Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 14, 2017

"Do Not Let Your Hearts be Troubled."

John 14:1

"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

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

Parish Center Office Hours: Monday to Thursday, 9 am to 8 pm
Friday: 9am-5pm Saturday: 10 am – 2pm Sunday: 10am-2pm
Phone: 631-584-5454 Fax: 631-862-9675

Pastoral Team

Father Tom Haggerty	Pastor
Father Patrick Osei-Poku	Associate Pastor
Deacon Ronald Blasius	Deacon
Deacon John Keenan	Deacon
Deacon Ken Maher	Deacon
Margaret Adams	Director of Music
Elizabeth Wittish, OFS	Director of Parish Social Ministry
Virginia Portanova	Business Manager
John Cordes	Director of Facilities
Charlotte Czujko	Religious Education Coordinator Grades1-2
Barbara Luna	Religious Education Coordinator Grades 3-6
Domineck Avento	Religious Education Coordinator Grades 7-8
Suzanne Fitzgibbon	Religious Education Administrator
Frank Brancaccio	Youth Minister
Elizabeth Calvano	Director Camp SSPJ

Pastoral Council & Trustees

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

Trustees

Jerry Linder * Tina Cafaro

SSPJ School—Principal Ruth E. Testa

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

Sacraments

Baptism– *Celebrated twice per month. Parents are asked to register at the Pastoral Center for Pre-Baptism Program.*
Marriage-*Couples are asked to contact the Pastoral Center before visiting the reception hall. The Marriage Preparation process is nine months before your proposed wedding date.*
Confirmation-*Seventh and Eighth grade students are prepared to celebrate through Religious Ed or SSPJ School. Adults prepare through RCIA.*
Reconciliation*– Available Saturdays from 4:00pm-5:00pm in the Church or by contacting the Parish Center for an appointment.*
Anointing of the Sick*– In case of serious, unexpected illness, please contact the Parish Center office to arrange for a Priest to pray with the person who is ill. Anointing of the Sick is held on the first Sunday of the month following the 12:00mass please see the Sacristan before mass.*
R.C.I.A*– Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (non-Catholic adults desiring to become Catholic) are asked to contact the Parish*

Father Tom's Letter

Dear Friends,

Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me.

In today's gospel, Jesus speaks these words not only to the disciples surrounding him at that time, but to all of us disciples. It's meant to be reassuring - and it is. But, don't we at times, like Thomas, have more questions we want answered? Fr. Jude Siciliano, OP, reflects:

Today Jesus consoles his disciples about his imminent departure. He promises to return to take them to himself so that they will be with him. We hear his words with our knowledge of what is about to happen and with our faith in the resurrection. But at this point, the disciples are just confused by his words and so the passage shows the disciples' doubts....The disciples have become very dependent on his guiding presence. What will they do without him when they face a hostile world?

Jesus responds to this need by promising his abiding presence with them. "I will come back again and take you to myself, so the where I am you also may be." The Greek word "dwelling place" (14:2) is the noun of John's verb "abide." Jesus' departure will not sever the ties between him and his disciples, because he prepares a "dwelling place" for them and will "abide" with them.

I responded to that phrase *"dwelling place"*. There's a hymn from a few decades ago which included that phrase. Let's let it be our prayer this week:

May Christ find a dwelling place of faith in our hearts; may our lives be rooted in love.

Be ready to look soon the see a light shining in the tower of our old church. As Apostles of Hope we are called to not only see but to be the Light. I am delighted to announce that on Monday a contractor, Precision, was decided upon and that the work is ready to commence so that we may see our completion date of September 1, 2017! Praise God and thanks to all for your patience and generosity with this project!

Happy Mother's Day to all mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, mothers-to-be and all who have loved and guided us with a mother's love. May is a month traditionally focused on Mary, the Mother of our Lord. Let's continue to pray that Mary, Blessed Mother and Queen of Peace, will guide us to be peacemakers in our families, our communities and our world. Please stop for a moment and say a prayer at the beautiful Marian painting by the ambo, on loan to us this month by one of our parishioners. And please be sure to take home with you a Mother's Day memento as you leave church today.

This weekend our final two sessions of First Holy Communion were celebrated. Once again, abundant blessings on those joining us for the first time and to their families. Many thanks to all who readied our young ones for this special day!

Bishop Barres has written a Pastoral letter, "On the 100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima asking her intercession for Dramatic Missionary Growth on Long Island". Copies of the letter may be found at the doors of the church.

And some "interesting" signs spotted:

In an office: AFTER TEA BREAK STAFF SHOULD EMPTY THE TEAPOT AND STAND UPSIDE DOWN ON THE DRAINING BOARD

Outside a second-hand shop: WE EXCHANGE ANYTHING - BICYCLES, WASHING MACHINES, ETC. WHY NOT BRING YOUR WIFE ALONG AND GET A WONDERFUL BARGAIN?

Notice in a farmer's field: THE FARMER ALLOWS WALKERS TO CROSS THE FIELD FOR FREE, BUT THE BULL CHARGES.

On a repair shop door: WE CAN REPAIR ANYTHING. (PLEASE KNOCK HARD ON THE DOOR - THE BELL DOESN'T WORK).

Peace,

Father Tom

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

THE MEN'S FORUM

AT THE CHURCH OF SAINTS PHILIP & JAMES

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

MONDAY, MAY 15, 2017

Guest Speaker: Father Guy Selvester,
Parish Administrator, St. Joseph Church, Washington, NJ
Topic: "Real Men Are Devoted to Mary"

The month of May, when spring is most beautiful, is fittingly devoted to the beautiful Blessed Mary, Virgin Mother of Jesus Christ. After our Lord, Mary is honored with the most feast days and with the greatest devotion in the Church, not only because without her the Son of God would not be man, but also because a prayerful relation to her strengthens one's relation to Christ and keeps it real. Fr. Guy will challenge the misconception among men that piety to Mary is effeminate or unmanly, and show why devotion to her needs to be a good and healthy part of every Catholic man's spiritual life. Please join us to hear Fr. Guy explain why Mary is the model God has given us for being a genuine disciple of Christ.

WHERE & WHEN: Main Church: North Country Rd., Saint James, NY
6:30 PM: Adoration & Rosary • 7:30 PM: Speaker Talk • 8:30 PM: Coffee & Cake
Come for all, or part of our evening's schedule • No membership required. Open to all men!

Website: www.sspjmensforum.org

CHURCH of SAINTS PHILIP & JAMES
1 Carow Place • St. James, NY 11780 • 631-584-5454 • www.sspj.org

CMA UPDATE!!!! It is With Sincere Gratitude That We ARE AT 95% of GOAL!

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

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

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

We would like to thank the 350 parishioners who have responded to this drive.

Their **pledges and contributions of $115,843** have enabled us to achieve 95% of our goal.

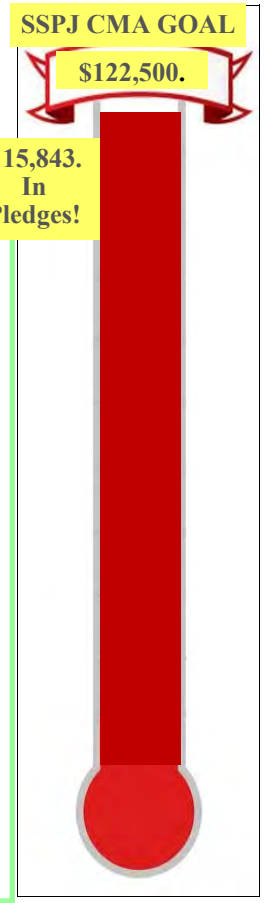
Through a 20% Parish Rebate, when our parish reaches our appeal goal of $122, 500, we will receive a parish rebate of $24, 500.

DRVC: PO Box 4000

Rockville Centre, NY 11571-4000

516-678-5800x296

www.CatholicMinistriesAppeal.org



SSPJ SECOND GRADE SCHOOL NEWS

On May 8th the second grade joined the school honoring Mary. The second grade presented Mary with flowers and crowned Mary our Mother. After the crowning the second grade enjoyed a breakfast with their families and classmates celebrating their Communion.

The second grade students at SSPJ received Communion on May 6th, 2017.
They worked very hard all year and were very excited to receive Jesus and participate fully in the Mass.

Photos courtesy of Greg Schemitz

SSPJ Parish Calendar For The Week of May 14th, 2017

Sunday, May 14th, 2017 Mother's Day

7:30am	Guild Ticket Sales	School Lobby
9:00am	KOC Hospitality Sunday	Auditorium
9:00am	RCIA Weekly Session	SSPJ Cantina
10:00am	Children's Liturgy of the Word	Church
1:00pm	Stained Glass Club	Stained Glass Rm
7:00pm	AA Meeting	Monte Building

Monday , May 15th 2017:

6:30pm	Men's Forum	Church
7:00pm	Boy Scout Troop 7 Meeting	Auditorium
7:30pm	Open School Board Meeting	School Multi Purpose Rm

Tuesday, May 16th , 2017:

1:30pm	Spirit of Love Prayer Group	Prayer Rm in Church
7:00pm	Catholic Daughter's Meeting	Philip & James Rm
7:30pm	Chords of Faith Rehearsal	Choir Loft
7:30pm	Boy Scout Leadership Meeting	Monte Building

Wednesday, May 17th, 2017:

10:00am	Yoga	Trailer Room
7:00pm	Youth Ministry	Trailer Room

Thursday, May 18th, 2017:

2:00pm	Eucharistic Adoration	Church
6:00pm	Jr. Catholic Daughters Meeting	Philip & James Rm
7:30pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal	Church

Friday, May 19th, 2017:

7:00pm	AA Meeting	Monte Building
8:00pm	Eucharistic Adoration	Church

Saturday, May 20th, 2017:

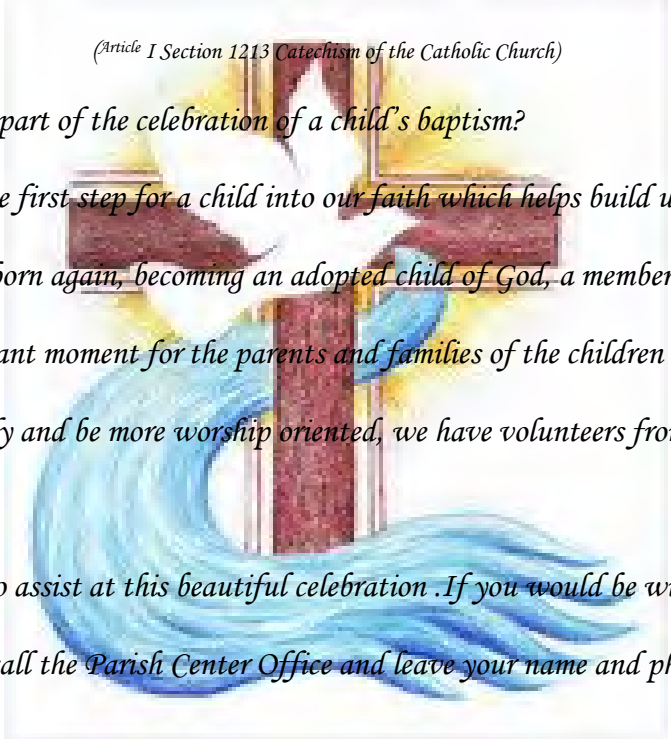
10:00am	Stained Glass Club	Stained Glass Wkshop
5:00pm	Respect Life Baby Shower	School Lobby
6:15pm	School Gala	Auditorium

All are Invited!
Treat Mom to breakfast on Mother's Day!
Knights of Columbus
Hospitality Sunday Breakfast
This Weekend:
May 14th, 2017
After the 8am and 10 am Masses

We Invite You…
To Visit
"The New SSPJ Website"
Visit www.sspj.org For the latest, up to date information regarding
Sts. Philip & James Parish!

Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word."

(Article I Section 1213 Catechism of the Catholic Church)



Perhaps you can consider being part of the celebration of a child's baptism?

The Sacrament of Baptism is the first step for a child into our faith which helps build up the Body of Christ here at SSPJ. In Baptism, the child is born again, becoming an adopted child of God, a member of the Church alive in Christ. This is a very joyful and important moment for the parents and families of the children baptized. To enrich this experience and make it more holy and be more worship oriented, we have volunteers from the Baptism Ministry assist at the Baptisms here at SSPJ.

We are looking for volunteers to assist at this beautiful celebration .If you would be willing to help or would like additional information, please call the Parish Center Office and leave your name and phone so that you may be contacted.

PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY GANG SUNDAYS

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

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

***When*? Sunday – May 21, 2017**

Time? 11:15 to 12:30 (sign in at 11:05)

***Where?* Auditorium**

***Who?* Any person or family with a desire to make a difference in the community.**

****Volunteers are asked to bring three loaves of WHOLE WHEAT bread, one jar of jelly and two jars of peanut butter**. In addition, any youth volunteers are to be picked up in front of SSPJ School on Clinton Ave. at 12 noon.

If you are interested in our next Peanut Butter Sunday, please , please complete the registration form, which can be obtained at the Pastoral Center. Any questions, please leave a message at 584-5454 and we will contact you as soon as possible.

SSPJ MUSIC MINISTRY

Singing is an important part of our full participation at mass but I also encourage you to listen to the choir pieces each choir prepares before the communion hymn. These hymns are carefully chosen and hearing and meditating on these beautiful songs add to a more spiritual experience. We as a ministry pray through our music and hope our parish community is filled with peace and love as told by our risen Lord.

Coming soon a new Mass setting will be added to our parish repertoire. Mass of Christ the Savior. The Gloria that we currently sing is from this Mass.

The Mass can be found in our music issue at # 916, 917, 920 and 921.

Everyone is welcome to join any of the three parish choirs. Children, Teens and Adult. No audition is required just a love of God and music.

See me or one of our choir members after mass on any weekend.

Baptism music is a new part of the music ministry and we are in desperate need of more singers, guitar players, and flute players. Baptisms are twice a month on Sundays at 2pm. If you think you can help please contact me at 584-5454. Young adults also welcome.

The need is GREAT please consider becoming part of this branch of the music ministry. The more the merrier.

And remember "he who sings prays twice"

Thank you, Margaret Adams, Director of Music

Religious Education Department is now Offering ON-LINE REGISTRATION!!!

The Religious Education Office is accepting on-line Registration. Please visit the Parish website at **www. sspj.org** and follow the instructions to enroll your child/children into our Religious Education Program for the 2017-2018 school year.
You may register on-line or print the form and return it to the Religious Education Office.

The deadline for registration is June 30th, 2017.

Any family, who is registering a **FIRST GRADER Or, IS NEW TO OUR PARISH,**

Please register in person at the Parish Center. PLEASE BRING A COPY OF YOUR CHILDS BAPTISM CERTIFICATE. Also, any previous religious education transcripts if the child has attended Religious Education in another parish.

The fees for registration are:
$160.00 for one child
$210.00 for two children
$250.00 for three or more children.
Catechist family fee is $100.00.

Please note the Religious Education Office's weekly hours are Monday thru Thursday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM The office will be closed on Tuesday May16th. If you have any questions please call the office at 631-584-3204

IMPORTANT ! DON'T MISS OUT SECURE YOUR PLACE

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

OF ST. PHILIP & JAMES

ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Honoring Jack Skolnick

Monday June 12 2017

SMITHTOWN LANDING COUNTRY CLUB

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:
THOMAS SICA
sikachu45@hotmail.com
631-521-4771
Registration 8:30 am
Shotgun tee off 10:00 am
Breakfast sponsored by
Doda's Gold Shield Catering

*NAME*_____

Address _____

Phone _____*E-Mail*_____

*Number of Players*____ *$175.00 per person Total $*_____
(includes Golf Cart, Lunch, Cocktail Hour, Dinner
Dinner only ____ *$75.00 Number attending* _____

Sponsorship:
____ *Dinner Sponsorship @ $1,000 (2) Available*
____ *Lunch Sponsorship @ $500 (2) Available*
____ *Driving Range Sponsorship@ $500 (2) Available*
____ *Tee Signs Sponsorship @$100 each*
_____ *Cart Sponsorship (1) $300*
_____ *Putting Green Sponsorship (4) @ $250 each*
_____ *Pin Flag Sponsorship (18) @ $125 each*

Checks made and mailed to:
Sts. Philp & James KofC Council #12839
P.O Box 201 St. James, NY 11780
For credit card or PayPal visit website:
www.kofcsspj.org

Sponsorship Information:
_____
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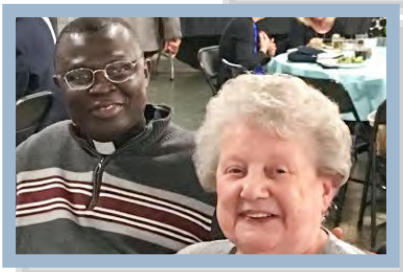
SSPJ Volunteer Party!



ODE TO SSPJ VOLUNTEERS

Once again we gather to thank and greet,
The fantastic SSPJ volunteers who perform so many fetes;
They are the backbone of each and every ministry here,
The thought of not having the volunteers brings us great terror and fear;
For it is they who quietly just perform their duties each day,
With great care and joy and without any thought of pay;
If not for our volunteers where would we all be,
From the church, school, parish office, and each ministry,
They are the ones who pull it together and do it all effortlessly;
They are our own Apostles of Hope,
And without them we would just not be able to cope;
They are the glue at SSPJ that holds everything together,
And are willing to be there no matter what the endeavor;

So a BIG thank you to each and every volunteer that is here,
Let us all stand and give them a big huge cheer;

Author: Rita Byrne

Saints Philip and James

Spring Gala

Saturday May 20th at 6:00pm - 10:00pm
SSPJ Church Auditorium

The Anthony J. Weidner Parish Service Award
will be presented to

Lou Guerra

Cocktail hour and Dinner by: Trattoria and Villa Sorrento
Live 6 piece Jazz Band, Dancing, Beer and Wine

Sponsorship

Circle one

$500 Benefactor $250 Patron $ 100 Sponsor $50 Friends other _____

Ticket Sales

Reserve ___ Seats at $ 45 each
Sorry I am unable to attend. Enclosed is my donation of _____

Name _____
Address _____
_____
Phone _____

Total Amount _____
Check MasterCard Visa Amex
Credit card number _____
Exp Date _____ CVV _____
Signature _____

Make Checks Payable to Sts/ Philip and James School Guild
359 Clinton Avenue, St James, NY 11780

Questions Contact: Lisa Stephens at schoolguild@sspjschool.net

Mass Intentions, For Week of May 14th ,2017

Saturday, May 13th, 2017

5:00pm	Peter Byrne

Sunday May 14th, 2017

8:00am	Mother's Day Novena
10:00am	Mother's Day Novena
12:00noon	Mother's Day Novena

Monday, May 15th, 2017

7:30am	Mother's Day Novena
9:15am	Ellen Lavin

Tuesday, May 16th, 2017

7:30am	Mother's Day Novena
9:15am	Mary Bonsignore

Wednesday, May 17th, 2017

7:30am	Mother's Day Novena
9:15am	Annina M. Musacchio

Thursday, May 18th, 2017

7:30am	Mother's Day Novena
9:15am	Collective Mass:
	Evelyn Valdura
	Joseph Clarke
	John Fay (Living)

Friday, May 19th, 2017

7:30am	Mother's Day Novena
9:15am	William Mace

Saturday, May 20th, 2017

9:15am	Mother's Day Novena
5:00pm	Thomas A. Logan

Sunday, May 21st, 2017

8:00am	Mother's Day Novena
10:00am	Vincent Luna
12:00noon	Collective Mass & For The People of SSPJ
	Joseph & Grace Pellegrino
	Corinne Sbarbaro
	Anna Giannuzzi
	Mary Garguilo
	Eddie Rooney
	Sarafina Considine

Our Bread, Wine

For The Week Of;
May 14th, 2017

In Loving Memory of,

Thomas Miloscia

From,
The Thomas Mathew Miloscia Foundation

Our Altar Candles
For The Week of:
May 14th, 2017

Are Burning With Gratitude,
From,
The Maginniss Family

The Pro-Life Rose

For the Week of; May 14th, 2017

Is Dedicated In Loving Memory of:

Leon Peter Heffron

05-15-1982

"When Pastor Tom united us

forever & always"

Carol

Wedding Banns

Second	Third
Brendan Ward	Charles Nack
SSPJ	St. Patricks's
To	Smithtown
Casey Ann Gobetz	To
St Patrick's	Molly Winter
Smithtown	Holy Cross

Keeping You In Our Prayers....

For those who are ill...

John Flemming, Daniel Radice, Gert Kelleher, Linda Dunn, Eva Alaimo, Jessica Lubrano, Mattia Therese Lubrano, Kitty Cronin, Vivien Cordes Raymond Fox, Joe Alberigo

We offer our prayers, thoughts and love to all who are ill, their caregivers, and families. We welcome requests for healing prayers for those who are ill, and we will graciously include them upon our prayer list for a period of four weeks. Please contact the Parish Center at 631-584-5454 to make a prayer list request.

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,
SR AIRMAN E4 ALEXANDER PARRELLA
RICHARD SOTOMAYER, USAF
CPL. CONNOR F. SCOTT, USMC
LCPL. DANIEL P. STEELE, USMC
SGT. CORY O'HARA USMC
CDR. ROBERT J. MARSH, USN
PFC. CHARLES CHRISTOPHER HOWELL
JOHN VINCENT KNOBLOCH, USMC
STEVEN CAVA, USN
ERIC SEELIN, USMC
CW2 CHRIS MUNZ
CW2 NATASHA WORTMAN
LANCE CORPORAL JAMES T. CASEY, USMC
GREGORY DEVANEY, USMC
SGT. JOSHUA MAHONEY, US ARMY
KEVIN JONES, U.S.C.G.
RICHARD MAIER, U.S.M.C.
PRIVATE JOSHUA OLSEN, USARNG
GLEN CRIMA-U.S. ARMY
PFC. ANTHONY SCIAMETTA
MARIO CATANIA, USMC

Weekly Collection:

Easter Sunday, May 7th, 2017

Sunday Collection: $15,692.
Faith Direct: $3,823.
Children's Jug: $ 34.
Catholic Elementary Schools Collection: $2,965.
Total Collection: $22,514.

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

Congratulations and way to go!

Chaminade High School Honor Roll:

Paul R. Caruso

Mark A. Cirelli

Noah K. Hoonhout

John G. McKie

Brian M. Willman

Our Lady of Mercy Academy Honor Roll:

Erin Duffy

Elizabeth Cirelli

Hannah Collett

Colleen Duffy

Gianna Francica

Celebrating the Liturgy- With Grateful Hearts We Serve

PRESIDER SCHEDULE–FOR May 20th & 21st ,2017

Saturday, May 20, 2017 5:00 PM	Sunday, May 21, 2017 8:00 AM MASS	Sunday, May 21, 2017 10:00 AM MASS	Sunday May 21, 2017 12:00 MASS
Father Tom Haggerty	**Father Tom Haggerty**	**Father Patrick Osei-Poku**	**Father Patrick Osei-Poku**
		Deacon Ron	**Deacon Ron**

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS SCHEDULE -FOR May 20th & 21st, 2017

Saturday, May 20, 2017	Sunday, May 21, 2017	Sunday, May 21, 2017	Sunday, May 21, 2017
5:00 PM MASS	**8:00 AM MASS**	**10:OO AM MASS**	**12:00 NOON MASS**
I. Arevalo	M. Koke	M. Peykar	M. Lebrun
C. Boyen	B. Luna	P. Roman	J. Linder
J. Duffy	S. McKie	C. Zito	M. Loughlin
R. Piazza	M. Morbillo	G. Zito	M. Napoli
G. Priebe	D. Mulhall	P. Agoglia	T. Pace
L. Tairassi	G. Beisel	G. Amen	A. Santo
L. Tepedino	L. Beisel	D. Bleggi	D. Coppola
D. Toto	P. Kanuika	R. Bleggi	M. Hoonhout
R. Willms	E. Sica	T. Boboris	M. Peykar
P. Damato	T. Sica	A. Giordano	P. Roman

ALTAR SERVERS SCHEDULE -FOR May 20th & 21st, 2017

Saturday, May 20, 2017	Sunday, May 21, 2017	Sunday, May 21, 2017	Sunday, May 21, 2017
5:00PM MASS	**8:00AM MASS**	**10:00 AM MASS**	**12:00 NOON MASS**
C. Nigro	E. Nicastro	B. Dearie	A. Miloscia
S. Nigro	K. Nicastro	S. Dearie	M. Miloscia
J. Scomillio	C. Morbillo	G. Lombardi	S. Santo
T. Miller	J. Tobin	J. Lombardi	D. Sanchez Ricon
	L. Trama		

LECTOR SCHEDULE -FOR May 20th & 21st,2017

Saturday, May 20, 2017	Sunday, May 21, 2017	Sunday, May 21, 2017	Sunday, May 21, 2017
5:00 PM MASS	**8:00 AM MASS**	**10:00AM MASS**	**12:00 NOON MASS**
M. D'Amelia	L. Willman	A. Kaiser	A. DeVito
J. Contrino	S. Cavooris	T. Cafaro	E. Wittish

(Story published in CHS In Good Faith April 2017)

St. Catherine volunteer Georgia Priebe recently celebrated her 90th birthday with staff from throughout the hospital. Well loved by all, since 1993 she has staffed the Surgical Desk, where she communicates patient updates to family members.

In 1958, the Queens native (center, in purple shirt) and her late husband settled in St. James, where they raised their six children, who are now grown with children of their own. Having taught mathematics prior to getting married, she went on to earn a master's degree and served as director of religious education for her parish. After retiring in 1992, Mrs. Priebe began volunteering at St. Catherine the following year.

Mrs. Priebe held the position of auxiliary president for the medical center's corps of volunteers for seven years. She was also recording secretary for the Nassau-Suffolk Council of Hospital Auxiliaries at one time and currently sits on its board. A longtime avid sailor, this amazing woman still keeps her feet wet as a member of the Nissequogue Beach Club.

2017 SSPJ School Guild Gala Sponsors

Benefactor- $500.00

Deacon Ken Maher: St. James Funeral Home

Patron $250.00

Clare Farrell

State Farm Insurance-Mr James Winter

Smithtown Orthodontics – Dr. Duane Shank

Three Village Womens Health- Dr. Diana Leon

Richard & Mary Bucaro

Long Island Hearing– The Kent Family

Sponsor: $100.00

Father Brian McNamara

Bill Livingston

Nardy Honda Smithtown

Monte Bros' Sound System

Island Industrial Boiler

Anthony Maresca D.D.S.

Michael & Barbara Cesa

Friends: $50.00

Hurtado/Zeman Families

Timothy & Margaret Adams

Law Office of Allison M. Ramos

Gregory Thomaier, D.C., P.C.

Branch Auto Care

Joe & Livia Parrella

Robert Thompson

Donations:

Joseph Benaburger

SSPJ RESPECT LIFE ANNUAL BABY SHOWER

The Respect Life Committee will be holding its

ANNUAL BABY SHOWER
MAY 20th & 21st, 2017
IN THE SCHOOL LOBBY
AFTER ALL THE MASSES.

(outside weather permitting)

Suggestions for needed items include baby clothes (new and gently used) for ages newborn to 4 years, diapers all sizes including size 4/5, wipes, formula, bottles (not the liner type, just the screw on nipple plastic bottle), legal cribs and car seats, baby shampoo, burping bibs, gifts for new mom's such as lotions and powder.

Any questions, please call 862-9370
Do not leave items in the church lobby at any time please call the phone number above for any needed pick up.

Sts. Philip & James

2017 Family Festival

June 22nd – 25th

Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday

Please consider one of our 2017 Family Festival sponsorship opportunities

Festival Sponsor:

As a Festival Sponsor your name will appear in SSPJ festival promotions as wells as be prominently displayed at the festival. Festival Sponsors will receive 10 Pay-One-Price tickets.

Ride Sponsor:

As a Ride Sponsor your name will be displayed at a ride at the festival. Ride Sponsors will receive 4 Pay-One-Price tickets.

Family Festival Supporter:

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Pay-One-Price tickets are good for unlimited rides any one day of the SSPJ Festival.

If you have any questions, or require additional information, please email Nancy Paz Greubel at npaz@fpfconstruction.com or call (516) 220-2771

New!

Sponsors & Supporters receive Pay-One-Price coupons as a thank you for your support of the SSPJ Family Festival.

Become a Sponsor

	Price
☐ Festival Sponsor	$1,500
☐ Ride Sponsor	$500
☐ Gold	$200

Please return no later than June 13th.

Name_____

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Amount Enclosed:_____

Please make checks payable to: Sts. Philip & James, Family Festival Committee 359 Clinton Avenue, St. James, NY 11780

Parish Social Ministry

Our Pantry is in dire need of:

Body and Bar Soaps, Shampoo & Conditioner Dish and Laundry Soaps

As we approach the beautiful month of May, the month of the Rosary, Parish Social Ministry is seeking new or gently used Men's Rosaries.

This collection will be sent to the Seminarians in India.

Many thanks for your kindness.

Camp SSPJ Is Getting Ready for The SUMMER!!!

CAMP SSPJ
ST. JAMES, NY

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

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

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

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

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

	Early Bird Weekly Registration ($30 Discount)	Early Bird 7 Week Special ($350 Discount)	Regular Weekly Rate (After May 1st)	Daily Price (No discounts can be applied)
Grades K-5 →	$270 (Week 2 $205)	$1,680	$300 (Week 2 $230)	$75
Teen Camp Grades 6-9 →	$310 (Week 2 $245)	$1,960	$340 (Week 2 $260)	$90

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

SSPJ VACATION BIBLE CAMP

BIBLE CAMP

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

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

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

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

Getting Ready for Next Sunday

May 21st - 6th Sunday of Easter —Cycle A

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

Reflections on Next Sunday's Scripture Readings

Acts 8:5-8,14-17 *Psalm 66*
1 Peter 3:15-18 *John 14:15-21*

Christianity is more than Sunday Mass and an envelope for the collection basket. The follower of Jesus is present to the world in many ways other than just on Sunday morning. Today's readings broaden our vision about Christian presence.

In Acts, Luke speaks of Christianity's spread from the confines of Jerusalem to Judea and Samaria. The Samaritans accepted the first five books of the Hebrew Scriptures and believed in a messiah, but they were nonetheless regarded as non-Jews. Luke has Philip proclaim the Messiah and perform miracles for these outsiders. Since missionary expansion must be rooted in the mother church of Jerusalem, Peter and John incorporate the Samaritans into that community by conferring the Holy Spirit. For Luke, such missionary activity is a dramatic example of Christian presence.

The author of First Peter takes up the issue of persecution. Christians may at times have to suffer for the presence they seek to establish. If suffering is the price, then the persecutors will be ashamed because the good deeds of Jesus' followers are so clear. Gentleness and respect, not brute force, are the Christian response. Jesus is the ultimate example of the just suffering for the unjust; his death means for us a new relationship with God.

John brings up the logical question: What is our relationship with Jesus once he has returned to the Father? The answer is equally logical: Keeping Jesus' commands binds the believer to him. The Spirit also sustains Christ's presence; the Paraclete is not only with but also within the disciple. The believer must release the Spirit so that consolation, teaching, and witnessing will occur.

All of us are missionaries. Each day we meet those who need to hear good news about themselves and their basic human dignity. When we bring consolation, teaching, and direction then we are releasers of the Spirit. The exercise of our God-given gifts and talents creates an infinite variety of Christian presence around the world.

- John Craghan, Th.D., S.S.L.
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For reflection…

Jesus tells us "you are in me and I in you". In what ways do you sense Jesus' presence in you? in others? What helps us to increase our "Yes" to witnessing to Jesus alive in us?

"Whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them." How does love impact knowledge and understanding in any friendship?

What are some signs of the ongoing presence of the Spirit, the Advocate, in your life? in our church?

How does suffering for the sake of truth make us like Christ? How does suffering help us know Christ? What does "suffering for the sake of truth," mean to you? Give an example of someone who suffers like this today.

In what ways are you living out resurrection hope this Easter season?

Release the Spirit…

Spiritual Reflection by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

Despair as Weakness Rather than Sin

Classically, both in the world and in our churches, we have seen despair as the ultimate, unforgivable sin. The simple notion was that neither God, nor anyone else, can save you if you simply give up, despair, make yourself impossible to reach. Most often in the popular mind this was applied to suicide. To die by your own hand was seen as despair, as putting yourself outside of God's mercy.

But understanding despair in this way is wrong and misguided, however sincere our intent. What's despair? How might it be understood?

The common dictionary definition invariably runs something like this: *Despair means to no longer have any hope or belief that a situation will improve or change.* The *Catechism of the Catholic Church,* which sees despair as a sin against the First Commandment, defines it this way: "By despair, man ceases to hope for his personal salvation from God, for help in attaining it or for the forgiveness of his sins. Despair is contrary to God's goodness, to his justice – for the Lord is faithful to his promises – and to his mercy."

But there's something absolutely critical to be distinguished here: There are two reasons why someone might cease to hope for personal salvation from God and give up hope in having his or sins forgiven. It can be that the person doubts the goodness and mercy of God or, and I believe that this is normally the case, the person is too crushed, too weak, too broken inside, to believe that he or she is lovable and redeemable. But being so beaten and crushed in spirit so as to believe that nothing further can exist for you except pain and darkness is normally not an indication of sin but more a symptom of having been fatally victimized by circumstance, of having to undergo, in the poignant words of Fantine in *Les Miserables*, storms that you cannot weather.

And before positing such a person outside of God's mercy, we need to ask ourselves: What kind of God would condemn a person who is so crushed by the circumstances of her life so as to be unable to believe that she is loveable? What kind of God would condemn someone for her brokenness? Such a God would certainly be utterly foreign to Jesus who incarnated and revealed God's love as being preferential for the weak, the crushed, the broken-hearted, for those despairing of mercy. To believe and teach that God withholds mercy from those who are most broken in spirit betrays a profound misunderstanding of the nature and mercy of God who sends Jesus into the world, not for the healthy but for those who need a physician.

Likewise this too betrays a profound misunderstanding of human nature and the human heart. Why would a person deem herself so unlovable that she voluntarily and hopelessly excludes herself from the circle of life? It can only be because of a deep, profound wound to the soul (which no doubt is not self-inflicted). Obviously, unless it is a case of some clinical illness, this person has been deeply wounded and has never had an experience of unconditional love or indeed of faithful human love. We are facile and naïve when, because we ourselves have been undeservedly loved, we cannot understand how someone else can be so crushed and broken so as to believe himself or herself to be, in essence, unlovable. To paraphrase a painful question in the song, *The Rose: Are love, and heaven, really only for the lucky and strong*? Our common understanding of despair, secular and religious, would seem to think so.

But, nobody goes to hell out of weakness, out of a broken heart, out of a crushed spirit, out of the misfortune and unfairness of never having had the sense of being truly loved. Hell is for the strong, for those with a spirit so arrogant that it cannot be crushed or broken, and so is unable to surrender. Hell is never a bitter surprise waiting for a happy person, and neither is it the sad fulfillment of the expectation of someone who is too broken to believe that he or she is worthy to be part of the circle of life.

We owe it to God to be more empathic. We also owe this to those who are broken of heart and of spirit. Moreover, we have a Christian doctrine, expressed inside of our very creed that challenges us to know better: *He descended into hell.* What Jesus revealed in his life and in his death is that there's no place inside of tragedy, brokenness, sadness, or resignation, into which God cannot and will not descend and breathe out peace.

God is all-understanding. That's why we're assured that "a bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out." You can bet your life on that. You can bet your faith on that. And you can also live in deeper empathy and deeper consolation because of that.

Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser, theologian, teacher, and award-winning author, is President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, TX. He can be contacted through his website www.ronrolheiser.com.

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