



The Parish of Saints Philip and James  
1 Carow Place, St. James, NY 11780  
631-584-5454

# March 14th, 2021

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

Then Jesus spoke to them again, I  
saying, "I am the light of the  
world. He who follows Me  
shall not walk in darkness,  
but have the light of life."

John 8:12

"With Philip & James we pray to live lives worthy of the call to be  
Apostles of Hope"

Daily Mass: 7:30am and 9:15 am  
Saturday 5pm Sunday: 8am 10 am 12noon

## STS. PHILIP & JAMES PASTORAL STAFF

Parish Center Phone: 631-584-5454 Parish Fax: 631-862-9675

Website—www.sspj.org

### PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

Open Monday, Tuesday Wednesday 9am-6pm

Open Thursday 9am-6pm

Closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday

### CLERGY

Father Tom Haggerty, Pastor  
Father Joe Lobo-Associate Pastor  
Deacon Ronald Blasius  
Deacon John Keenan  
(With Sympathy) Deacon Ken Maher  
**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE**  
Sister Theresita Donach, CSFN

### BUSINESS MANAGER

Virginia Portanova

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 1-3**

Charlotte Czujko

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 4-6**

Barbara Luna

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 7-8**

Dominick Avento

### MUSIC DIRECTOR

Margaret Adams

### COORDINATOR OF PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

Lynn Sisti

### DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

Dominick Avento

### DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES

John Cordes

### SSPJ SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Diane M. Anderson

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

### TRUSTEES

Brendan McGovern ~ Tina Cafaro

### PASTORAL COUNCIL

Michael Sharkey, Lou Guerra, Cynthia Lombardi, Paul Damato  
Martin Marut, Maureen Burke, Erin Nicastro

### Sacraments

**Baptism**— Celebrated twice per month. Parents are asked to register at the Pastoral Center for Pre-Baptism Program.

**Marriage**—Couples are asked to contact the Pastoral Center before visiting the reception hall. The Marriage Preparation process is nine months before your proposed wedding date.

**Confirmation**—Seventh and Eighth grade students are prepared to celebrate through Religious Ed or SSPJ School. Adults prepare through RCIA.

**Reconciliation**— Available Saturdays from 4:00pm-5:00pm in the Church or by contacting the Parish Center for an appointment.

**Anointing of the Sick**— In case of serious, unexpected illness, please contact the Parish Center office to arrange for a Priest to pray with the person who is ill. Anointing of the Sick is held on the first Sunday of the month following the 8:00am mass please see the Sacristan before mass.

**R.C.I.A.**— Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (non-Catholic adults desiring to become Catholic) are asked to contact the Parish Center Office.

**Eucharistic Adoration In The Church**— Monday 1:30pm -7pm

### PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVE FOR US IN YOUR PRAYERS



LCDR. MEGAN M. SHUTKA-VIK, USN

CAPT. WILSON MARKS- USN

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

SGT. CORY O'HARA -USMC

CDR. ROBERT J. MARSH-USN

PFC. CHARLES CHRISTOPHER HOWELL

STEVEN CAVA-USN

ERIC SEELIN- USMC

CW2 CHRIS MUNZ

CW2 NATASHA WORTMAN

CORPORAL JAMES T. CASEY-USMC

SGT. JOSHUA MAHONEY- US ARMY

KEVIN JONES-USCG

PRIVATE JOSHUA OLSEN-USARNG

GLEN CRIMA-US ARMY

STAFF SGT. ANTHONY SCIAMETTA— US ARMY

MARIO CATANIA-USMC

RYAN ANTHONY NASCIMENTO-USMC

KYLE ANTHONY NASCIMENTO-US ARMY

ENS. RYAN M. SHOWS -USN

STAFF SGT. RYAN REXRODE-USMC

DR. KARA VANDEKIEFT, COL.-USAF

SGT. STEPHEN D. OUTCAULT-USMC

PAUL MUMOLO-USN

VICTORIA ZEMAN, USCG

KYLE J. GRUNER -US ARMY

MARK GIORDANO—US COASTGUARD

KELLI MCLAUGHLIN— LT. US ARMY NATL.GUARD

STAFF SGT MICHAEL J BANG SPECIAL FORCES US ARMY

MATTHEW PATRICK GALLAGHER US ARMY

Financial Support Needed weekly to meet Parish budget: \$17,890.

Weekly Collection: Sunday March 7th, 2021 : \$ 15,110.

Easter Remembrance/flowers: 514.

Faith Direct : (126Participants) 3,253.

**Total Collections: \$ 18,877.**

Thank you for your generosity and support

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

As you probably know, the Diocese of Rockville Centre has declared Bankruptcy under Chapter 11 of the Federal Bankruptcy Law.

In order to be as helpful as possible to the parties that may be affected by this bankruptcy, we will be publishing the following note regarding “proof of claim forms” for the next few months:

Information regarding the deadlines for filing proofs of claim in the Diocese’s chapter 11 case and the forms to use can be found by clicking on the following link to the Diocese’s bankruptcy website and scrolling down the page <https://dm.epiq11.com/drvc>

# Father Tom's Letter

Dear Friends,

Today, the fourth Sunday of Lent, traditionally was known as Laetare Sunday. Laetare is Latin for "joy". In a season of fasting, prayer and abstinence, it's easy to forget that one of the liturgical prayers we pray at Mass thanks God, saying, "*each year you give us this joyful season.*" The Lenten season recalls the fact that God chooses to restore, heal, forgive, raise up and save rather than what we might expect: punish for sin. God's plan which we hear today is "that the world might be saved through Christ." All of Lent then, is not about our making up for the sins of the past (they are forgiven), nor trying to persuade God to love us (we are loved beyond all telling), but Lent is a joyful preparation to celebrate and take in the freedom Christ has won for us. "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God."

Today's gospel speaks of the light. I came across this poem by John Foley, SJ, about the power of light and our need of light.

*Once there was a city built in the sunlight. Warmth and laughter abounded.  
Memories of day would remain every night until the sun could return.*

*Fear one morning said light is too bright. Too much truth can be seen.  
How can we seem what we say we are if light the intruder is here?*

*So walls went up and a ban on all windows and nothing of day could remain.  
The city said, you have left us, O sun. In the darkness we have gone blind.*

*But the sun outside still shed its light, and its warmth and its laughter and love.  
It lightened the walls and gave warmth to their chill, while within, the soul bored a hole.*

*Into it poured a single beam, a sunlight of laughter and care.  
Softly, silently, almost like spring, love opened and blossomed and grew.*

Listen to the light. Listen to God this Lent. Let love open and blossom and grow.

I'd like to express my deepest thanks to Jerry Linder who has served as Parish Trustee since January, 2012. The Corporate Structure of the parish stipulates that after three terms a new Trustee must be named. Jerry has provided invaluable service to SSPJ over his years of ministry in this position and has become a treasured friend. I am delighted that he will continue on in an advisory capacity.

I am very happy to announce that Brendan McGovern has been appointed by Bishop Barres to assume the role of Trustee. Brendan and his wife Leslie and their children, Liam and Emma, are active parishioners. Brendan has been a member of the Parish Finance Committee and Leslie has served as a catechist. I've asked Brendan to prepare a short bio which appears later in the bulletin.

Many thanks to Sue and Kevin McNamara who once again blessed the couples in our Pre Cana Program by sharing their sacrament of Matrimony with them.

Peace,

*Father Tom*



# Mass Intentions, For the week of March 14th, 2021

**Our Bread & Wine  
For the Week of  
March 14th, 2021**

**Are Offered in memory of,  
Richard & Grace Ehmann  
With love and gratitude,  
Richard**

**The Pro Life Rose**

**For the week of  
March 14th, 2021**

**Is Offered in Loving  
Memory of,  
Richard & Grace Ehmann  
Always in our hearts,  
Richard**

**Remembering in Our Prayers~**

Angie Mingione  
Angela Amoroso  
Anna Ormsby  
Arthur Gureck  
Baby Ben  
Barbara Bombace  
Barbara Ruland  
Bunny & Dave Hayes  
Mattia Rose Lubrano  
Belinda Groneman  
Belinda Vega  
Brianna Florio  
Bob Keenan  
Carol  
Claudia Chandler  
Daniel Radice  
Deirdre W.  
Dolores North  
Donna Patrissi  
Donnie Spence  
Dorothy Mitchell  
Dylan Beach  
Ella  
Ellie Walsh  
Ginny & John Rief  
Gladys Blake  
Gregory Parker  
Helen  
Ida Wehman  
Joanna  
Jack Donohue  
John Cronin  
John DeStefano  
J.C.  
Joseph S.

Luis Anthony  
Antonette Sabatino  
James Macchiano  
Judy Rampola  
Kathleen N.  
Kitty Cronin  
Leon Donach  
Mark Hildreth  
Mary Fresi  
Maryann Kevlin  
Maria Clark  
Marie del Cielo  
Marilyn Suli  
Matthew Parrella  
Michael Fisher  
Mike Lofaro  
Monsignor Iocavacci  
Pasquale Savarese  
Peter Bertrand  
Peter Donach  
P.I.  
Ricardo Buffit  
Riordan Cavoris  
Sara Jean Andersen  
Sheila Ginty  
Stephen Dolce  
Steven Iglio  
Theresa Kassay  
Tara CesarSKI  
Tom Kiernan  
Vivien Cordes  
Victoria Zubrycky  
Vicki Archdeacon  
Veronica Broderick

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>March 13th, 2021</b> Presider: Father Tom Lector: A. Kaiser EM: L. Sisti	9:15am  5:00pm	<b>Antoinette Fisher</b>  <b>Jeff Posé</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>March 14th, 2021</b> Presider: Father Tom Lector: C. Czujko EM: V. Portanova	8am	<b>For the People of SSPJ</b>
	Presider: Father Augustine Lector: M. Koke EM: M. Latino	10:00am	<b>John Pavelka</b>
	<b>Collective Mass</b> Presider: Father Augustine Lector: L. Kenton EM: P. Parish	12:00pm	<b>John Kelly</b> <b>Georgia Priebe</b> <b>Thomas Akerberg, Jr.</b> <b>Richard E. Ryan</b> <b>Living~Pasquale Savarese</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>March 15th, 2021</b>	7:30am  9:15am	<b>Turlough McElhatton</b>  <b>Louise Kelly</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>March 16th, 2021</b>	7:30am  9:15am	<b>Mary Lo Parrino</b>  <b>Richard Ehmann</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>March 17th, 2021</b> <b>Saint Patrick's Day</b>	7:30am  9:15am	<b>Jimmy &amp; Kay Ginty</b>  <b>Jack Duffy</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>March 18th, 2021</b>	7:30am  9:15am	<b><u>Living-Rae &amp; Joe Billone</u></b> <b><u>Collective Mass:</u></b> <b><u>Carmela Ciurcina</u></b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>March 19th, 2021</b> <b>Saint Joseph's Day</b>	7:30am  9:15am	<b>Joseph Morda</b>  <b>Patrick Acker</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>March 20th, 2021</b> Presider: Father Tom Lector: L. Auleta EM: D. Anderson	9:15am  5:00pm	<b>Deacon Ken Maher</b>  <b>Bruce Ogilvie</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>March 21st, 2021</b> Presider: Father Joe Lector: M. Sehne EM: C. Czujko	8:00am	<b>For the People of SSPJ</b>
	Presider: Father Tom Lector: J. Contrino EM: K. Consenz	10:00am	<b>Sara Ann Izzo</b>
	<b>Collective Mass</b> Presider: Father Tom Lector: P. Geier EM: B. Luna	12:00pm	<b>Benedetta Caltabiano</b> <b>Marie Csorny</b> <b>Charles Caracappa</b> <b>Eleanor Tomasina</b>

**HOLY WEEK MASS RESERVATIONS  
WILL BE NECESSARY:**

**PALM SUNDAY SATURDAY EVENING MASS  
MARCH 27TH:**

5:00PM MASS— Church and Auditorium

**PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 28TH, 2021**

8:00AM MASS —Church and Auditorium

10:00AM MASS —Church and Auditorium

12:00NOON —Church only

**MASS OF THE LORDS SUPPER  
APRIL 1ST, 2021 AT 7:00PM**

**GOOD FRIDAY : APRIL 2ND, 2021 AT 3PM**

**EASTER VIGIL MASS: APRIL 3RD AT 7:00PM**

**EASTER SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE:  
APRIL 4TH, 2021**

8AM—Church and Auditorium

10:00am— Church and Auditorium

12:00noon—Church and Auditorium

Kindly make your reservation at  
SSPJ.org

If you are unable to schedule a reservation, kindly contact  
the Parish Center office:  
631-584-5454



***Congratulations and May God's Awesome Blessings fill the heart of Sharon Gill, who will enter into full communion with the church at the Easter Vigil. This photo was taken at her Rite to the Call to Continuing Conversion. She is with her husband and sponsor Kevin.***

**Volunteers Needed:**

*Holy Week will soon be upon us and we are looking for extra volunteers to help with registrations and ushering at the Services. We will need help for Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and especially at the Easter Sunday masses. Please call Sister Theresita if you are able to help. (631) 584-5454 ext.214. May Jesus be the key to opening your heart and mind to volunteer to help. Thank you.*

**2022 MASS BOOK OPENING**

We will be opening the Mass Book  
for 2022 on:



**March 22, 2021  
from 10am until 3pm**

**March 23, 2021 from 10am –3pm**

**In the Parish Center Office.**

We ask that you limit your mass intention requests to 3 intentions on these opening dates.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.



***Due to circumstances that are beyond our control, unforeseen obstacles may arise that prohibit our ability to communicate our "live stream events" on the parish website's : Facebook page: SSPJ Church***

**We appreciate your understanding**

*There are occasions when the livestream filming becomes available later on in a given day, however that is not always guaranteed.*

**Eucharistic  
Adoration**

**Monday's  
From 1:30-7:00pm**

**In the Church**

**The closing hour of  
Eucharistic  
Adoration,  
(6pm-7pm), will be  
live streamed on the  
SSPJ facebook page  
Www.sspj.org**

**Lenten Regulations 2021**

Traditionally, the Lenten Season is a time of penance throughout the Catholic Church. Lent is a season in which prayer, the reception of the sacraments, charity and almsgiving are emphasized. Fast and abstinence are to be observed Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat.

**Ash Wednesday and Good Friday:**  
These are days of *Fast and Abstinence from meat*. There is a limit of one full meal on these days for all between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive.

**Days of Abstinence: (All Fridays in Lent):**

All who have reached their 14th year are bound to abstain totally from meat.

## **Jesus is the Key-**

We welcome all to submit to us your thoughts about wearing the SSPJ Lenten bracelet inscribed with the words,

### ***“Jesus is the key”***

*Sharing your heartfelt thoughts about how “Jesus Is The Key “ that has opened possibilities, doors, interests, knowledge or our eyes to the community around us and in our lives.....*

**You can drop off your reflection in an enveloped marked “Jesus is the Key” to the Parish center, or email us at [info@sspj.org](mailto:info@sspj.org)**

As a child, I was very fortunate to attend Sunday mass with my family and attend St Charles Borromeo Elementary. I remember my dad attending mass before work during Lent and watched them take an active part in our Church.

Having that faith foundation I never felt alone when I left for college and moved to LI or shy about entering a new church or just praying wherever I was because I wasn't alone. I pray for God's grace to give me hope in facing life's difficulties, and I thank God for Jesus being “my life's companion, my friend and refuge.” That's the key for me.

Marti Drechsler

“Yes He is!” Or “He certainly is!” are some of the responses I have received when someone reads my Lenten Jesus is the Key bracelet.

Others have asked what my bracelet means. My bracelet is a reminder that Jesus gives us the key or tools so that we may have eternal life with Him. It's a reminder to pray that I may grow in faith, reflect and understand His word, and be an apostle of hope so that the door of Christ will be open to others.

Joann Segal

Jesus is the key means that Jesus is the key to unlock all hearts and unopened doors within one's mind.

**Craig Williams**

SSPJ School - gr. 8

Jesus is the key means Jesus is the answer. When times get rough, Jesus is there to help us. When we can't choose something, Jesus is there to help us. Jesus is the key to heaven. If we continue and practice our faith we grow a stronger connection and build a path to heaven.

**Victoria Caputo**

SSPJ School - gr. 8

Jesus is the key to everlasting life. Believing in Jesus allows us to live eternal life.

**Samuel Rennie**

SSPJ School - gr. 8



# Lenten Offerings



**Knowing Jesus**  
Lent Online Retreat 2021

An amazing Daily Lenten Journey – please review and consider.  
VISIT:  
[www.onlineprayer.net](http://www.onlineprayer.net)

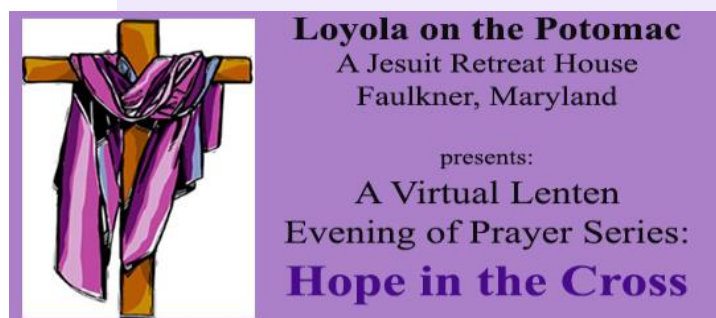
JESUIT Spirituality  
Ignatian Spirituality Centre, Glasgow



IT'S NOT WHAT YOU GIVE UP  
**It's Who You Become**  
A Life-Changing Lenten Experience

Embrace a deeper, more spiritually rewarding life, and lose yourself in God this Lent.  
Visit [BestLentEver.com](http://BestLentEver.com) to take the first step toward unlocking your God-given potential.

**BEST LENT EVER**  
This Lent, join Matthew Kelly and the Dynamic Catholic team for BEST LENT EVER - a free series of emails and video reflections that will help you to discover or rediscover God through prayer.



**Loyola on the Potomac**  
A Jesuit Retreat House  
Faulkner, Maryland

presents:  
A Virtual Lenten Evening of Prayer Series:  
**Hope in the Cross**

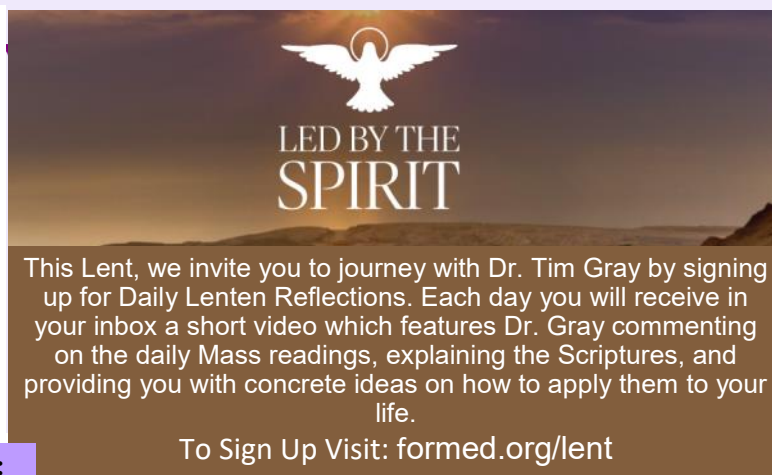
Join us each Tuesday evenings in Lent for this hour long prayer series on ZOOM. Each evening will begin at 7:00 pm and end by 8:00 pm. There will be an opening prayer, an Invitation to Prayer, a period of personal prayer time, a time for sharing of graces and discussion and then a closing prayer.

To register, send an email to: [Reservations@lovolaretrereat.org](mailto:Reservations@lovolaretrereat.org) You will receive an email link to the ZOOM prayer series on Monday of each week.

Tuesday, March 16  
“The Cross as Waiting”  
Sister Pat Mensing, SSJ

Tuesday, March 23  
“The Glory of God present in the Passion of Christ”  
Father Bill Rakowicz, SJ

Tuesday, March 30  
“Letting Jesus Wash Your Feet”  
Elaine Ireland



**LED BY THE SPIRIT**

This Lent, we invite you to journey with Dr. Tim Gray by signing up for Daily Lenten Reflections. Each day you will receive in your inbox a short video which features Dr. Gray commenting on the daily Mass readings, explaining the Scriptures, and providing you with concrete ideas on how to apply them to your life.

To Sign Up Visit: [formed.org/lent](http://formed.org/lent)



## SSPJ STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Friday, March 19th at 7pm in the church  
Friday, March 26th at 1pm in the church

Also available via live stream on SSPJ facebook page: SSPJ Church



**Lent with St. Francis**

To subscribe visit:  
[www.franciscanmedia.org](http://www.franciscanmedia.org)

LIVE STREAMS STARTS AND ENDS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15



BBC AND JESUITS IN BRITAIN BRING YOU A SPECIAL LENT RETREAT

[Lent 2021 | Jesuits in Britain](http://www.jesuit.org.uk/tags/lent-2021) : VISIT:  
[www.jesuit.org.uk/tags/lent-2021](http://www.jesuit.org.uk/tags/lent-2021)

# Parish Social Ministry

## FOOD PANTRY HELP

**Pasta Sauce  
Corn Niblets**

*Many thanks for your kindness and generosity*



*In Our  
Thoughts  
and Prayers*

*We Remember,*

**Stella Rizzo  
Cecile Hayes**

*Safely home in the arms of Jesus*

*St. Theresa of Lisieux invites us to practice the little way of love, no to miss out on a kind word, a smile, or any small gesture which sows peace and friendship. An integral ecology is also made up of simple daily gestures which break with the logic of violence, exploitation, and selfishness*

*Remembering Mothers, Children and all Life through prayer, fasting peaceful vigils and community outreach.*

*40 Days for Life campaigns have inspired many participants including the Respect Life Committee of SSPJ.*

*Their hearts of mercy are involved in:*

*Peaceful Prayer Vigil on the sidewalk in front of Planned Parenthood building in Smithtown.*

*Fasting and Sacrifice*

*Eucharistic Adoration Monday's from 1:30pm-7pm. The closing hour from 6-7pm praying for respect for human life.*

*Please call 631-862-9370 for further information .*



## Music Ministry

***Happy St. Patrick and St. Joseph to all.  
Wednesday is St. Patrick and Friday is St. Joseph.***



***We celebrate the feast days of these two popular Saints.***

***In honor of St. Patrick I will be singing, May the Road Rise up by Tom Kendzia, before the final blessing. This is a traditional Irish Blessing.***

***In honor of St. Joseph, our Communion hymn will be Holy Patron Thee Saluting. Try and find the words to this song online. The song tells a story of St. Joseph, husband to Mary and foster father to Jesus.***

***Our Lenten Music Program is on the parish website ([sspj.org](http://sspj.org)) and our Facebook page. It is our hope and prayer that peace fills your heart and you come to understand and reflect how Jesus is the key in your life using music as a guide.***

***Say "Yes" to Jesus***



## Welcome Brendan McGovern-SSPJ Parish Trustee

My name is Brendan McGovern and I live in Stony Brook with my wife, Lesley, and our two children, Liam and Emma. We have been parishioners of SSPJ since 2013. I grew up in East Meadow with my parents and three siblings, where I first met Father Tom when he became pastor of St. Raphael's Parish in 1995 (it is also where Father married Lesley and me in 2007). I am a proud product of Catholic schools - St. Raphael's Grammar School, St. Dominic High School and St. John's University (bachelor's degree in Accounting).

I later received my MBA from NYU. I am a CPA and have worked in auditing and finance positions at various firms on Long Island and Manhattan. I am currently the SVP of Finance for a technology start-up company in Manhattan. My wife is a teacher at Great Hollow Middle School. I am very grateful to Father Tom for giving me this opportunity to serve our wonderful parish.



## 2021 ~Catholic Ministries Appeal The 2021 Goal for SSPJ is: \$105,300.



*"May the Holy Spirit lead us on a true journey of conversion, so that we can rediscover the gift of God's word, be purified of the sin that blinds us, and serve Christ present in our brothers and sisters in need."* - Pope Francis

### Almsgiving in Lent

Lent is a perfect time for us to pray for those in need - whether it is for their material, emotional or spiritual needs.

And when you practice fasting and abstinence during these forty days, please remember those of our neighbors who are hungry and consider sharing your gifts with them.

One good way to do this is by making a gift to the **Catholic Ministries Appeal**, which supports programs that help feed people in our community each year through both Catholic Charities and our Parish Outreach Centers.



For more information about the Catholic Ministries Appeal, please visit [drvc.org/cma](http://drvc.org/cma) or call 516-678-5800 ext. 296.

# Religious Education News

## MARCH ACTS OF SERVICE

### "JESUS IS THE KEY"-

*Let us know how Jesus is the key in your life...*

*Responses can be written on your act of service card and attached to the donation you are offering.*

*Our March Acts of Service will share love with a local shelter for those who do not have a home to call their own...*

**WE ARE COLLECTING CLEANING SUPPLIES FOR A LOCAL SHELTER:**

**DISH SOAP, WIPES, DETERGENT :(SMALL SIZES PLEASE)**

**ALSO COLLECTING: RAMAN NOODLES AND CEREAL**

**ITEMS CAN BE DROPPED OFF IN THE BOX OUTSIDE THE**

**PARISH CENTER OFFICE DURING THE WEEK OF**

**MARCH 22ND, 2021 ~ Thank you for thinking of others...**



## COMMUNION II - SECOND GRADE

### "EXPLAINING THE MASS CELEBRATION"

TUESDAY, MARCH 16TH, 2021 AT 7PM IN THE CHURCH

OR

THURSDAY, MARCH 18TH, 2021 AT 7PM IN THE CHURCH

*Our Communion II students and their families have been preparing to celebrate their First Holy Communion for two years now. Your attendance at this celebration and hopefully at mass each weekend before and after you receive your First Holy Communion is*

*A beautiful way to share in the deep love that Jesus holds in his heart for you.*

**You will be receiving an email confirming the date of your attendance to this celebration.**

MARCH PRAYER OF THE MONTH:  
JESUS PRAYER



JESUS  
PRAYER

LORD JESUS  
CHRIST,  
SON OF GOD,  
HAVE  
MERCY ON  
ME  
A SINNER!

## ACT OF CONTRITION

**O my God, I am heartily sorry  
for having offended You,  
and I detest all of my sins because  
of Your just punishments,  
but most of all because  
they offend You, my God,  
Who are all good and  
deserving of all my love.**

**I firmly resolve,  
with the help of Your grace,  
to sin no more and to avoid  
the near occasions of sin. Amen.**



## ***A Reflection from Sister T~***

***Dear Friends,***

***For all the basketball fans out there, we are soon to be in the throws of March Madness! As I was listening to a reflection this morning, the author reminded us that the second half of the game is very important. I then realized that we are at the halfway mark for Lent. So, this second half can be very exciting.***

***A good number of us may need to look at the things we decided to do this Lent and evaluate where are on that journey. There is still time to renew our efforts and use the time that is left to deepen our relationship with God. We have the option to act or to remain complacent, promising that we can do better next year.***

***Somehow, I think that we have all become a little weary as we are reminded that it has been a year since things came to a screeching halt and we began to live in the world of social distancing, face masks, working from home, and a pause on large gatherings. There is still hope; we can recommit ourselves to this second half!***

***Like any team that might be losing when the halftime buzzer goes off, we need to come into the second half re-energized and filled with hope. We need to shake off the feeling of complacency and enter the next half filled with positive energy. We can do this if we believe that God is out there cheering us on. Anything we do to deepen our relationship with God counts for good! There are so many Lenten aids out there to help us should we need them.***

***Perhaps we need to move forward and let go of what has been. God is with us on our journey! Enter this second half filled with the vigor you felt when Lent first began. All of you who have been able to remain faithful to your Lenten promises, lend a kind word to someone who is struggling. Being a good Christian is also a team sport and we can rely on one another to be there for us. A smile, a word, an inspirational story can make someone's day. So, go out there and play this second half with your whole heart!***

***Till next week,***

***Sister Theresita***



## **ATTENTION SSPJ FAMILIES** **DONATE FOR OUR SCHOOL** **EASY AS 1, 2, 3!**

**WHAT:** "Clothing Drive" is an organization that picks up **clothing, stuffed animals and other used goods**. They will pay our school by the pound for our donations...EASY!!  
*\*Please have items in bags*

**WHEN:** Saturday, March 27th 9:00 am - 11:00 am  
(Drop off between these hours)

**WHERE:** Drop off location will be in the **Soul Brew** parking lot  
Soul Brew Address: 556 N Country Rd, St James  
We will be collecting directly in front of the Soul Brew entrance.

**HOW:** Pull up, drop off, leave, done!

**DONATION ITEMS:** Stuffed Animals, Clothes, Bicycles,  
**Accessories such as:** POCKETBOOKS, BELTS, BABY ACCESSORIES, BACKPACKS,  
HATS, SCARVES, BRIEFCASES, GLOVES, TIES, HANDBAGS  
**Household Items such as:** BLANKETS, TABLE CLOTHS, BED SHEETS, DRAPERY,  
CURTAINS, PILLOWS, TOWELS, QUILTS, COMFORTERS

**PLEASE DO NOT DONATE:** Hard toys, baby gear, books, pots,  
pans, etc...

**Please visit the website for a full listing of acceptable  
and non-acceptable donation items:**

[www.clothingdrive.net](http://www.clothingdrive.net)

**For Questions Call or Text:**

Jaime Carey: 631-356-5691 or Jennine Cullen: 631-871-9973



# SSPJ School February~2021 Apostles of Hope

## February Apostles of Hope 2021

### Pre-KA

**Anthony Deo** is an Apostle of Hope. Anthony joined our school this month and has transitioned wonderfully. He fits in perfect with our class and has loved getting to know his new friends. Anthony shows us how kind Jesus teaches us to be through his daily actions.

### Pre-KB

**Emma Giardini** is an Apostle of Hope. Emma is always the first one to say good morning to her friends as they walk into the building and she always has something nice to say to everybody. Emma has such a positive attitude and encourages her friends to keep trying when they say they can't. Emma's positive attitude, words of encouragement and kindness make her an excellent follower of Jesus.

**Ryan Bachert** is an Apostle of Hope. Ryan is always eager to help his friends and make sure they are making the right choices. When students are asked to do a task in the classroom he always has a positive response, such as "You got it Mrs. Nobel," or "Of course!" He is excited to learn and be in school! Ryan's positive energy makes him a wonderful follower of Jesus.

### Kindergarten

**Gia Calderone** is an Apostle of Hope. Gia has made great progress this year in kindergarten. It is wonderful to see her come in each day ready to try her best and work hard. Her confidence has grown very much, which is a pleasure to see. Gia is respectful during prayers and strives to remember to keep Jesus in her heart each day. She knows that Jesus is the Key to success!

### Grade 1

**Gabriella Scott** is an Apostle of Hope. Gabriella comes to school full of energy and excitement. Gabriella enjoys laughing with her classmates and helping others around her. Gabriella loves to participate in class especially when it comes to math.

**Katelyn Bachert** is an Apostles of Hope. Katelyn is a huge help in the morning when she walks her younger brother to his classroom. Katelyn is always the first student in the classroom and is always eager to start her day. She enjoys dancing in the classroom and making others laugh. Katelyn has been working extremely hard on all of her reading and math skills.

### Grade 2

**Kylie Ferri** is an Apostle of Hope. Kylie comes into class each morning with a smile and a cheerful greeting for her classmates. She is working hard each day to be the best student she can be. Kylie is always willing to help others just like Jesus taught us to do and she is looking forward to receiving her First Holy Communion in May and becoming closer to Jesus.

**Ryan Ferri** is an Apostle of Hope. Ryan greets his classmates each morning when he comes to school. He is working hard to be a good friend to all. Ryan is acting like Jesus when he lets others in front of him and offers to help them. He works hard each day to be the best student possible. Ryan is preparing himself to receive First Holy Communion in May.



### Grade 3

**Mikaela Grimaldi** is an Apostle of Hope. Each day Mikaela comes to school with a smile on her face and ready to tackle the new day. She is very kind to all her friends in the class and thoughtful to all the teachers. Mikaela has grown educationally and has matured into a true disciple of Jesus.

### Grade 4

**Matilda Dias** is an Apostle of Hope. Matilda greets everyone each day with a smile. She is energetic and enthusiastic about learning. Matilda comes to school prepared and works hard each day. Matilda enjoys sharing her stories and reading aloud to the class. She is a great role model for her peers.

**Connor Morosky** is an Apostle of Hope. Connor has been putting forth excellent effort into his classwork and homework assignments. He stays focused and strives to do his very best. Connor displays excellent studying skills and he makes good choices.

### Grade 5

**Erin Kieran** is an Apostle of Hope. Erin is a light in the classroom. She is kind to her classmates and polite to her teachers. Erin participates often and willingly, and always has wonderful stories and ideas to share.

**Colin Beam** is an Apostle of Hope. Colin is always participating, and sharing stories and ideas with his classmates. Colin is helpful, kind, and polite to everyone who crosses his path. The smile you see through his mask is a joy to witness everyday.

### Grade 6

**Nicholas Bjorklund** is an Apostle of Hope. Nicholas is a kind and hardworking student. He always hands in his work on time and goes the extra mile on his assignments. Despite learning from home, he still finds ways to be kind and support his fellow classmates. Nicholas' kind and compassionate heart makes him a wonderful disciple of Jesus.

### Grade 7

**Katie Fioto** is an Apostle of Hope. Katie comes into school every day ready to work hard and better herself, as well as those around her. Katie is focused and always encourages those around her to do their best and stay on task. Katie is witty and funny, always helping to put a smile on the faces of those around her.

### Grade 8

**Craig Williams** is an Apostle of Hope. Craig is a hard working student who always tries his best in the classroom. Craig is a good friend to his fellow classmates and is always there for them. Although Craig is quiet in the classroom, he is willing to share ideas during class. Keep up the good work.

### Faculty

**Mrs. Fitzmaurice** is an Apostle of Hope. Mrs. Fitz. keeps her class on their toes and always finds a way to bring fun and laughter into each lesson. She prepared her 2nd grade students for their First Reconciliation and is now preparing them for First Holy Communion. Mrs. Fitz's positive outlook and energy brings much needed light to the SSPJ community.



## Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

### 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Ps 51:3-4,12-15  
Hebrews 5:7-9  
John 12:20-33

**Monday March 22**  
Daniel 13:1-9,15-17,19-30,  
33-62 or 13:41c-62  
Ps 23:1-6  
John 8:1-11

**Tuesday March 23**  
Numbers 21:4-9  
Ps 102:2-3,16-21  
John 8:21-30

**Wednesday March 24**  
Daniel 3:14-20,91-92,95  
Dn 3:52-56  
John 8:31-42

**Thursday March 25**  
**Annunciation of the Lord**  
Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10  
Ps 40:7-11  
Hebrews 10:4-10  
Luke 1:26-38

**Friday March 26**  
Jeremiah 20:10-13  
Ps 18:2-7  
John 10:31-42

**Saturday March 27**  
Ezekiel 37:21-28  
Jer 31:10-13  
John 11:45-56

In our desire to trust God and follow Jesus wherever he leads us, it's not a sin to feel troubled about it.

Yes, we do have to be willing to lose our lives (i.e., our own agendas, our own desires, our own ideas on what we should do with our time, etc.) so that we can unite ourselves to Christ and his mission. However, we don't have to like the loss.

The Gospel reading shows us that Jesus felt troubled by the sacrifices he would have to make. Yes, even Jesus himself felt troubled! And the Father glorified him.

Jesus came to earth to reveal God's ways and God's love and lead us to heaven. Now we, his followers, are called, commissioned, and prepared by the Sacraments to reveal God's ways and God's love to those around us, so that Jesus can lead *them* to heaven. That is the mission, the purpose of being Church, for all

of us – laity as well as clergy.

The Sacrament of Baptism initiates us into this calling. Confirmation commissions us to do it. Confession enables us to do it better. Marriage and Holy Orders give us a venue for perfecting it. The Anointing of the Sick converts our illnesses into opportunities to bear witness to Christ's Passion. And the Eucharist unites us so fully to the Passion of Christ that we become what we are called to do.



This is our everyday ministry of evangelization: We love others as Jesus loves them, we do for them what Jesus would like to do for them, and we spread the good news about this as a continuation of the ministry of Jesus.

Often, this involves making sacrifices and doing good to those who reject us and scourge us and crucify us or in any other way cause us to suffer. This is our unity with Christ, our Passion. We're not supposed to like it, but we are supposed to do it.

The Father honors us for this. Just like he glorified Jesus, he honors us with his compassion, his rewards, and his approval.

It's okay to feel troubled by the challenges we face in our mission. What keeps us going is knowing that God is raising us up. There is always resurrection after crucifixion.

#### Reflect & Discuss:

1. What troubles are you facing? Where is Jesus in this? Is he ahead of you, leading the way? Are you following him?
2. How do you feel hearing Jesus admit, "I am troubled now"?
3. When you make sacrifices for others, how does this connect you more closely to the human heart of Jesus?
4. How does the Father honor you as you serve in Christ's mission?

## OPENING OUR SECRETS TO THE LIGHT

*You are as sick as your sickest secret!* That's a wise axiom. What's sick in us will remain sick unless we open it up to others and to the light of day. As long as it's a secret, it's a sickness. However, perhaps the problem is not with what we keep secret, but that we keep it secret. Maybe the sickness is the secret rather than what we deem to be sick.

We all have our struggles, and we can thank God for that. The image and likeness of God inside us is not simply a beautiful icon imprinted in our souls. It's fire, divine, insatiable, befuddling fire. By our very nature, there are complexities inside us that cannot make easy peace with the person we like to think we are. We all have wild fantasies and dark obsessions. Were our daydreams ever made public, they would reveal that we all nurse fantasies of grandiosity, of hatred, of vindication, and that we all are periodically caught up in the grip of various emotional and sexual obsessions. There are things in our daydreams about which we would be ashamed to speak. We all harbor fantasies that are wild, earthy, grandiose, and egotistical. So we keep them secret and deal with them either by pathologizing them (relegating them to a sickness) or by denying them.

We relegate our fantasies to a sickness when we believe they are something we alone suffer from, something sick, shameful, and unique to us. They are something we never want others to know about us. As a result, our fantasies and obsessions become something to be ashamed of, a dark secret, a sickness beneath our normal self.

Another option is denial. We can consciously deny that we ever have these thoughts and feelings. Denial saves us from feeling shame, but we pay another price for this in the end. Denying our thoughts and feeling is akin to living on the ground floor of a house and taking any garbage or anything else we do not want to deal with and simply tossing it down into the basement and closing the door. Out of sight, out of mind. For a while. Garbage doesn't cease to exist just because we have pushed it into the basement. Eventually it ferments and sends its poisonous gases up through the vents to contaminate the air we are breathing.

However, and this is the point, the complex yearnings, obsessions, and grandiosity inside our soul are not a sickness, nor something that we need to deny. Our soul, for all its wildness, is not sick. The problem is that we lack an understanding of the deeper part of our soul, our shadow, and believe there's some sickness inside there – and it's keeping this a secret that's the actual sickness.

What is our shadow? Popular literature has given us a one-sided notion of what makes for our shadow. The popular notion is that our shadow is some dark, fearful place we are afraid to go, an inner desert we want at all cost not to venture into, inner demons that we want consciously to avoid. While we might at times feel those fears in the face of our own shadow, our shadow is not a dark thing at all. The opposite.

Here's how our shadow forms. When a baby is born, it is luminous, wonderfully open and aware, looking around, simply drinking in reality. However, at this stage of life, a baby cannot think because it lacks an ego and thus lacks self-awareness. In order to form an ego and become self-aware, the baby has to make a series of massive mental contractions, each of which shuts it off from part of its own luminosity. First, early on in life, it distinguishes *between what is self and what is other; I am not my mommy*. Soon afterwards, it distinguishes *between living and non-living*; a puppy is alive, a stone is not. Sometime after that, it distinguishes *between mind and body*; a body is a hard, solid thing, thinking is different. Finally, and this is the critical piece in the formation of our shadow, at a point in its life, the baby will make *a distinction between what it can consciously face inside of itself and what is too overwhelming to consciously face. In doing that, it forms its shadow by splitting off a huge part of its luminosity (the full image and likeness of God inside itself) from its own conscious awareness.* Notice that our shadow is made up of our light, not our darkness. As Marianne Williamson aptly puts it (in a phrase Nelson Mandela used in his inauguration address) *it is our light not our darkness that frightens us*. In a healthy person, dark secrets generally hide the things that emanate out of the excessive light, divine energy, infinite longings, and godly grandiosity inside of us. When we bring these into the light, we see that they are neither dark nor sick. The sickness lies only in not bringing them to light.