



The Parish of Saints Philip and James

1 Carow Place, St. James, NY 11780

631-584-5454

# March 24, 2019

## Third Sunday Of Lent



*"If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not,  
you can cut it down." Luke 13:6-9*

*"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

*Sunday ~ Closed*  
*Monday: 9am-8pm*

*Parish Center office Hours*  
*Tuesday & Wednesday: 9am-8pm*  
*Thursday: 9am-5pm*

*Friday: Closed*  
*Saturday: 10am-2pm*

*Parish Center Phone ~ 631-584-5454*

*Parish Center Fax~ 631-862-9675*

*Web ~ [www.sspj.org](http://www.sspj.org)*

*Pastoral Team*

Father Tom Haggerty  
Father Patrick Osei-Poku  
Deacon Ronald Blasius  
Deacon John Keenan  
Deacon Ken Maher  
Sister Theresita Donach, CSFN  
Margaret Adams  
Virginia Portanova  
John Cordes  
Lynn Sisti  
Charlotte Czujko  
Barbara Luna  
Dominick Avento  
Catherine Darrow  
Frank Brancaccio

Pastor  
Associate Pastor  
Deacon  
Deacon  
Deacon  
Pastoral Associate  
Music Director  
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*

Michael Sharkey , Richard Frazita, Lou Guerra, Kelsey Greco, Cynthia Lombardi,  
Martin Marut, Ann Mondrone, Connor Donnelly, Paul Damato, Maureen Burke

*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.

*RCIA*— 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

# Father Tom's Letter

Dear Friends,

In today's readings we go from a burning bush to a barren fig tree! In the first reading, Moses is attracted to flaming fire coming from a bush. Yet, the bush is not consumed by the fire! The fig tree, which after three years is expected to bear fruit, yields nothing. What's going on?

Fr. John Foley, SJ, reflects that these readings reveal the mercy, the hopes, and the encouragement of our loving God.

*From the burning bush, God begins to instruct Moses about how to rescue God's people. Great compassion from the depths of the transcendent God....*

*An orchard owner orders his gardener to chop down a sadly unproductive fig tree. The gardener advises him to leave it one more year and see if, with some tending, it will bear fruit. Give it one more chance.*

*Who does the heartless orchard owner represent? We always assume that it is God. But, on the contrary, Jesus is not the orchard owner but the gardener, asking mercy for the disobedient fig tree.*

*There is still reason to fear God, of course, since he is infinite and infinitely more fiery than the burning bush. But the closer you come to the real center of God, the more your fear turns to gratitude. You are not scalded or consumed by the divine fire—you are warmed and gentled at its welcoming hearth. Jesus' tough love leads us to that hearth.*

As our Lenten journey continues, pause for a moment and consider - Are you drawing ever closer to the warmth of God through prayer, fasting and almsgiving? Are you allowing the tender Gardener to tend to you, bringing forth love, mercy and hope? Are you saying, "Yes, my Lord!?" We still have some weeks to go. Let's use them well. I wish to thank all of the wonderful "Apostles of Hope" that assisted in distributing our Lenten bracelets during masses last weekend. So grateful to each and everyone of you who responded "Yes, my Lord!".

Again, thanks to those who have already helped us approach our Catholic Ministries Appeal goal. As you know, our response provides support for so many of the good works happening on Long Island and our hoped for rebate upon reaching our goal is targeted for the upgrade to the church sound system which we hope to have completed for our Easter celebration. If you haven't already done so and are able, please consider a pledge or donation.

As mentioned last weekend by Sister Theresita, please remember those preparing for Baptism and full reception into the Church at the Easter Vigil. During these weeks of Lent their preparation intensifies. We pray for and with them and the members of the RCIA Team who are journeying with them.

I invite you to join me on Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, at the 12noon Mass as I pray in thanksgiving for all of you and for the many, many people who have shown me the face of God over these past 40 years of priesthood. A simple coffee and cake gathering will follow in the auditorium

And, since spring returned this past week....

*What season is it when you are on a trampoline?  
Spring-time!*

*What flowers grow on faces?  
Tulips (Two-lips)!*

*Why are trees very forgiving?  
Because in the Fall they "Let It Go" and in the Spring they "turn over a new leaf".*

And finally (I promise!)

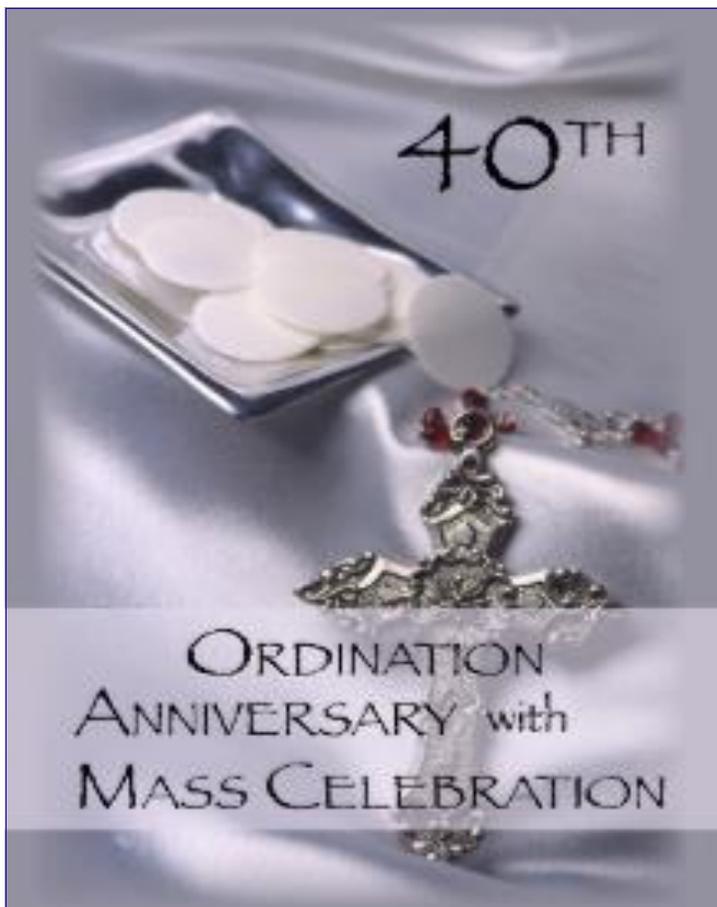
*What did the tree say to spring?  
What a re-leaf.*

Peace,

*Father Tom*

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

## *With Grateful Hearts, We Celebrate Father Tom Haggerty*



*This season of Lent we are being asked to commit Ourselves by saying: "Yes, My Lord, I will be part of the solution." 40 years ago, Father Tom responded to Gods call*

*With an empathetic YES, to follow Jesus as a disciple of God.*

*Please join us at a  
40<sup>th</sup> Ordination Anniversary Mass  
On Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
At the 12:00pm mass.*

*A coffee and cake reception will follow in the Auditorium*

*Please Join Us for this wonderful celebration*

***Second Collection:  
Next Week:  
March 30th & 31st for***



Next week, our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to all people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection, and **help Jesus in disguise**. Learn more about the collection at [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief).

The Diocese of Rockville Centre Office of Youth Ministry presents:

## **LONG ISLAND CATHOLIC YOUTH DAY** *"To the Heights!"*



Most Rev. John O. Barres,  
Bishop Rockville Centre



Mari Pablo, Guest Speaker



Rev. Pierre Touissant, CFR  
Guest Speaker

**Registration now open!**

### Long Island Catholic Youth Day

March 30, 2019  
9:30AM-4:30PM

St. Anthony's High School  
275 Wolf Hill Road  
Melville, NY 11747

\$25 per participant

Register here:  
<https://tinyurl.com/y8d3e8e5>

L.I. Catholic Youth Day calls teens and youth ministries together from all over the Island to pray, engage, learn, and celebrate our Catholic faith. The day will feature Mass, Adoration, Confession, dynamic speakers, breakout sessions, interaction with religious orders and lay affiliates, great music, lunch, and even some recreation time.

\*Open to all teens currently in grades 8-12

\*All teens must be registered with a parish or school group, and accompanied by an adult chaperone.

Please contact [youthministry@drvc.org](mailto:youthministry@drvc.org) or [eteixeira@drvc.org](mailto:eteixeira@drvc.org) with any questions.

Vacation Bible Camp Registration Begins April 1st!



Saints Philip and James  
Office of Youth Ministry  
631-584-5454

# Vacation Bible Camp

Week 1: July 22<sup>nd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>

(Or)

Week 2: July 29<sup>th</sup>-Aug 2<sup>nd</sup>

Registration is available for either Week 1 or Week 2

(Curriculum will be the same for both weeks.)

Monday - Friday from 9:30am-12:00pm

## *This summer's theme: "Bible Hero's"*

Vacation Bible Camp is a long-standing tradition at Saints Philip and James. VBC is a **one week** experience where **4 -9 year olds** are introduced to our faith through music, dance, arts & crafts, outside activities and daily assemblies. VBC is a place for children to sing, laugh, learn, pray and meet new friends. Special events and Surprises at the end of the program.

- \$35 Tuition includes supplies, a daily healthy snack and a VBC T-Shirt.
- Registration forms will be accepted after April 1<sup>st</sup> at the Parish Center Office One Carow place St. James, NY 11780

### CAMPER REGISTRATION 2019

WEEK 1: JULY 22 -26 \_\_\_ (OR) WEEK 2: JUL 29-AUG 2 \_\_\_

Camper's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

DOB \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade (as of 9/19) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Allergies \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Contact # \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirt Size (Children's) S M L (Adult) S M L XL

## Respect Life News

Looking for Lenten opportunities....:  
Please consider Praying the rosary after the 7:30AM mass Mon thru Friday  
at (8AM)(before the Blessed Mother statue in the main church) or before and after the 9:15 Mass Mon. thru Sat. (prayer room)  
**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Thursdays afternoon 2-4PM (and Friday evenings (8-9PM)after the stations of the cross (main church)

### 40 DAYS FOR LIFE HAS BEGUN PEACEFUL SIDEWALK PRAYER VIGIL

Planned Parenthood 70 Maple Ave.  
Smithtown

Please sign up for your hour(s) each week  
at

[40daysforlife.com/Smithtown](http://40daysforlife.com/Smithtown)

## March 25th, 2019 is the Feast of the Annunciation— *Solemnity not a Holy Day of Obligation*

The Solemnity of the Annunciation celebrates the coming of the Angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary to announce to her the special mission God had chosen for her in being the mother of His only son. The Annunciation teaches the faithful to live with a heart that is open to God's will. Different people will realize that God calls them to different paths.

Prayer helps us "hear" the Lord while doing God's will isn't always easy. Like Mary, we must trust that God's will is the best for us!

### Mothers and Babies Need Our Prayers as well. SPIRITUAL ADOPTION PROGRAM

This program encourages parish communities to pray for babies in danger of abortion.

We ask that you "*Prayerfully Adopt a Baby*" by reciting this prayer:



*God, author of all life,  
Bless, we pray, this unborn child;  
Give constant protection  
And grant a healthy birth  
That is the sign of our rebirth one day  
Into the eternal rejoicing of heaven.  
Lord, who have brought to this woman  
The wondrous joy of motherhood,  
Grant her comfort in all anxiety  
And make her determined  
To lead her child along the ways of salvation.*

*Taken from USCCB: "Rite of Blessing for Child in the Womb"*

As we continue on our Lenten Journey, all are invited to the Bethany Center on Friday mornings at 10am to view a 30 minute presentation from FORMED.

All are welcome!

# Presence™

## THE MYSTERY OF THE EUCHARIST

Although the Eucharist appears to be simple bread and wine, it is actually the "source and summit" of the Christian life. *Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist* explores the truth and beauty of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist, from its origins in Sacred Scripture to its profound role in the life of the Church and its members. The Eucharist is the crescendo of the entire story of salvation.

- ▶ Week One: 3-31-2019  
Episode 1: God is With Us
- ▶ Week Two: 4-07-2019  
Episode 2: The Story of the Eucharist
- ▶ Week Three: 4-14-2019  
Episode 3: Bread for the Journey
- ▶ Bonus Episode: For Children: 4-14-2019  
For Children: The Miracle at Every Mass

### NOT ON FORMED YET? IT'S EASY AND FREE TO REGISTER!

- 1 Go to [sspj.formed.org](http://sspj.formed.org)
- 2 Click Register, then enter your name, email address, and desired password
- 3 You're all ready to access the inspiring and engaging content on FORMED!  
Click **STUDY** and watch [Presence](#)

## Parish Social Ministry ~ Lenten Project

All donations for our Parish Lenten project are greatly appreciated



If donating by check:

Please make check payable to : **SSPJ**

**IN THE MEMO SECTION WRITE: HAITI CLINIC**

If donating cash:

Please place into an envelope securely sealed: **WRITE LENTEN PROJECT: HAITI CLINIC**

All donations may be placed into the Sunday Collection baskets or brought to the Parish Center Office.

Thank you for your overwhelming generosity.

**CAMPS 'R'US OPEN HOUSE THIS WEEKEND!  
SUNDAY MARCH 24TH!**

# Thank You!

## THANK YOU!

A big, awesome THANK YOU goes out to all who helped distribute our Lenten bracelets!!!  
Thanks goes out to members of the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, SSPJ Students and Religious Ed Students!



Congratulations To SSPJ Troop 7  
Newest Eagle Scouts!!  
Dillon Reynolds and Andrew Hunt



Pictured are (left to right) Smithtown Councilman Thomas Lohmann, Dillon Reynolds, Scoutmaster Anthony Colao, Andrew Hunt, Legislator Robert Trotta and Assemblyman Michael Fitzpatrick

**CAMP**  
ACCREDITED

**safety 1st**  
2019

**BBB**  
ACCREDITED BUSINESS

**Flexible Schedules**

**Affordable Payment Plans**

**Family Owned and Operated**

**OPEN HOUSE SAVE \$50**  
Off your 2019 enrollment for SSPJ School and Religious Education Students

**CAMPS 'R' US**  
WHERE SUMMER VACATION IS OUR JOB!

**#BESTSUMMEREVER!**

Campers, ages 3 and up, enjoy fun-filled summers with incredible activities, including Sports, Arts & Crafts, Swimming, Gaming, GaGa, Go Karts, Bowling, Field Trips, Special Events and much more. Our premier facilities, top-notch staff, and unique affordability have earned us the reputation as one of the best summer camps on Long Island!

**877.850.CAMP**  
[campsrus.org](http://campsrus.org)

Camps 'R' Us Saint James Open House  
Sunday, March 24th, 11 AM - 1 PM  
SSPJ School • 359 Clinton Avenue • Saint James



Andrew's Eagle Scout project was to improve the appearance of the St. Philip & James Rectory and Priest Residence buildings by power washing and painting them. Dillon Reynolds Eagle Scout project involved the American Legion. Congratulations to both Andrew and Dillon we are so very proud and grateful to both of you!

# 2019 SSPJ GOAL ~ \$119,700.00: SSPJ is at 54% of Goal



*“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

**During the Lenten Season we are asked to pray, fast and give alms.**

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.

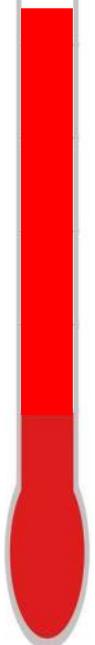


For more information about the Catholic Ministries Appeal, please visit [CatholicMinistriesAppeal.org](http://CatholicMinistriesAppeal.org) or call 516-678-5800 ext. 296.

2019 Goal

\$119,700

Pledges  
at  
3/18/19  
\$64,330.



## Music Ministry

*Jesus, Meek and Humble is the Special Communion hymn the choirs will be singing this weekend. I heard this recently and added it to my favorite list.*

*Listen and reflect on the words. This song is in the Missal # 114. You can read or sing along. The song tells the story of Jesus. He was heaven’s gift, teacher, bore our pain on the cross as our lamb and sacrifice, brought us light from darkness and leads us to his heart.*

*The music setting is beautiful as well. A very meditative piece*



# God's Blessings Upon Our Special Needs Religious Education Students, Teachers and Families

*On Saturday, March 16th, Dee Dee-Ayne Tomasicchio and Giorgio DiGirolamo received the Sacrament of Confirmation.*

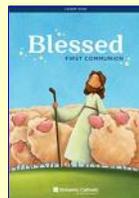
*Matthew Eilenberger was blessed to receive his First Holy Communion.*

*May God's abundant blessings and grace be upon these beautiful students, their awesome teachers and their Families as they walk the ways of the Lord. We, your Parish Family are so very proud and happy for you, and will remember you in our prayers of hope and thanksgiving*



## Religious Education Week of March 24th, 2019

**COMMUNION I & II (GRADES 1 & 2)**



**LENTEN CELEBRATION**

**MONDAY, MARCH 25TH AT 7PM**

**IN THE CHURCH**

**RECONCILIATION**

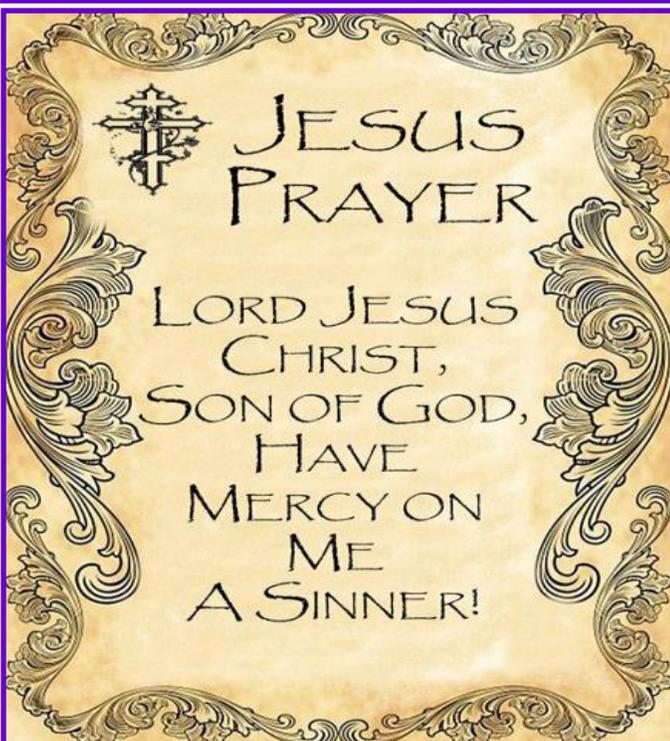
**GRADE 4 RECONCILIATION**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 26TH AT 4:45PM  
IN THE CHURCH**

**GRADE 8 RECONCILIATION**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 26TH AT 6:00PM**

**IN THE CHURCH**





March 24th 2019

Welcome to the 3rd Sunday of Lent

This Reflection is Due: March 31st ONLY if you weren't able to attend Children's Liturgy of the Word.



My Name Is: \_\_\_\_\_

I Am In Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

My Catechist "Teacher's" Name Is: \_\_\_\_\_

This weeks Gospel is from Luke 13: 1-9

Jesus teaches us a lesson on repentance, being sorry. Because God never gives up on us.

Please color and show Jesus just how beautiful your "fig tree" is.

My Prayer  
for this  
week:

"Thank you,  
God, for lov-  
ing us and  
never giving  
up on us.

When we sin,  
Please en-  
courage us to  
ask you for  
forgiveness,  
knowing that  
you will never  
stop loving  
us."

Amen





SUNDAY MASS REFLECTION: March 23rd & 24th

GRADES: 4, 5 & 6

Due: March 30th & 31st



Welcome to the Third Sunday of Lent~ March 24th, 2019

Gospel Reading: Luke 13: 1-9

Jesus preaches a lesson on repentance, sorrowfulness

God is patient with us even when we turn away from him and sin. God is always hopeful that we will ask for his forgiveness. God NEVER gives up on us.

## Parable of the Fig Tree Luke 13.1-9

### Word Search Puzzle

P	J	V	I	N	E	Y	A	R	D	P
A	G	E	T	O	W	E	R	O	P	E
R	A	P	R	L	A	E	W	F	I	R
A	L	S	N	U	N	Y	D	F	L	I
B	I	P	F	E	S	F	I	E	A	S
L	L	A	D	R	Y	A	G	N	T	H
E	E	R	K	D	U	I	L	D	E	M
S	A	C	R	I	F	I	C	E	S	T
G	N	R	E	P	E	N	T	R	M	R
V	S	I	N	N	E	R	S	S	R	E
S	I	L	O	A	M	A	N	U	R	E

Galileans	Pilate	sacrifices
sinners	repent	perish
tower	Siloam	offenders
Jerusalem	parable	fig
tree	vineyard	fruit
gardener	dig	manure

My Prayer for the week:

PSALM 103: The Lord is Kind and merciful

*"Merciful and gracious is the Lord,*

*Slow to anger and abounding in kindness"*

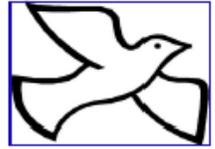
*Thank you Jesus for always being patient with me, thank you for loving me. Amen*



March 24th 2019

Welcome to the 3rd Sunday of Lent

This Reflection is Due: March 31st .



My Name Is: \_\_\_\_\_

I Am In Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

My Catechist "Name Is: \_\_\_\_\_

This weeks Gospel is from Luke 13: 1-9

Jesus teaches us a lesson on repentance, being sorry. Because God never gives up on us.

My Prayer for this week:

Day by Day Prayer:

Thank you, Jesus.  
My friend! My brother!  
Help me know you more clearly.  
Help me love you more dearly.  
Help me follow you more nearly.

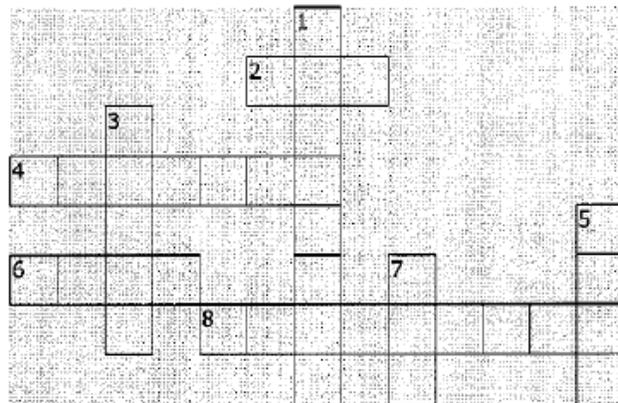
Amen.



### Living a Fruitful Life

" 'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.'" Luke 13:8-9 (NIV)

Based on Luke 13:1-9



#### ACROSS

- 2. The sweet, pear-shaped, fruit of a plant found in Bible lands.
- 4. A simple story teaching a moral or religious lesson.
- 6. The top layer of the earth's surface favorable to plant growth.
- 8. To spread a something on land or plants to help plants grow.

#### DOWN

- 1. An area of ground planted with vines and fruit trees.
- 3. The usually sweet-tasting part of a tree which can be eaten.
- 5. A large plant with a trunk, limbs, branches, and leaves.
- 7. To break up and move dirt using a shovel.

DIG	VINEYARD	TREE	PARABLE
FIG	FERTILIZE	SOIL	FRUIT

# SSPJ SCHOOL NEWS



COME JOIN US FOR SSPJ FAMILY TRIVIA NIGHT!!

FRIDAY, APRIL 5 AT 7PM. SSPJ SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

\$30 entry fee per team. All ages welcome--teams can be up to 6 people!

Reserve early as spots are limited!! Trivia night will run approximately 2 hours or less!

Great prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners!

Refreshments will be available for purchase!

RSVP by April 1 to reserve your spot!

Contact Jennine Cullen at [jbcullen78@verizon.net](mailto:jbcullen78@verizon.net) or

631-871-9973 with any questions.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of players: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: SSPJ School

## SSPJ Drama Club

Proudly Presents  
Dream Works...



A MUSICAL ADVENTURE Jr.

Tickets for **MADAGASCAR** are now on sale!

Tickets  
Adults \$10.00      Children (12 and under) \$5.00

Friday: March 29th @ 7:00 pm      #Adults: \_\_\_\_\_ #Children \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday: March 30th @ 7:00 pm      #Adults: \_\_\_\_\_ #Children \_\_\_\_\_

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks out to SSPJ School.

### **STS. PHILIP & JAMES CYO TRACK & FIELD TEAM**

Registration is OPEN for the SSPJ CYO Track & Field Team.

All boys & girls in grades 1-8 are invited to join. You do not need to be a member of the school or the parish in order to become a member.

Please visit our website [www.sspjtrack.com](http://www.sspjtrack.com) for information about the 2019 season as well as registration forms and fees.

Any questions/comments please contact:  
MaryBeth Dearie at (631) 675-6072  
OR  
[info@sspjtrack.com](mailto:info@sspjtrack.com)

## SSPJ Parish Calendar For The Week of March 24th, 2019

### Sunday, March 24th, 2019:

8:30am	RCIA	Cantina
10:00am	Children's Liturgy	Auditorium
11:00am	Stained Glass Club	Stained Glass Wkshp
11:00am	<b>Peanut Butter &amp; Jelly Gang</b>	<b>Auditorium</b>
11:00am	<b>Camps R Us Open House</b>	<b>School Lobby</b>
7:00pm	AA Meeting	Philip & James Room

### Monday, March 25th, 2019:

1:00pm	Senior Group Meeting	Philip & James Room
5:45pm	REO Confirmation Retreat	Auditorium
7:00pm	Communion I & II Lent Celebration	Church

### Tuesday, March 26th, 2019:

1:30pm	Spirit of Love Prayer Group	Prayer Room Church
4:30pm	REO First Grade Lessons with Miss Charlotte	Bethany Ctr. Church
4:45pm	REO 4th Grade Reconciliation	Church
6:00pm	REO 8th Grade Reconciliation	Church
7:00pm	Adult Education-Breathing Underwater	Bethany Center
7:30pm	Chords of Faith	Church
8:00pm	Boy Scout Leadership Meeting	Monte Building

### Wednesday, March 27th, 2019:

10:00am	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Sts Philip & James Rm
4:30pm	REO First Grade Lessons with Miss Charlotte	Bethany Center
5:45pm	REO 8th Grade Confirmation Retreat	Auditorium
7:00pm	Youth Ministry	Bethany Center

### Thursday, March 28th, 2019 :

2:00pm	Eucharistic Adoration	Church
4:30pm	Adult Formation Classes	Philip & James Room
7:30pm	Adult Choir	Church & Choir Loft

### Friday, March 29th, 2019:

10:00am	<b>FORMED LENTEN PRESENTATION</b>	Bethany Center
3:00pm	Stained Glass Club	Stained Glass Workshop
7:00pm	AA Meeting	Philip & James Room
7:00pm	Stations of the Cross	Church
7:00pm	School Play	Auditorium
8:00pm	Eucharistic Adoration	Church

### Saturday, March 30th , 2019:

5:00pm	Children's Liturgy	Auditorium
7:00pm	School Play	Auditorium

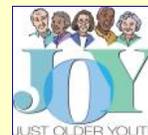
### Sunday, March 31st, 2019:

8:30am	RCIA	Cantina
10:00am	Children's Liturgy of the Word	Auditorium
11:00am	Stained Glass	Stained Glass Wkshp
7:00pm	AA Meeting	Philip & James Room

**Weekly Collection:**  
**Sunday March 17th , 2019**  
 Sunday Collection: \$11,777.  
 Faith Direct: \$2,877.  
 Children's Jug: \$59.  
**Total Collection: \$14,713.**

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

## HAPPENINGS...



### Senior Group:

**Monday March 25 at 1:00pm**  
**All are WELCOME!**

**EVENING ON THE  
 SPIRITUALITY OF  
 RICHARD ROHR**

**Tuesday, March 26th -**  
 IN THE BETHANY CENTER at 7PM  
 "Breathing : A Spirituality of the Twelve  
 Steps"

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27TH

#### PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

AT 10AM IN THE SSPJ ROOM  
 ALL ARE WELCOME!!

### FRIDAY, MARCH 29TH

#### FORMED LENTEN PRESENTATION

AT 10AM IN THE BETHANY CENTER

#### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

AT 7PM IN THE CHURCH  
 "THE CROSS AND ILLNESS"

#### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

8PM IN THE CHURCH

### Lenten Regulations 2019

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.

# Mass Intentions, For the week of March 24th, 2019

Saturday, March 23rd, 2019  
5:00pm *Viera Horton*

Sunday, March 24th, 2019  
8:00am *For the Parishioners of SSPJ*  
10:00am *Terry Byrne*  
12:00Noon Collective Mass:  
*AnnaMay Notaro*  
*Hector Contreras*  
*Harold Messerschmitt*  
*Eugene Brown*  
*Robert Gohn*

Monday, March 25th, 2019  
7:30am *Victor Attanasio (Living)*  
9:15am *Rosemary Chamberlin*

Tuesday, March 26th, 2019  
7:30am  
9:15am *Aldo Andreoli*

*We Ask You to Remember Our Brothers & Sisters In your Prayers*



*Baby Mattia Lubrano, Carole Hennessy, Helen McDowell, Joseph, Joseph Perconti Joann Boccia Zachary Esposito-Tansey, Kathleen N. Kitty Cronin, Michael LaVecchia, Patricia Fontana, Patricia Monetti Robin Graham Denis, Tim Cavooris, Vivien Cordes Bob Keenan, Dena Pollina*

**PRAYER FOR THE SICK**

Father God, we lift up all those who are facing illness today. We ask that You would bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies. Calm their fears and let them experience the healing power of Your love. In Jesus' name. Amen.

If you wish us to add a name on the prayer list, kindly contact the parish center office at 631-584-5454

Wednesday, March 27th, 2019  
7:30am  
9:15am *Robert Grosskopf*

Thursday, March 28th, 2019  
7:30am  
9:15am Collective Mass:

Friday, March 29th, 2019  
7:30am *Thomas A. Logan*  
9:15am *Ryan Murray*

Saturday, March 30th, 2019  
9:15am *Rosemary Chamberlin*  
5:00pm *Kathryn Doran*

Sunday, March 31st, 2019  
8:00am *For the Parishioners of SSPJ*  
10:00am *Terrence Whalen*  
12:00Noon Collective Mass:  
*Robert Remhild & Beatrice Harney*  
*Ann Cancellieri & Jill Pirozzi*  
*Robert Gohn*  
*Michael Kaplon*

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  
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-USC  
PRIVATE JOSHUA OLSEN-USARNG  
GLEN CRIMA-US ARMY  
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, LT.COL.-USAF  
SGT. STEPHEN D. OUTCAULT-USMC  
PAUL MUMOLO-USN  
VICTORIA ZEMAN, USCG  
KYLE J. GRUNER -US ARMY  
MARK GIORDANO—US COASTGUARD

# Celebrating the Liturgy- With Grateful Hearts We Serve

## *PRESIDER SCHEDULE-FOR March 30th & 31st, 2019*

Saturday, March 30, 2019 5:00 PM	Sunday, March 31, 2019 8:00 AM MASS	Sunday, March 31, 2019 10:00 AM MASS	Sunday, March 31, 2019 12:00 MASS
Father Tom Haggerty	Father Tom Haggerty	Father Patrick Osei-Poku	Father Patrick Osei-Poku
Deacon Ron	Deacon Ron	Deacon John	Deacon John

## *EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS SCHEDULE -FOR March 30th & 31st, 2019*

Saturday, March 30th, 2019 5:00 PM	Sunday, March 31st, 2019 8:00 AM MASS	Sunday, March 31st, 2019 10:00 AM MASS	Sunday, March 31st, 2019 12:00 NOON MASS
I. Arevalo	J. Giacalone	L. Keane	M. Laub
R. Byrne	G. Beisel	J. Kirdahy	E. Sotomayer
D. Coppola	L. Beisel	M. Sehne	P. Agoglia
P. Damato	C. Czujko	N. Locastro	M. Hoonhout
D. Doran	R. Doda, Sr.	B. Luna	E. Law
J. Duffy	M. Dunn	S. McKie	M. McCreesh
D. Earl	R. Fabian	M. Morbillo	M. Peykar
E. Kaleita	C. Haff	C. Zito	P. Roman
P. Kaleita	W. Haff	G. Zito	C. Rubano

## *ALTAR SERVERS SCHEDULE -FOR March 30th & 31st, 2019*

Saturday, March 30, 2019 5:00PM MASS	Sunday, March 31, 2019 8:00AM MASS	Sunday, March 31, 2019 10:00 AM MASS	Sunday, March 31, 2019 12:00 NOON MASS
M. Page	B. Keese	E. Anderson	S. Glen
R. Laro	K. Keese	B. Kieran	C. D'Agostino
A. Hughes	M. Ruso	N. Fazzini	N. Hoonhout
B. Doran			

## *LECTOR SCHEDULE -FOR March 30th & 31st, 2019*

Saturday, March 30, 2019 5:00PM MASS	Sunday, March 31, 2019 8:00 AM MASS	Sunday, March 31, 2019 10:00AM MASS	Sunday, March 31, 2019 12:00 NOON MASS
C. Lombardi	L. Auletta	P. O'Hara	P. Geier
	A. Willman	M. Koke	A. Latino

# Preparing for Next Sunday

March 31, 2019 • 4th Sunday of Lent • Year C

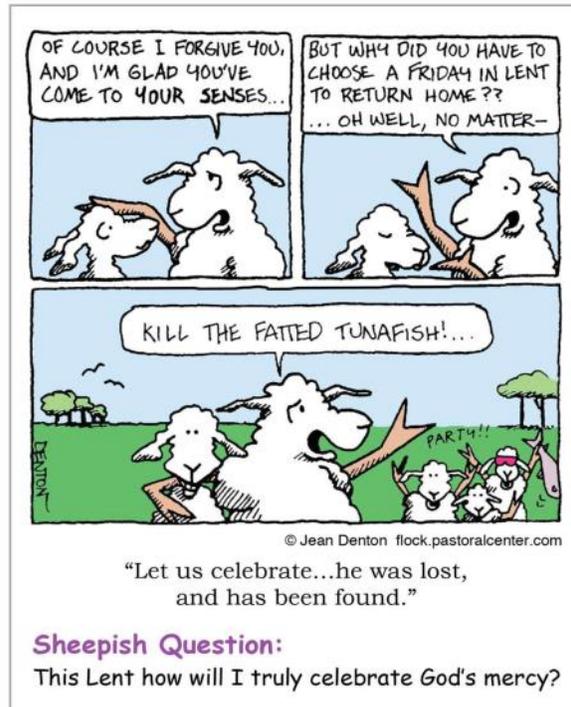
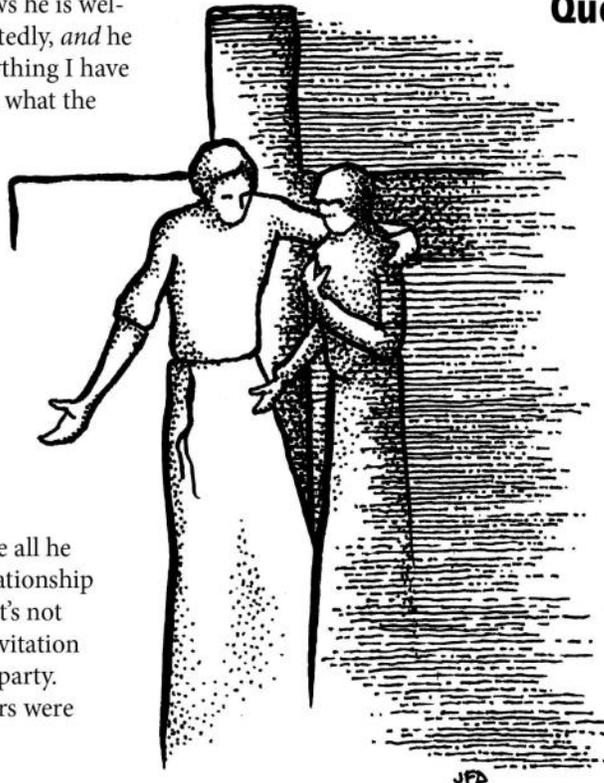
## Join the Party

*This Week's Readings at Mass*

- ▶ Joshua 5:9a, 10-12 - Rites at Gilgal
- ▶ 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 - A new creation
- ▶ Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 - The prodigal son

Upon hearing the famous story of the Prodigal Son, we may instantly feel a connection with one son or the other. Maybe we have strayed in our lives—or even intentionally walked away from friends, family, and home—and have been welcomed back despite feeling we didn't deserve to be. Or perhaps we feel like the older son who has been working his tail off to do what he thinks is expected of him and then feels resentful when his wayward brother gets welcomed home. What if instead of focusing on one or the other sons, we focus on the father's response to both of them in the parable?

The father has generosity and joy enough for both sons. He wants *both* at the party—not just the sinner or the do-gooder. He throws the party so the younger son knows he is welcomed home wholeheartedly, *and* he tells the older son “everything I have is yours.” In that society, what the father possessed did not belong to the sons until he died; they had no claim on it until after his death. So it is highly unusual for the father to give the younger son his part of the inheritance prematurely, and *just* as unusual for the father to tell the older son “It's already yours.” The father wants to share all he has and celebrate his relationship with both sons equally. It's not about favorites; it's an invitation for everyone to join the party. Tax collectors and sinners were



“Let us celebrate...he was lost, and has been found.”

### Sheepish Question:

This Lent how will I truly celebrate God's mercy?

joining Jesus “at the party.” Will the Pharisees and scribes too?

## Questions of the Week

- ① Who do you usually relate to in the parable of the Prodigal Son? Why?
- ② Have you ever had an experience of being in the father's position, either welcoming home a “sinner” or trying to convince a “righteous son” of your love for him too?

*Word of the Week* • Copyright © 2019 Ann Naffziger. Published by the Pastoral Center / PastoralCenter.com. All rights reserved.

## **Our Struggle for Proper Celebration**

We don't know how to celebrate things as they're meant to be celebrated. We want to, but mostly we don't know how. Generally we celebrate badly. How do we normally celebrate? By overdoing things; by taking a lot of the things we ordinarily do, drinking, eating, talking, singing, and humoring, and bringing them to excess. For most of us, celebration means eating too much, drinking too much, singing too loudly, telling one joke too many, and hoping that somewhere in all that excess we will find the secret to make this occasion extraordinary.

We have this odd idea that we can find special joy and delight by pushing things beyond their normal limits. But there's precious little real delight in this. Heightened enjoyment is found in connecting with others more deeply, in feeling our lives expanded, and in experiencing love and playfulness in a special way. But that doesn't happen in a frenzy. Hence our celebrations are mostly followed by a hangover, physical and emotional. Why? Why is genuine celebration so hard to do?

Perhaps the main reason is that we struggle congenitally to simply enjoy things, to simply take life, pleasure, love, and enjoyment as gracious and free gifts from God, pure and simple. It's not that we lack this capacity for this. God has given us this gift. More at issue is the fact that our capacity to enjoy is often mixed with inchoate feelings of guilt about experiencing pleasure (and the greater the pleasure, the deeper our feeling of guilt.) Among other things, because of this, we often struggle to enjoy what's legitimately given us by God because, consciously or unconsciously, we feel that our experience of pleasure is somehow "stealing from God." This is an uneasiness that particularly afflicts sensitive and moral souls. Somehow, in the name of God, we struggle to give ourselves full permission to enjoy, and this leaves us prone to excess (which is invariably a substitute for genuine enjoyment).

Whatever the reasons, we struggle with this and thus many of us go through life deprived of a healthy capacity to enjoy and, since nature will still have its way, we end up alternating between rebellious enjoyment ("pleasure we steal from God", but feel guilty about) and dutiful discipline (which we do without a lot of delight). But we're rarely able to genuinely celebrate. We rarely find the genuine delight we are looking for in life and this pushes us into pseudo-celebration, namely, excess. Put simply, because we struggle to give ourselves permission to enjoy, ironically we tend to pursue enjoyment too much and often not in the right ways. We confuse pleasure with delight, excess with ecstasy, and the obliteration of consciousness with heightened awareness. Because we cannot simply enjoy, we go to excess, burst our normal limits, and hope that obliterating our awareness will heighten it.

And yet, celebrate we must. We have an innate need to celebrate because certain moments and events of our lives (e.g., a birthday, a wedding, a graduation, a commitment, an achievement, or even a funeral) simply demand it. They demand to be surrounded with rituals which heighten and intensify their meaning and they demand that they be shared in a special, highlighted way with others. What we cease to celebrate we will soon cease to cherish.

The same is true of some of our deeper loving, playful, and creative moments. They too demand to be celebrated: highlighted, widened, and shared with others. We have an irrepressible need to celebrate, that's good. Indeed the need for ecstasy is hardwired into our very DNA. But ecstasy is heightened awareness, not obliterated consciousness. Celebration is meant to intensify our awareness, not deaden it. The object of celebration is to highlight certain events and feelings so as to share them with others in an extraordinary way. But, given our misunderstandings about celebration, we mostly make pseudo-celebration, that is, we overdo things to a point where we take our own awareness and our awareness of the occasion out of the equation.

We have a lot to overcome in our struggle to come to genuine celebration. We still need to learn that heightened enjoyment is not found in excess, deeper community is not found in mindless intimacy, and heightened awareness is not found in a frenzied deadening of our consciousness. Until we learn that lesson we will still mostly trudge home hung-over, more empty, more tired, and more alone than before the party. A hangover is a sure sign that, somewhere back down the road, we missed a sign post. We struggle to know how to celebrate, but we must continue to try.

Jesus came and declared a wedding feast, a celebration, at the centre of life. They crucified him not for being too ascetical, but because he told us we should actually enjoy our lives, assuring us that God and life will give us more goodness and enjoyment than we can stand, if we can learn to receive them with the proper reverence and without undue fear.