catholic version of Netflix) and I would like to suggest that we all promote FORMED's new series on the Eucharist Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist. It is ideal for our reflection these coming weeks on John 6.

The Diocese of Rockville Centre is setting national records in regard to the number of minutes our parishioners are investing in the FORMED Catholic Formation and Evangelization material – yet another sign of the Holy Spirit leading us to dramatic missionary growth on Long Island.

Many thanks to all for the contemplative missionary spirit with which you are evangelizing all of Long Island!

In the words of Blessed Archbishop Oscar Romero:

***"La misa es Cristo que evangeliza!"
"The Mass is Christ who evangelizes!"***

Bishop John Barres

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

The Bible and the Virgin Mary

Episode 11: The Assumption

How Much Do You Know About Mary's Assumption?

Celebrate Mary's Assumption into Heaven with this beautiful and engaging episode by Scott Hahn's St. Paul Center. Discover the rich Scriptural foundations for the Church's teaching on Mary's Assumption, and grow in love for Our Blessed Mother in the process!

Watch on [formed.org](https://www.formed.org)



"My devotion to Mary is forever transformed!"

—Michelle R.

SSPJ Youth SUMMER JAM!

Thank you to our new Youth Leader team for putting together great Summer Jam events this summer.
Take a look at some great photos of summer fun at SSPJ Youth Ministry .



A Note from Father Tom....

Father Leo returns to teach at his Diocesan Seminary in Mangalore, India in October. In addition to helping us here at SSPJ this third and last summer, he has ordered some theological books which are only available in the United States and will assist him in his seminary formation.

As a way of acknowledging him, should you wish to help augment the seminary library and the formation of the seminarians, please consider donating to St. Joseph's Seminary, India.

Kindly, make your check payable to SS Philip & James Church. We will then write a check to the seminary for the total of all donations.

Your donation can be either dropped off at the rectory office or placed in the collection.

Thank you.

Peace,

Father Tom

Classes on Bioethics Beginning This Week!

Come, Let Us Discuss

Father Leo Lasrado is conducting an Adult education session on
An Ethical-Theological outlook on the issues regarding the
beginning and the end of human life.

This session began on Thursday, August 9th, 2018 and will continue each
Thursday evening concluding on Thursday, September 20th, 2018.

(August 9, 16, 23, 30/ September 6, 13, 20)

Place: Bethany Center

Time: 7:00-8:30pm

Kindly register your attendance
by calling the Parish Center at 631-584-5454.



If you missed a session, please, come join the discussion when you are able.

Father Leo Lasrado

*holds a PhD in Moral Theology from the Urban University in Rome
and has the experience of teaching in the Seminary.*

Summer Fun Continues at Camps 'r' Us!



Go-Carts, Mini Golf, Games! On top of that...Build A Bear Came to Camps 'r' Us!!

SSPJ Parish Calendar For The Week of August 12th, 2018

Sunday, August 12th, 2018:

7:30am Stained Glass Sale
7:00pm AA Meeting

School Lobby & Outside
Philip & James Room

Monday, August 13th, 2018:

7:00am Camps R Us
1:15pm Senior Group Meeting

School Building
Philip & James Room

Tuesday, August 14th, 2018:

7:00am Camps R Us
1:30pm Spirit of Love Prayer Group
7:00pm REO 1st Grade Parent Meeting
7:00pm BSA Summer Merit Badge Program
7:00pm Stained Glass Meeting

School Building
Philip & James Room
Philip & James Room
Auditorium
Stained Glass Workshop

Wednesday, August 15th, 2018:

7:00am Camps R Us

School Building

Thursday, August 16th, 2018:

7:00am Camps R Us
10:00am REO 1st Grade Parent Meeting
2:00pm Eucharistic Adoration
7:00pm Adult Ed Class-Bioethics

School Building
Philip & James Room
Church
Bethany Center Main Room

Friday, August 17th, 2018:

7:00am Camps R Us
7:00pm AA Meeting
8:00pm Eucharistic Adoration

School Building
Philip & James Room
Church

Saturday, August 18th, 2018:

5:00pm CDA Labor Day Raffle

School Lobby/Outside

Weekly Collection: Sunday August 5, 2018

Sunday Collection: \$12,526.
Faith Direct: \$3,823
Children's Jug: \$13.

Total Collection: \$16,362.

Many thanks for your generous
support of
Sts. Philip & James Parish



Banns of Marriage

First

Patrick Joseph Pollari-SSPJ
To
Diana Marie Amen-SSPJ

Third

Alexander Martinez
To
Capri Keller-SSPJ



Catholic Daughters 2018 Labor Day 50/50 Raffle

**Ticket Sales this weekend after all
masses
in the school lobby.**

**Drawing to be held on Labor Day.
Thank you for your support.**



SSPJ Stained Glass Club Crosses for College Sale THIS WEEKEND!

For additional information please
contact:
sspjstainedglass@gmail.com
or John P. Garvey - 631 682-0699

The Respect Life Committee thank
all who contributed to the Baby
Shower last weekend for all the
children whose parents need help in
caring for them.

**The organizations who distribute
to the needy are asking for car
seats (please check that they are
not outdated), cribs (no drop down
sides), crib mattresses** in addition
to formula, baby bottles (no plastic
liner type), baby food, new or gently
used clothing from newborn to age
3, diapers, wipes, baby bath supplies.

For more information,
Please Contact:
Pat & Pete O'Hara @ 631-862-9370
Thank you in advance for your
generosity

Mass Intentions, For the week of August 12th, 2018

Saturday, August 11th, 2018

5:00pm Paul Adamo

Sunday, August 12th, 2018

8:00am For the Parishioners of SSPJ

10:00am Mary Rogan

12:00 Noon Collective Mass:
Frances Miello
John Taratunio
Peter Hoffman

Monday, August 13th, 2018

7:30am Eva Talento

9:15am Mary Westbrook

Tuesday, August 14th, 2018-St. Maximilian Kolbe

7:30am Vito Chirappa

9:15am William A. Stegemann

7:30pm Eileen Quinlan Shanahan

*We Ask You to Remember Our Brothers & Sisters In your Prayers
those who are ill...*

Anna Capizzio
Angela Amoroso
Angela Boccio McComb
AnnMarie M.
Baby Mattia Lubrano
Betty Schmidt
Brett Dowling
Brennan Steinorth
Bryan Van Colt
Camden Bailey
Carole Hennessy
Catherine Burseind
Christel DeBlasio
Christina Meringolo
Daisy Abruzzo
David Shankles
Dawn Kopel
Dominic Pace
Dylan Lauro
Eileen Zink
Elinor Glasser
Florence Donahue
Gerard Duffy
Ginny McAuley
Greg
Helen McDowell
Hillary Boehme
James Gietzen
Jane Prato
Jane Wigutow
Jeanine Esposito Tansey
Joseph Perconti
Joe Alberigo
John Capizzio
Jean McCue
John Harney
John Hernandez

Julianne
Kathleen N.
Kitty Cronin,
Krista Farley
Kylie Quigley
Laura Andrucki & family
Linda Sue
Louis Giordano
Mark Montesano
Marie DelCiello,
Marie Fabry
Marie Loughlin
Mary McDonough
Michael LaVecchia
Nancy Fornabia
Nicole Theresa
Pasquale Santoro
Patricia Casey
Pat Corey
Patricia Fontana
Patricia Monetti
Patricia Thompson
Paulette Agoglia
Roe Hetterich
Russell Caiola
Robin Graham Denis
Rosemary Morgan
Sean Winters
Suzanne McCue
Terence Hobbes
Teresa Orlik
Thomas McKay
Terry Pace
Tivien Cordes
Vicky Gibb

Wednesday, August 15th, 2018-The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:30am Doris Noble

9:15am Ronnie Gilbert

7:30pm Carol Walz

Thursday, August 16th, 2018-St. Stephen of Hungary

7:30am Michael A. DiMarco

9:15am Collective Mass:

Friday, August 17th, 2018

7:30am Ed Reid

9:15am Joan Shaughnessy

Saturday, August 18th, 2018

9:15am Theresa Martucci

5:00pm Adrea Charles

Sunday, August 19th, 2018

For The Parishioners of SSPJ

Harry Nordin

Collective Mass:

Peter Joseph Loughlin

Carol M. Thompson

Frank, Maria & Lourdes Borg

Peter J. Hofmann

We Pray 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- 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
CORPORAL DANIEL P. STEELE-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
GREGORY DEVANEY- USMC
SGT. JOSHUA MAHONEY- US ARMY
KEVIN JONES-USCG
PRIVATE JOSHUA OLSEN-USARNG
GLEN CRIMA-US ARMY
SGT. ANTHONY SCIAMETTA- US ARMY
MARIO CATANIA-USMC
RYAN ANTHONY NASCIMENTO-USMC
ENS. RYAN M. SHOWS -USN
STAFF SGT. RYAN REXRODE-USMC
DR. KARA VANDEKIEFT, LT.COL.-USAF
SGT. STEPHEN D. OUTCAULT-USMC
PAUL MUMOLO-USN
VICTORIA ZEMAN, USCG



*Safely Home... We Remember,
Aldo J. Bonardi, Jr., Dominic Racca
Bridget Godsell*

Celebrating the Liturgy- With Grateful Hearts We Serve

PRESIDER SCHEDULE-FOR August 18th & 19th, 2018

| Saturday, August 18, 2018 5:00 PM | Sunday, August 19, 2018 8:00 AM MASS | Sunday, August 19, 2018 10:00 AM MASS | Sunday, August 19, 2018 12:00 MASS |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| Father Patrick Osei-Poku | Father Leo Lasrado | Father Patrick Osei-Poku | Father Patrick Osei-Poku |
| | | | |

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS SCHEDULE -FOR August 18th & 19th, 2018

| Saturday, August 18, 2018 | Sunday, August 19, 2018 | Sunday, August 19, 2018 | Sunday, August 19, 2018 |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 5:00 PM | 8:00 AM MASS | 10:00 AM MASS | 12:00 NOON MASS |
| A. Keenan | M. Dunn | H. Orlando | D. Coppola |
| H. Keenan | R. Fabian | P. Schfilliti | D. LaVecchia |
| T. Laiz | C. Haff | J. Alternative | B. Chandler |
| F. Orlik | W. Haff | G. Amen | J. Hanrahan |
| R. Piazza | J. Harvey | D. Bleggi | M. Lebrun |
| G. Priebe | P. Kanuika | R. Bleggi | J. Linder |
| L. Taurassi | M. Kenney | T. Boboris | M. Napoli |
| L. Tepedino | A. Mantia | T. Cafaro | T. Pace |
| D. Toto | C. Czujko | M. Dolce | A. Santo |
| R. Willms | W. VanGostein | C. Donnelly | P. Agoglia |

ALTAR SERVERS SCHEDULE -FOR August 18th & 19th, 2018

| Saturday, August 18, 2018 | Sunday, August 19, 2018 | Sunday, August 19, 2018 | Sunday, August 19, 2018 |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 5:00PM MASS | 8:00AM MASS | 10:00 AM MASS | 12:00 NOON MASS |
| M. Pappas | J. Auletta | S. Cheeseman | A. Peykar |
| V. Scarpelli | L. Auletta | K. Tomasic | C. D'Agostino |
| M. Page | A. Willman | M. Tomasic | S. Santos |
| B. Doran | B. Willman | M. Stephens | S. Glen |
| E. Schor | V. Chiappone | E. Anderson | M. Bennett |

LECTOR SCHEDULE -FOR August 18th & 19th, 2018

| Saturday, August 18, 2018 | Sunday, August 19, 2018 | Sunday, August 19, 2018 | Sunday, August 19, 2018 |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 5:00PM MASS | 8:00 AM MASS | 10:00AM MASS | 12:00 NOON MASS |
| L. Halluska | G. Fitzpatrick | M. Sehne | B. O'Leary |
| M. D'Amelia | P. Kanuika | C. Lombardo | M. Hoonhout |

Getting Ready for Next Sunday

August 19th - 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Cycle B

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

Proverbs 9:1-6

Psalm 34

Ephesians 5:15-20

John 6:51-58

The wealthy of this world are not necessarily those with the greatest wisdom. Individuals who have earned great wealth as a result of success in work or their profession appear to live life to its fullest. There are also those who have much less in terms of material resources and yet they are recognized as filled with wisdom about life. Today's readings teach that the truly wise know how to live, and knowing how to live is genuine wealth.

Israel's exile demonstrated that purely human wisdom is not enough. Wisdom is the delicate art of steering a path through life. Lady Wisdom is introduced as the trustworthy guide. Life means more than success and the passage of time. Life connotes a sense of community with God so that living becomes celebration. The truly wise know how to live.

The author of Ephesians adopts the language of wisdom. Those in his audience are not to conduct themselves like fools but like thoughtful people. They are not to persist in ignorance but to discern God's will. Even in times that are evil, we have opportunities for faith. Wisdom becomes the guide to daily living. Instead of being filled with wine, Ephesians tells us to be filled with the Spirit, to address one another in a spiritual way, and to give praise to God!

In today's gospel John moves from bread as a symbol of Jesus' identity to bread as sacrament. The focus is now on eating Jesus' flesh and drinking his blood. Both flesh and blood are mentioned to emphasize that the entire Jesus lives in this celebration.

To share in the Eucharist is to share in the life of the Trinity. The wise who accept Jesus as the living bread will share in the life that Jesus derives from God.

— John Craghan, Th.D., S.S.L.

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For reflection...

How puzzling to his followers must Jesus' call to consume his flesh and blood have been. Yet, through the sacrament of Eucharist, we are given his body and blood. How does receiving Eucharist affect your hunger for Jesus? How does it affect your thirst for him?

Whoever receives Jesus remains in him. As we watch one another receive Communion, how does this intimate connection touch our lives?

The letter to the Ephesians tells us to give thanks always and for everything. Sometimes in painful situations this can be very difficult. What are other ways of connecting with God during such times?

Wisdom says "Come, eat of my food and drink of the wine I have mixed!... Advance in the way of understanding." Reflect on the ties between Eucharist and Wisdom.

WHY I BELIEVE IN GOD

Some of my favorite authors are agnostics, men and women who face life honestly and courageously without faith in a personal God. They're stoics mostly, persons who have made peace with the fact that God may not exist and that perhaps death ends everything for us. I see this, for example, in the late James Hillman, a man whom I greatly admire and who has much to teach believers about what it means to listen to and honor the human soul.

But here's something I don't admire in these agnostic stoics: While they face with courage what it should mean for us if God doesn't exist and death ends our personal existence, they don't, with the same courage ask the question of what it should mean for us if God does exist and death does not end our personal existence. What if God does exist and what if the tenets of our faith are true? They need too to face that question.

I believe that God exists, not because I have never had doubts, or because I was raised in the faith by persons whose lives gave deep witness to its truth, or because perennially the vast majority of people on this planet believe in God. I believe that a personal God exists for more reasons than I can name: the goodness of saints; the hook in my own heart that has never let me go; the interface of faith with my own experience, the courage of religious martyrs throughout history; the stunning depth of Jesus' teachings; the deep insights contained in other religions, the mystical experience of countless people; our sense of connection inside the communion of saints with loved ones who have died; the convergence of the anecdotal testimony of hundreds of individuals who have been clinically dead and resuscitated back to life; the things we sometimes intuitively know beyond all logical reason; the constant recurrence of resurrection in our lives; the essential triumph of truth and goodness throughout history; the fact that hope never dies, the unyielding imperative we feel inside of ourselves to be reconciled with others before we die; the infinite depth of the human heart; and, yes, even the very ability of atheists and agnostics to intuit that somehow it still all makes sense, points to the existence of a living, personal God.

I believe that God exists because faith works; at least to the extent we work it. The existence of God proves itself true to the extent that we take it seriously and live our lives in face of it. Simply put, we're happy and at peace to the exact extent that we risk, explicitly or implicitly, living lives of faith. The happiest people I know are also the most generous, selfless, gracious, and reverent persons I know. That's no accident.

Leon Bloy once asserted that there's only one true sadness in life, that of not being a saint. We see that in the story of the rich young man in Gospels who turns down Jesus' invitation to live his faith more deeply. He goes away sad. Of course, being a saint and being sad are never all or nothing, both have degrees. But there's a constant: We're happy or sad in direct proportion to our fidelity or infidelity to what's one, true, good, and beautiful. I know that existentially: I'm happy and at peace to the exact extent that I take my faith seriously and live it out in fidelity; the more faithful I am, the more at peace I am, and vice versa.

Inherent in all of this too is a certain "law of karma", namely, the universe gives back to us morally exactly what we give to it. As Jesus worded it, *the measure you measure out is the measure that will be measured back to you*. What we breathe out is what we're going to inhale. If I breathe out selfishness, selfishness is what I will inhale; if I breathe out bitterness, that's what I'll meet at every turn; conversely, if I breathe out love, gracious, and forgiveness, these will be given back to me in the exact measure that I give them out. Our lives and our universe have a deep, innate, non-negotiable structure of love and justice written into them, one that can only be underwritten by a living, personal, divine mind and heart of love.

None of this, of course, proves God's existence with the kind of proof we find in science or mathematics; but God isn't found at the end of an empirical test, a mathematical equation, or a philosophical syllogism. God is found, explicitly or implicitly, in living a good, honest, gracious, selfless, moral life, and this can happen inside of religion or outside of it.

The Belgium Benedictine, Benoit Standaert, submits that *wisdom is three things, and a fourth*. Wisdom is a respect for knowledge; wisdom is a respect for honesty and aesthetics; and wisdom is a respect for mystery. But there's a fourth – wisdom is a respect for Someone.