



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

631-584-5454

November 29th, 2020

First Sunday of Advent

Hope
in the
Waiting

"Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved."

Psalm 80

"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

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

Jerry Linder ~ Tina Cafaro

PASTORAL COUNCIL

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



**FAITH DIRECT:
GO TO SSPJ.ORG
CLICK ON THE FAITH
DIRECT ICON**

Parish of Saints Philip and
James account code
NY232 when signing up

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

GREGORY DEVANEY- 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—2ND 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:

Weekly Collection: Sunday November 22nd, 2020

Faith Direct : (121 Participants)

Total Weekly Collection:

*Your continued support of SSPJ is very much appreciated.
Unavailable due to early bulletin submission date*

\$17,890.

**\$
3,044.**

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Father Tom's Letter

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the season of Advent, a season of hope – one designed for Apostles of Hope. With the first Advent candle we light this weekend, we begin a new liturgical year. As we do, we are reminded that even in the midst of a pandemic, God constantly offers us new beginnings, and faithfully accompanies us as our journeys continue. The starkness of our Advent decor reminds us to “de-clutter”, to quiet down, and to wait in hope for Emmanuel, God-with-us. The Jesuit Retreat House in Maryland is offering a four week Advent prayer via Zoom on the Tuesdays of Advent from 7-8pm. The series is entitled “An Advent of Hope”. To register, go to their website, www.loyolaonthepotomac.com.

Advent 2020, like the rest of this year, will be challenging. Due to the pandemic the need to limit the number of people present at each Mass continues. We've been adjusting pretty well, but as you know, Mass attendance seems to swell at Christmas. We've been trying to plan ahead, explaining the need for reservations and reminding people of the protections we must take – continued cleaning of the church, wearing a mask, using hand sanitizer, blocked pews and marked seating. I now ask you to consider another request to insure a safe Christmas celebration.

Would you consider reimagining the role of the innkeeper at Bethlehem? We really need you help to create a warm welcome to those joining us for Mass at Christmas. Would you consider ministering as a welcomer either on Christmas Eve or on Christmas Day? This would involve ushering people to their seats so that as we welcome, we also create a safe environment, helping maintain social distancing and seating regulations. Perhaps some students preparing for Confirmation might find this to be an “act of service” opportunity. A training session will be provided as well as the opportunity to walk with a mentor prior to Christmas and then on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. Please consider being a Christmas light! Please call Sister Theresita at 631- 584- 5454.

What a powerful evening of praise and worship was given to us on Sunday evening by Dominick, our 7 and 8 grade religious Ed coordinator and Youth minister.....touching us with music, scripture and Presence...Dom, you and your brother and sister ministers allowed the Spirit to console, heal, strengthen and move us.....many thanks for your gift to our community. Many thanks to all who participated in our catch up raffle....thanks to your support we received, \$20,150. after all the prizes were awarded. Congratulations and thanks to our winners!

We have only four weeks left and are so, so, so close to reaching our Catholic Ministries Appeal goal. Check the thermometer a little further on in the bulletin. Reaching the goal not only helps so many in need on Long Island but, as you know, can assist SSPJ Parish. If we reach our goal this becomes our largest parish fundraiser!! Honestly, just the cost alone of sanitizing the church after each Mass due to the pandemic has pushed us way over budget. If you can help us reach our goal, please, please make a donation this week. Thank you!

And,

When I was a kid I wanted to be older. This is not what I expected.

Life is like a helicopter. I don't know how to operate a helicopter.

Chocolate is God's way of telling us he likes us a little bit chubby.

Peace,

Father Tom

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

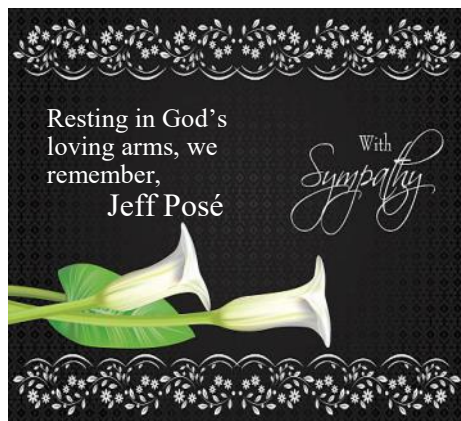
Mass Intentions, For the week of November 29th, 2020

Eucharistic Adoration -In Church

**Monday's
from 1:30-7pm**



Hope



Remembering in Our Prayers~

Angie Mingione	Antonette Sabatino
Angela Amoroso	Joseph Galletta
Anna Ormsby	Judy Cunnius
Antoinette Fisher	Judy Rampola
Arthur Gureck	Kathleen N.
Baby Ben	Kitty Cronin
Barbara Bombace	Leon Donach
Barbara Rowland	Mary Fresi
Mattia Rose Lubrano	Maryann Kevlin
Belinda Groneman	Maria Clark
Belinda Vega	Marie del Cielo
Bob Keenan	Matthew Parrella
Brendan	Michael Fisher
Claudia Chandler	Mike Lofaro
Daniel Radice	Monsignor Iocavacci
Deirdre W.	Pasquale Savarese
Dolores North	Peter Donach
Donna Patrissi	P.I.
Dorothy Mitchell	Ricardo Buffit
Dylan Beach	Richard Cembrale
Ellie Walsh	Riordan Cavooris
Ginny & John Rief	Sara Jean Andersen
Gladys Blake	Stephen Dolce
Gregory Parker	Theresa Kassay
Ida Wehman	Tara Cesarski
Jack Donohue	Vivien Cordes
John Cronin	Victoria Zubrycky
John DeStefano	Vicki Archdeacon
J.C.	
Joseph S.	
Luis Anthony	

<i>Saturday</i>	<i>November 28th 2020</i> <i>Presider: Father Tom</i> <i>Lector: B. Thompson</i> <i>EM: L. Sisti</i>	<i>9:15am</i> <i>5:00pm</i>	<i>Carl D'Angelo</i> <i>Agnes Souza</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>November 29th, 2020</i> <i>Presider: Father Tom</i> <i>Lector: M. Sehne</i> <i>EM: M. Koke</i>	<i>8am</i>	<i>For The People of SSPJ</i>
	<i>Presider: Father Joe</i> <i>Lector: T. Cafaro</i> <i>EM: E. Sotomayer</i>	<i>10:00am</i>	<i>Thomas Lerch</i>
	<i>Collective Mass</i> <i>Presider: Father Joe</i> <i>Lector: K. Smith</i> <i>EM: P. Parish</i>	<i>12:00pm</i>	<i>Marie P. Loughlin</i> <i>Pauline Boccio</i> <i>Humberto Serrano</i> <i>Living: Pasquale Savarese</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>November 30th, 2020~</i> <i>Saint Andrew</i>	<i>7:30am</i>	
		<i>9:15am</i>	<i>Sally McGowan</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>December 1st, 2020~</i>	<i>7:30am</i>	
		<i>9:15am</i>	<i>Dr. Paul Kirdahy</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>December 2nd, 2020~</i>	<i>7:30am</i>	
		<i>9:15am</i>	<i>Rosemarie Scelfo</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>December 3rd, 2020~</i> <i>Saint Francis Xavier</i>	<i>7:30am</i>	<i>John Donald Hendersen</i>
	<i>Collective Mass</i>	<i>9:15am</i>	<i>John Purcell</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>December 4th, 2020~</i> <i>St. John Damascene</i>	<i>7:30am</i>	
		<i>9:15am</i>	<i>Robert Remhild</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>December 5th, 2020~</i> <i>Presider: Father Joe</i> <i>Lector: M. Dreschler</i> <i>EM: D. Anderson</i>	<i>9:15am</i> <i>5:00pm</i>	<i>Donna DiIorio</i> <i>Nunzio & Carmela Salerno</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>December 6th, 2020</i> <i>Presider: Father Joe</i> <i>Lector: G. Fitzpatrick</i> <i>EM: V. Portanova</i>	<i>8:00am</i>	<i>For the People of SSPJ</i>
	<i>Presider: Father Tom</i> <i>Lector: J. Contrino</i> <i>EM: B. Luna</i>	<i>10:00am</i>	<i>Campanelli & Lamaruggine Families</i>
	<i>Collective Mass</i> <i>Presider: Father Tom</i> <i>Lector: M. Cashman</i> <i>EM: P. Parish</i>	<i>12:00pm</i>	<i>Robert Remhild</i> <i>Margaret Dellegar</i> <i>Ralph Dunning</i> <i>Mary Smith</i> <i>Vincent Danese</i>

BACK ON TRACK RAFFLE WINNERS!

The Winners of Our Back on Track Raffle Are:

First Prize - \$5,000 Ticket #1782 Catherine Marchiano

Second \$2,500 Ticket #1500 Primavera Family

Third \$1,500 Ticket #7738 Francesca Vidulich

Fourth \$500 Ticket #12274 Don & Lori Earl



You may be feeling as though we have the air conditioning on but in fact it is what is required of us from the CDC. During the current COVID Pandemic, the CDC requires a 30% fresh air exchange within the church.

So bundle up and be grateful always!

Background Screening Update

The Office for the Protection of Children and Young People:

The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (The Charter) promulgated by the Bishops of the United States in 2002 outlines specific practices and guidelines providing standards of safety in parishes and dioceses throughout the United States. As directed in The Charter, the Diocese of Rockville Centre requires all employees, clergy, and volunteers to complete three requirements within thirty days of employment or volunteering:

Attend **Protecting God's Children Program (Virtus)**

Sign the Codes of Conduct;

Complete a background screen application. The Diocese requires all those who remain in active ministry be rescreened at 5 yr. intervals. volunteers/employees.

A Word on Background Screening of Volunteers:

The Office for the Protection of Children and Young People (OFPCYP) has streamlined the volunteer application process enabling volunteers to complete the three safe environment requirements in one step. Individuals wishing to volunteer in a parish or school:

Register to attend a Protecting God's Children class and create a Virtus account on the Virtus website: www.Virtus.org

Electronically acknowledge the Diocesan Code of Conduct- provided during the Virtus registration process.

Follow the instructions to complete the Sterling Volunteers background screening application background offered during the Virtus registration process.

Active Volunteers:

If you are active in a parish ministry, have already attended Virtus and have been background screened you may be at – or beyond- the **5yr. rescreening requirement**. If this is the case, you will receive an email from **Sterling Volunteers** asking you to complete the background screening application on-line. You may access the background screening application by following the prompt in the email or logging into your Virtus account. **Please be aware-this is not a scam nor has your e-mail been hacked.** The OFPCYP has been working with your parish to update the Safe Environment records and noted it is time for you to be rescreened. You may also be prompted to electronically resign the Code of Conduct when you log into your Virtus account.

Edit Your Virtus Account:

To access your Virtus account: www.Virtus.org You will need your Username and Password. If you need assistance, please contact Virtus: 1-888-847-8870 or helpdesk@virtus.org. Once in your account, review your account information-particularly your e-mail address. If your account requires updating, please hit the TOOLBOX tab at the top of the screen. On the left side of your screen in the green column click "Update My Account" You will be able to make the necessary changes-please remember to hit the SAVE button at the bottom of the screen.

Questions or concerns: mmcmahon@drvc.org; amendoza-cantos@drvc.org; jwinter@drvc.org;

pditomasso@drvc.org

Thank you to all who continue to serve in a ministry during these extremely challenging days.

Advent ~ Week One...

First, Some Simple Things to Pray For During Advent:

1. *Pray for attentiveness to what truly matters, without being distracted by trivial things.*
2. *Pray for opportunities to learn something new regularly.*
3. *Pray for discernment of how God would like you to set your priorities and the ability to focus on them consistently to fulfill His purposes in your life.*
4. *Pray for the grace to be able to rest, become aware of God's presence, and enjoy it.*

Advent Prayer...

An Advent Prayer for Courage

Dear Heavenly Father,
Help me to hear your voice.
Touch me once again.
Give me the courage to be your beloved.
Give me courage to choose joy.
I need you now this Christmas.
Be born in me again. Today.
In Jesus' name, Amen.
~Bonnie Gray, from "[Why it Takes Courage to Choose Joy](#)"

Sister T Recommendation



Go to SSPJ.org website to view this Advent video or to:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/GufTT5iZuPva57bg7>



Loyola on the Potomac presents: A Virtual Advent Evening of Prayer Series *An Advent of Hope*

Join us on the four Tuesday evenings in Advent for this hour long evening of 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 offered by the Presenter on the Titles below, 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: \[Reservations@loyolaretreat.org\]\(mailto:Reservations@loyolaretreat.org\)](mailto:Reservations@loyolaretreat.org) You will receive an email link to the ZOOM prayer series on Monday of each week.

The topics that will be covered during our Prayer Series, *An Advent of Hope* are:

Tuesday, December 1 *"O Come, Emmanuel"*

Father Bill Rakowicz, SJ

Tuesday, December 8 *"Morning Has Broken"*

Father Thomas Gavin, SJ

Tuesday, December 15 *"Let the Lord be with You"*

Father Paul McCarren, SJ

Tuesday, December 22 *"Waiting with Hopeful Expectation"*

Kathleen McGuire-Zeiss

There is no fee for this prayer series.

Please join us as we journey through the Season of Advent.



ADVENT ACTS OF SERVICE...

Volunteer to "Welcome families at Christmas Masses
Contact Sister T at 631-584-5454

HELPING HANDS NEEDED:

An Apostle of Hope, willing to occasionally drive a 90 year old parishioner from Moriches Road To Northwell Cardiology Group in Smithtown. If you can help, please contact the Parish Social Ministry office at 631-584-5454.



SSPJ PARISH PICK A STAR PROGRAM

Filling A Families Home

CANNED CHICKEN
PARMALAT BOXED MILK

PAPER TOWELS

SIZE 6 DIAPERS

KING KULLEN & STOP & SHOP
GIFT CARD GAS GIFT CARDS

1st Sunday of Advent, Cycle B

Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7
Ps 80:(4)2-3, 15-16, 18-19
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:33-37

Monday November 30

St. Andrew

Romans 10:9-18

Ps 19:8-11

Matthew 4:18-22

Tuesday December 1

Isaiah 11:1-10

Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

Luke 10:21-24

Wednesday December 2

Isaiah 25:8-10a

Ps 23:1-6

Matthew 15:29-37

Thursday December 3

St. Francis Xavier

Isaiah 26:1-6

Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a

Matthew 7:21, 24-27

Friday December 4

Isaiah 29:17-24

Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14

Matthew 9:27-31

Saturday December 5

Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26

Ps 147:1-8

Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5-8

As we prepare for Christmas, of course we're thinking about how to show fondness and appreciation to the special people in our lives by choosing gifts that will be meaningful to them. And yet, assuming that we can actually find (or make) something that will be appreciated, will the gift really make a difference in the long run?

Since Christmas is the celebration of the birthday of Jesus, let's give him a gift, too – a long-lasting gift. But what can we give to someone who already has everything?

Or does he?

What gift can you give to Jesus that will have an eternal impact, a gift that no one else can give him, a gift he doesn't already have? Here's the answer: What have you been withholding from him?

Today's first reading reminds us that God is our Father. The responsorial Psalm asks the Father to help us turn to him.

The second reading gives thanks to God for all that he has done for us. So – what gift can you give to God to express your appreciation for what he has given to you?

In the Gospel reading, we're reminded of the need to prepare – to actually do something that makes a difference – for the coming of Christ. This not only refers to his Second Coming; it's also about the day when he comes for us as we breathe our last earthly breaths. And it's about the way he wants to come to you this



Christmas. And it's about the way he is coming to you right now, today.

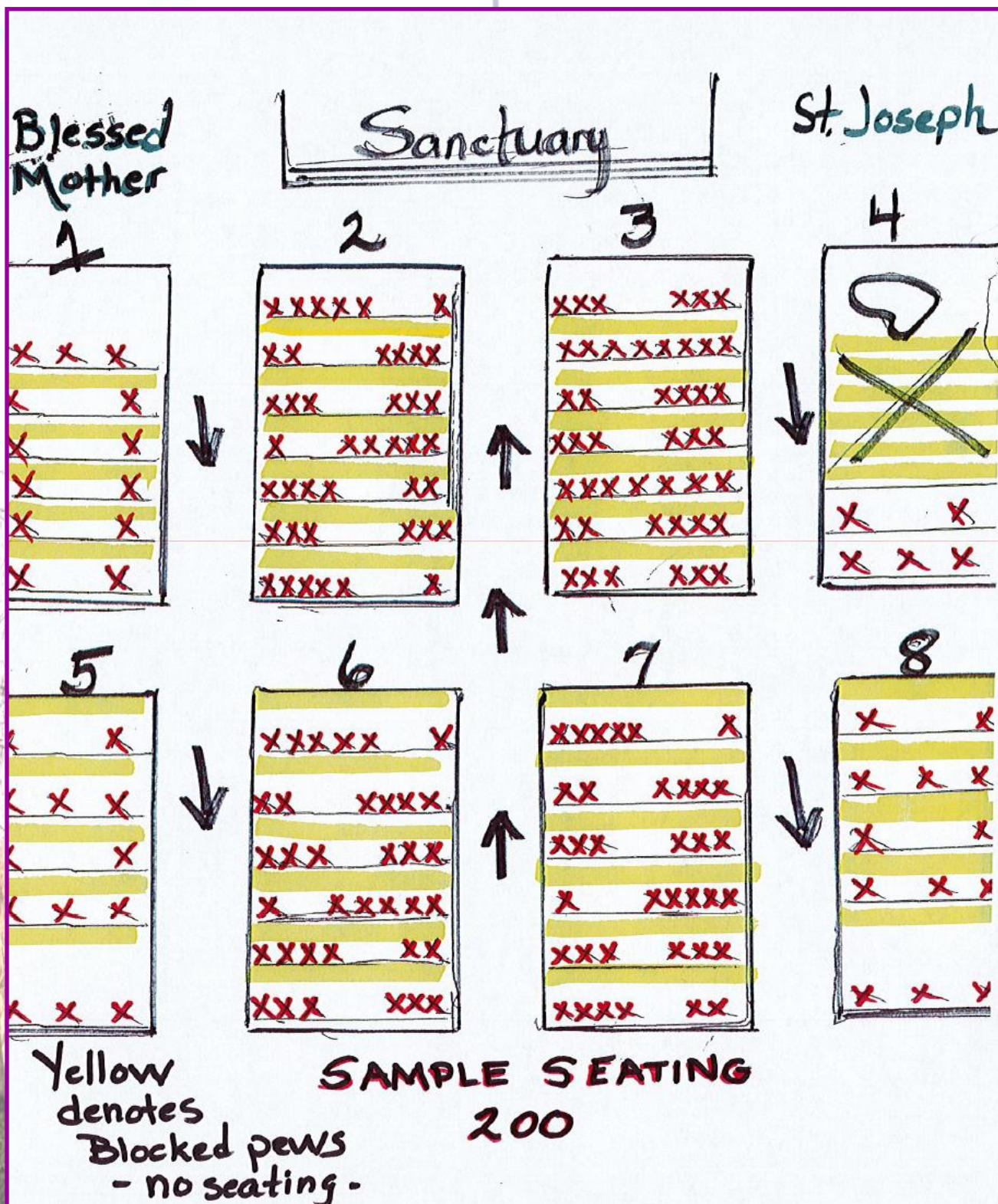
There's something new that he wants to give you. When he offers it, will he find you doing what's right (as in the first reading)? Will he find you using your spiritual gifts (as in the second reading)? Will he find you alert and ready to do his bidding (as in the Gospel reading)?

Advent is an opportunity to take notice of the gifts he gives us and become aware of the gifts we can give to him that he doesn't already have. It should make an eternal difference – for him *and* for us.

Reflect & Discuss:

1. List the gifts that God has given to you. Then think about how much appreciation you have given to God for the gifts on that list. Do you know how much he appreciates your appreciation?
2. Name ways that Jesus comes to us today.
3. What will you do this Advent to become more aware of Jesus coming to you?
4. How will this make you more ready for Christmas?

*Seating Flow Inside SSPJ Church
During COVID~2020*



**THIS DRAWING ACCOMODATES APPROXIMATELY 200 PEOPLE
2 FEET PER PERSON WITH 6 FEET OF SPACE BETWEEN GROUPS
CENTER PEWS ARE 18 FOOT IN LENGTH**

A Note to Our Parishioners and Visitors...

Hello and welcome to Saint Philip and James Parish We understand the hesitation and uncertainty some feel about returning to indoor events including church. We hope to clarify some of your concerns by reviewing our church attendance with you. At the forefront of our procedures is always the reverence of our Holy place and the safety and well-being of our parish family while adhering to all guidelines given by the Department of Health (DOH), the Center for Disease Controls (CDC), the Diocese of Rockville Centre (DRVC) and local government agencies

Our church has been open every day since the start of this pandemic. Since mid-March our doors have been open for personal prayer from 7 am -7 pm daily and 7 am - 5 pm on Sunday. We have offered live-streaming Mass every day and have added live-streaming events and Mass times as needed. We are joy-filled to see our Parishioners once again seated in our pews and to hear your voices fill the hollow echo of empty space. It is our prayer to welcome you all back into our church walls to congregate as a loving and faith-filled parish community.

We ask you to bear in mind that while we are many parishes under the direction of DRVC, we are each individual and what works for one parish may not necessarily work for another. We respect the efforts each parish is making to welcome home their parishioners especially during the Christmas Season.

We are going to try and explain to you what works in our parish - policies, procedures and protocols that have been instructed by the DOH, CDC, and DRVC.

We ask that you MAKE a RESERVATION to attend Mass - contact tracing importance. Knowing attendance beforehand allows for strategic seating to accommodate all wishing to attend Mass

ALL MUST wear a MASK in church. You may remove the mask only to consume Holy Communion and replace while returning to your seat. Communion is not permitted to be distributed or received with gloved hands.

There is a SANITIZING STATION in the church lobby as well as in the church body. All are asked to sanitize upon entering and leaving church. Entrance to church is through THE CENTER DOORS ONLY.

An USHER GREETER will welcome you and guide you to your seat. This seat may not be where you May have sat for the past 5+ years and we ask you to understand these difficult times and our desire to fill the pews allowing as many fellow parishioners in our church as safely possible. Our church and stained glass windows are beautiful - take this time to enjoy a new view and appreciate the beauty of our church from a different view.

SEATING is limited and spaced allowing 6 ft recommendations. Every other pew is available for seating. X's marked on the open pew - denotes the 6 ft of distancing. These restrictions control the number allowable in our church body. While we can normally accommodate 700-800 that is now reduce to 400 due to pew elimination alone and reduced even further 130-150 allowing 6 ft distancing between neighbors. Families / couples may sit next to each other and need not distance the 6 feet between each other but must follow 6 ft distancing between pew neighbor.

A Note to Our Parishioners and Visitors, continued....

TRAFFIC PATTERNS are in place to reduce cross contamination between cohorts (groups). We are advised NOT to ask someone to "move over" after they have sat in a seat. We should not "climb over" or "pass in front of" others. One way traffic patterns are marked on the flooring as well as 6 ft space markers.

BOOKLETS, missals, and papers are not permitted in church. BULLETINS, limited in print, are available on the back pews but will not be handed out. Bulletins are available on line for your convenience. You may follow along with the reading using personal booklets or by following the link on our website to USCCB (United States Catholic Conference of Bishops). If using your cell phone be sure to shut off volume and sounds.

You will notice only ONE LECTOR during Mass for the readings. The CANTOR will remain at the lectern throughout Mass. To maintain safety precautions movement and people in the sanctuary is limited.

DISTRIBUTION of HOLY COMMUNION is followed most reverently and prayerfully. Our Presider will Don a mask and sanitize his hands. He will be assisted by one Extraordinary Minister who will distribute Communion to the back half of our church. PLEASE follow the DIRECTION of the USHERS. Cohorts will be directed to receive Communion separately. Cohorts will not criss-cross the center aisle. Careful measure has been taken to assure safe distancing between cohorts crossing each other when walking to and from Communion distribution. You are to remove you mask when you are receiving Communion - step to the side - consume Communion - replace your mask and continue back to your seat.

At the END of MASS traffic Patterns will flow from the SIDE AISLES to EXIT church. The side doors will be open and you are to exit from those doors.

Once again an usher will direct the movement of pews exiting. Please maintain distancing between neighbor when exiting, giving careful consideration to our elderly who may move a little slower.

You may remain in church after mass to pray or light a candle, however, we ask that you exit as soon as possible as we have staff that comes in AFTER EVERY MASS to CLEAN and SANITIZE the pews, door handles, restrooms and more before the next Mass begins.

COLLECTION BASKETS are in the CHURCH LOBBY during Mass. We appreciate everyone's continued generosity and certainly understand the hardships during these times. We are not permitted to pass a collection basket, however, contributions may be dropped into the baskets at church, mailed or delivered to the Parish Center

We are making every effort to keep all within our church healthy and safe. We welcome your return with us and look forward to the day we can remove restrictions and join together in full. Until then we hold you and your family and friends circle in our daily prayer at Mass. We miss you all.

We pray for you in Thanksgiving and hope you see you during the Christmas Season.

CHRISTMAS ~ 2020

We are asking your help...

We are planning a Christmas Mass schedule to accommodate room at the Inn for all who wish to celebrate this beautiful day.

Appreciating your help always, we ask that you complete this survey and submit your response to SSPJ.org Or call the Parish Center at 631-584-5454.

PLEASE NOTE: AT THIS TIME NO MASS TIMES HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED FOR CHRISTMAS

(Circle which applies)

- A. I PLAN TO ATTEND MASS THIS CHRISTMAS IN CHURCH (APPROX. FAMILY CNT: _____)**
- B. I REMAIN UNCOMFORTABLE AND WOULD PREFER LIVE STREAMED MASS**
- C. I AM NOT QUITE SURE YET HOW I WILL ATTEND-EITHER IN PERSON OR LIVE STREAMED I AM LEANING TOWARD LIVE STREAM.**
- D. I AM CONSIDERING ATTENDING MASS IN OUR CHURCH.**

PLEASE RESPOND BY NOVEMBER 30TH, 2020

The safety and well-being of all in our Parish Family is of the utmost importance. Every safety measure by the CDC, DOH, DRVC is being followed in our church.

RESERVATIONS will be required to plan for the maximum allowable attendance and, more importantly, for contact tracing.

All are required to wear a Mask while in church –ONLY TO BE REMOVED WHEN CONSUMING HOLY COMMUNION.

Six feet social distancing between neighbors will be adhered to.

FAMILY MEMBERS WILL BE ABLE TO SIT WITH EACH OTHER-NO NEED TO SOCIAL DISTANCE WITHIN FAMILY GROUPS.

Hand sanitizing is recommended upon entering the Church at the designated station, as well as when leaving the Church.

OUR CHURCH IS CLEANED AND SANITIZED AFTER EVERY MASS.

It is our desire to offer as many Masses needed to accommodate our Parishioners and all those who visit our Church during this Christmas season and always.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Parish Office at 631-584-5454x202.

Thank you, be well, be safe, be grateful....



**RESERVATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES
WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE : SSPJ.ORG
BEGINNING THE FIRST WEEKEND OF ADVENT:
NOVEMBER 28TH & 29TH, 2020**

Pick-a-Star ~ 2020

This year, in a continued effort to keep everyone safe, we are changing the format for Pick-A-Star.
You can cut a tag from the attached page and affix to your gift, OR you may make your own from construction paper.

Please use the proper colored star, which indicates the recipient, label it with contents and size, place unwrapped item in a gift bag, adhere star firmly to the package.

There will be large boxes outside the church for your gifts.

As always, gift cards are a great replacement for shopping in the stores.

Purple Stars

*Needs: 8 year old Girl - Shoe size 1, Clothes size 8
3D craft and pen set, Toy/games/crafts for 8 yr. old girl*

*2 year old Boy - Shoe size 8/9, Clothes size 4/5, Diapers size 6,
Barn/farm animals, anything Mickey, Blues Clues Dinosaurs, Cars*

2 year old Girl - Shoe size 6, Clothes 2T, 2 year toddler learning toys

Gift Cards - Cards may be placed in the collection basket in an envelope clearly marked PSM or they may be brought to the parish office. Suggestions: Target, Kohl's, Walmart, Macy's, Visa, MasterCard, Gasoline

Red, Green and Orange Stars

*Needs: Men's warm clothing:
Men's sweatshirts and sweatpants, all sizes
Hats and gloves
Sweaters, all sizes
Casual tops, all sizes*

Yellow Stars: Visit www.sco.org/holiday-giving-2020

You will then be able to click on links to order gifts from Target, Walmart or Amazon and have them shipped directly to :

*SCO Development Office, 151 Burrs Lane, Dix Hills, NY 11746
If you ship directly, please identify Sts. Philip and James Church.*

Blue Stars

*Needs: Women's and Children's warm clothing:
Hats and gloves,*

*Sweatshirts and sweatpants, all sizes (adult or children's)
Sweaters, all sizes, Casual tops, all sizes (adult or children's)*

Brown Stars

*Needs: Men's and Women's Warm Socks, Men's and Women's Sweaters, all sizes
Men's and Women's warm tops, all sizes*

Gift Tag~ You can create your own, or use the labels on the opposite page

PICKING A STAR OF LOVE AND HOPE
PICK A STAR ~ 2020



*Thinking of you and wishing you a Blessed Christmas
Item Enclosed: SIZE:*



*Thinking of you and wishing you a Blessed Christmas
Item Enclosed: SIZE:*



*Thinking of you and wishing you a Blessed Christmas
Item Enclosed: SIZE:*



*Thinking of you and wishing you a Blessed Christmas
Item Enclosed: SIZE:*



*Thinking of you and wishing you a Blessed Christmas
Item Enclosed: SIZE:*



*Thinking of you and wishing you a Blessed Christmas
Item Enclosed: SIZE:*



*Thinking of you and wishing you a Blessed Christmas
Item Enclosed: SIZE:*



Reflecting with Sister T

Dear Friends,

Happy Thanksgiving, may your day be blessed with the remembrance of your many blessings and the experience of new ones each and every day. May your life be an attitude of gratitude. Celebrating Thanksgiving brings us closer to the season of Advent this year. The Sunday after Thanksgiving is the First Sunday of Advent. Our Church begins its New Year. I look forward to sharing with you during this time of waiting for the coming of Jesus.

In an attempt to richen my Advent season I decided to use a program called REJOICE! Advent Meditations with the Holy Family by Fr. Mark Toups (Ascension Press). I hope to share with you some of the thoughts from that prayer experience. During this time of Advent Fr. Mark encourages us to encounter the persons of Mary and Joseph and deeply encounter the reality of their Marriage.

As I read through the first week of reflections I experienced that Mary and Joseph as individuals as well as a couple were completely available to God. They were a normal couple who experienced the urges, longings, and desires as well as life's fears, temptations and struggles. Because they were so available to God they kept no secrets. They were able to share from the depths of their hearts.

Are you willing to live with your heart completely available to God. Are there secrets you have been holding deep within your heart that you can't even share with God, or think you can't. When we work at being completely available to God acknowledging our deepest desires and admitting our needs God makes Himself completely available to us. We just need to trust in the process. Mary and Joseph experienced love as St. Thomas Aquinas defined it "to will the good of another." Mary and Joseph "lived in active, obedient dependence on God."

If we look at our own lives are there things that we need to bring to light to God or another person? Do we love with the attitude of 'willing good for the other' or do we expect something in return? Can I depend on God or am I self-sufficient and don't need any help? Mary and Joseph were humble people and relied on God for all things including to love as they were called to love.

The reflections I experienced are calling ME to active, obedient dependence upon God. "If you do so God will reveal what you are attached to in an attempt to stretch your heart..." Be not afraid for God is longing to help you.

Some of the scripture readings that were suggested were Psalm 139:1-16; 1 John 4; Ephesians 4: 17-24; 1 Cor.13:1-11; Romans 8:18-26; Psalm 63; Luke 12:22-32. There is such a richness in these readings and how they reflect back to our lives and the lives of Mary and Joseph as you read them see how God is calling you deeper into your dependence on Him.

I must confess that there is such a richness in these reflections that I can't do them just. I am just sharing with you as they would say 'the tip of the iceberg'. Should you wish to explore the reflections yourself you can go to Rejoiceprogram.com. I look forward to sharing this advent with you. Ascension Press is also having a Video each Sunday evening to bless the Advent wreath and also pray as we light each candle.

May your Advent be blessed, till next week,

Sister Theresita



Music Notes...

Welcome to the first Sunday of Advent!!

There are some music changes.

There will be no singing of the Gloria and the Mass parts will change to the Mass of Resurrection. We will also be singing the same Gathering hymn for Advent. It is "Come and set us free, by Trevor Thompson. We will be singing the refrain only, which is;

Come, come Lord Jesus,

Come, come save your people.

Come and set us free.

It is very catchy and easy to learn.

Prepare Ye the way of the Lord!! Happy Advent



Rememberingwith love...Lights of Love Tree Lighting Next Saturday, November 28th after the 5:00pm

"Shine like lights in the world, as you hold on to the word of life" Phil 2:15

*We Welcome All to Participate in Our 2020 Tree Lighting Ceremony
Saturday, November 28th, 2020 after the 5:00mass*

*This event offers a wonderful opportunity to remember in your hearts
"the lights of our loved ones" during this holiday season.*

*Our Christmas tree located on the front lawn of the rectory
will be lit as the names of our loved ones are read aloud...*

Hot cocoa and Cookies for your trip home.

*Those who wish to remember their loved ones with this special tribute, are asked to
complete the form below and return it to the Parish center office by the following dates:
Wednesday, November 25th ~ For name to be announced at the tree lighting ceremony*

*Tuesday, December 8th ~ For names to be published in our Christmas bulletin
All names received by December 8th will be printed in our Christmas bulletin and posted on the
SSPJ.org website*

***\$5.00 donation per each name being memorialized**
"Let their lights shine not only in our hearts, but, in our Parish"*

Annual Tree Lighting Memorial

*Let the Light
of:*

*Illuminate the SSPJ Christmas Tree this Christmas season and in my heart.
Remembered by:*

Contact#: _____

Amount Paid: Number of Names _____ x \$5.00 per name = Total Enclosed \$ _____

*Please place this form in an envelope with payment and return to Parish center office by: November 25th for
name to be read at Tree lighting ceremony or December 8th to be included in the Christmas bulletin*

CMA ~ JUST 4 WEEKS REMAIN TO REACH OUR GOAL....

Dear Parish Family,

For several months we have shared our movement forward, ever so slowly, toward reaching Sts. Philip & James 2020 Catholic Ministries Appeal goal of \$111,000.

We never lose that wonderful feeling of gratitude for the generosity of all who have assisted us on our journey upward.

As the seasons change and we approach a new year, let us be grateful for each day we rise and each day we think of those struggling before us.

The Catholic Ministries Appeal does just that, and only because of people like us, Apostles who HOPE, who think of and remain open to opportunities to serve.

Your contributions to the CMA Appeal feed, warm, care, support and touch so many different lives afflicted with hardship.

For SSPJ Parish, reaching our goal for the Catholic Ministries appeal means continued assistance to warm, care, support and touch all who extend to us the opportunity to serve.

As we near the end of a challenging year, won't you, if able, make a donation to the 2020 Catholic Ministries Appeal?



"All life has inestimable value even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect."

-Pope Francis



2020 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL
Give Thanks - Give Hope is in 2 day!
 This campaign will raise additional money for the CMA!
 Thank you to everyone who has already given.



The appeal supports The Office of Human Life, Family and Bioethics (Respect Life) which enunciates and promotes the sanctity of life from birth to natural death.

A gift to the Catholic Ministries Appeal reminds us that we are all God's children and life is precious!



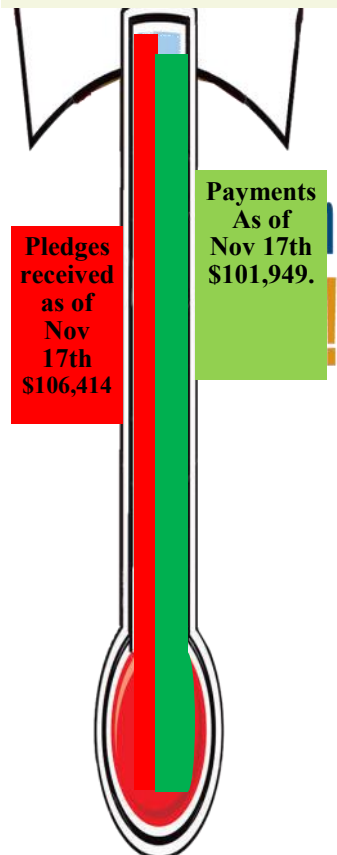
Please consider donating to the Appeal and a difference in someone's life. Thank you!

Make checks payable to: Catholic Ministries Appeal	
Parish _____	Pledge: \$ _____
Name _____	Down payment: \$ _____
Address _____	
City, State, Zip: _____	
Phone: _____	Signature: _____ Date: _____

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

Payments increased by: \$1,750 which is 93% of goal. OUR PLEDGES ARE AT 96% OF GOAL!!

2020 CMA GOAL \$111,000





Food insecurity refers to USDA's measure of lack of access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy life for all household members and limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate foods.

Food-insecure households are not necessarily food insecure all the time. Food insecurity may reflect a household's need to make trade-offs between important basic needs, such as housing or medical bills, and purchasing nutritionally adequate foods.

Long Island Cares, Inc.

10 Davids Drive
Hauppauge, NY 11788
631.582.3663

www.licares.org

4th Grade Sts. Philip & James School News

The fourth graders participated in a World Food Day Essay Contest. The students all wrote essays about their ideas and ways that they could work together as a community to help stop world hunger. Essays consisted of 100 words or more including creativity, practicality, conciseness and neatness. The students were excited to write and submit their essays. Two students were chosen for writing the top essays in their class. Abigail Piliero and Francesca Scott's essays were submitted with hopes of receiving plaques and certificates. We look forward to hearing the results.

Ms. Brown



STS PHILIP AND JAMES SCHOOL CHRISTMAS TREE SALE



Premium Trees! From 4 feet to 9 feet!!
We also have wreaths and grave blankets!

While supplies last!!!

Sale starts Friday November 27!

Sale is open every day in the SSPJ parking lot, next to the Academy!!
Mondays to Fridays from 5pm to 9pm
Saturdays from 10am to 9pm
Sundays from 9am to 9pm

Any questions, please contact Jennine Cullen 631-871-9973 or
jbcullen78@verizon.net

Take a chance in Saints Philip and James School Christmas Raffle



1st Prize • \$3,000
2nd Prize • \$2,000
3rd Prize • \$1,000

Raffle tickets \$10 each • 6 for \$50
Drawing to be held on Wednesday, December 23rd, 2020
Winners will be posted on website
Winner need not be present at drawing

AN INVITATION TO MATURITY – WEEPING OVER JERUSALEM

Maturity has various levels. Basic maturity is defined as having essentially outgrown the instinctual selfishness with which we were born so that our motivation and actions are now shaped by the needs of others and not just by our own needs. That's the basic minimum, the low bar for maturity. After that there are degrees and levels, contingent upon how much our motivation and actions are altruistic rather than selfish.

In the Gospels, Jesus invites us to ever deeper degrees of maturity, though sometimes we can miss the invitation because it presents itself subtly and not as explicitly worded moral invitation. One such subtle, but very deep, invitation to a higher degree of maturity is given in the incident where Jesus weeps over Jerusalem. What's inside this image?

Here's the image and its setting. Jesus has just been rejected, both in his person and in his message and he sees clearly the pain the people will bring upon themselves by that rejection. What's his reaction? Does he react in the way most of us would: *Well the hell with you! I hope you suffer the full consequences of your own stupidity!* No. He weeps, like a loving parent dealing with a wayward child; he wishes with every fiber in his being that he could save them from the consequences of their own bad choices. He feels their wound rather than gleefully contemplating their suffering.

There's a double challenge here. First, there's a personal one: are we gleeful when people who reject our advice suffer for their wrong-headedness or do we weep inside us for the pain they have brought onto themselves? When we see the consequences in people's lives of their own bad choices, be it with irresponsibility, with laziness, with drugs, with sex, with abortion, with ideology, with anti-religious attitudes, or with bad will, are we gleeful when those choices begin to snake-bite them (*Well, you got what you deserved!*) or do we weep for them, for their misfortune?

Admittedly, it's hard not be gleeful when someone who rejects what we stand for is then snake-bitten by his own stubborn choice. It's the natural way the heart works and so empathy can demand a very high degree of maturity. For example, during this Covid-19 pandemic, medical experts (almost without exception) have been telling us to wear masks to protect others and ourselves. What's our spontaneous reaction when someone defies that warning, thinks he is smarter than the doctors, doesn't wear a mask, and then contracts the virus? Do we secretly bask in the cathartic satisfaction that he got what he deserved or do we, metaphorically, "weep over Jerusalem"?

Beyond the challenge to each of us to move towards a higher level of maturity, this image also contains an important pastoral challenge for the church. How do we, as a church, see a secularized world that has rejected many of our beliefs and values? When we see the consequences the world is paying for this are we gleeful or sympathetic? Do we see the secularized world with all the problems it is bringing onto itself by its rejection of some Gospel values as an adversary (someone from whom we need to protect ourselves) or as our own suffering child? If you're a parent or grandparent who's suffering over a wayward child or grandchild you probably understand what it means to "weep over Jerusalem".

Moreover the struggle to "weep over" our secularized world (or over anyone who rejects what we stand for) is compounded by yet another dynamic which militates against sympathy. There's a perverse emotional and psychological propensity inside us which works this way. Whenever we are hurting badly we need to blame someone, need to be angry at someone, and need to lash out at someone. And you know who we always pick for that? Someone we feel safe enough to hurt because we know that he or she is mature enough not to hit back!

There's a lot of lashing out at the Church today. Granted, there are a lot of legitimate reasons for this. Given the church's shortcomings, part of that hostility is justified; but some of that hostility often goes beyond what's justified. Along with the legitimate anger there's sometimes a lot of free-floating, gratuitous anger. What's our reaction to that unjustified anger and unfair accusation? Do we react in kind? *"You are way out of line here, go take that anger elsewhere!* Or, like Jesus weeping over Jerusalem, can we meet unfair anger and accusation with tears of empathy and a prayer that a world that's angry with us will be spared the pain of its own bad choices?

Soren Kierkegaard famously wrote: *Jesus wants followers, not admirers!* Wise words. In Jesus' reaction to his own rejection, his weeping over Jerusalem, we see the epitome of human maturity. To this we are called, personally and as an ecclesial community. We also see there that a big heart feels the pain of others, even of those others who reject you.