

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

Most Holy Trinity May 27, 2018



"Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; To God who is, who was, and who is to come."

Revelations 1:8

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

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

Parish Center Office Hours:

Sunday ~ Closed Monday: 9am-8pm

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

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

Parish Center Phone ~ 631-584-5454

Parish Center Fax~ 631-862-9675

Web ~ www.sspj.org

Pastoral Team

Father Tom Haggerty

Father Patrick Osei-Poku

Deacon Ronald Blasius

Deacon John Keenan

Deacon Ken Maher

Margaret Adams

Virginia Portanova

John Cordes

Lvnn Sisti

Charlotte Czujko

Barbara Luna

Dominick Avento

Cathy Darrow

Frank Brancaccio

Associate Pastor

Deacon

Religious Education Coordinator Grades1-2

Religious Education Coordinator Grades 3-6

Religious Education Coordinator Grades 7-8

Religious Education Administrator

Pastoral Council

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

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

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

Eucharistic Adoration In The Church— Thursday 2-4pm Friday 8-9pm

Pastor

Deacon

Deacon

Director of Music

Business Manager

Director of Facilities

Coordinator of Parish Social Ministry

Youth Minister

Father Tom's Letter

Dear Friends.

Today we celebrate Trinity Sunday. The mystery of the Trinity is just that – a mystery. But we experience this mystery when we experience loving relationships – in family, among friends, in community. May our loving God - Father, Son and Spirit - continue to bless and guide us in all ways, especially in our relationships.

And so we pray,

In the name of the Father,

(who gives us his only child)

and of the Son

(who gives us himself, revealing eternal Love for us),

and of the Holy Spirit.

(our constant companion now and always).

"We can only stand in awe-struck silence

"We can only stand in awe-struck silence before such love that is beyond boldest expectation, beyond all telling."

(Last paragraph from Karl Rahner)

On Sunday, June 3rd, at the 10am Mass we will be presenting the Anthony Weidner Award to Claire DiCarlo in acknowledgement of the selfless and faith-filled way in which she has ministered, nurtured and graced our Children's Liturgy of The Word. Her creativity and organization have called forth Apostles of Hope and have helped our young ones each week at Mass to come to know and love Jesus more deeply. Claire, thank you so much! And may God's blessings continue to be poured upon you.

To all of our wonder filled Apostles of Hope, please set aside the evening of June 9th for our Volunteer Party when we celebrate you who birth life and hope in our community. Following Mass we will dine and dance - and dance some more! Details are in the bulletin.

Congratulations to all who are celebrating graduations! Whether it's from pre-school, high school, college, graduate school or anywhere in between, may God continue to bless and guide your journeys. Rooted in God's love and wisdom, go forth to witness, share and enjoy!

This Monday's Memorial Day celebration offers us a time to pause in thankful remembrance for all who have so faithfully served our country and to pray for peace in our world. May the Spirit of God open our hearts and minds to seek new insights and pathways to peace. Mass will be celebrated at 9:15am.

As you read this I am on retreat at the Jesuit retreat house in Gloucester, MA. I will be praying for you, and I ask you to pray for me.

And.

Why didn't the lifeguard save the hippie? Because he was too far out, man.

I saw a documentary on how ships are kept together. Riveting!

I was overcharged for velcro last week. What a rip off!

Peace.

Father Tom

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

The Good News of Sts. Philip & James School



Enrolling Now

We Extend a Welcome and a Welcome Back to all!

Fees waived for all returning SSPJ Students

Enrolling for the 2018-2019 School Year!

SSPJ School Pre-K -5th grade & SSPJ Academy 6th - 8th grade

The best gift you can give a child is a Catholic Education.

It is a gift that will last a lifetime.

Sts. Philip & James School offers:

High Academic Standards

Strong Faith Formation

Community Support

Character development in a safe and welcoming environment

Personal and individualized attention

Strong focus on providing leadership and service to others

And, SO MUCH MORE

You are welcome to stop in and visit!
View the SSPJ Website and Facebook Page to see all that we have to offer.

Kindly Contact, Mrs. Ruth Testa, School Principal For additional information Or, to setup a tour/class visit, Please call: 631-584-7896

Saints Philip and James Parish Renovation Campaign

"Responding to the Call, as Today's Apostles of Hope"

Goal	\$1,500,000
Total Pledged	\$1,295,333
Paid to Date	\$1,036,808
% of Cash Received	80%
# of Gifts	616
% of Goal	86%

Thank you for your support!

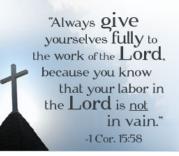
On behalf of Father Tom and the entire campaign committee we wish to thank all parishioners who have made a gift to the campaign.

Help us to reach our Goal!

We are coming closer to reaching our goal and invite you to support the campaign by making a one-time gift or pledge. Pledge envelopes are available at Mass or at the Parish Center. You can also visit our web-site, www.SPNI.org, and donate using Faith Direct.

Thank you for your prompt pledge payments!

Pledge reminders are mailed on the 15th of each month. If you have any questions concerning your pledge or payment schedule, please contact Joe Cascio at 631-921-1578.





It's not all about raising money – it's about raising disciples.

A Blessing Upon Those Who Serve



A Eucharistic Celebration for those who serve all of us in our community and abroad was held on Sunday, May 20, 2018 at the 10:00am mass.

May God protect and guide all who serve with his love and guidance and we, who receive the fruits of their efforts hold them with sincere gratitude in our hearts.



Respect Life News

It is not too late to donate to the Respect Life Baby Shower.
We are still in need of diapers (sizes 1-4)/wipes, baby clothes newborn to size 4, all baby items such as bath supplies, bottles, strollers, bath tubs, towels, etc.

Please call **862-9370** or bring them to Katie's Way Collection on June 9, 2018 AT:

403 Lake Ave. St. James 1PM and 3PM PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE DONATIONS IN THE CHURCH

May is Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month

Cystic Fibrosis is the most common fatal inherited genetic disease, chronic and progressive from birth.

Only 50% of the people with CF live past the age of 18 with a median survival rate between 37 and 41.

Please help CF stand for a cure found with a small donation to the Cystic Fibrosis Great Strides Walk being held on June 10, 2018 at the Holtsville Ecology Center

Www.cff.org/greatstrides TEAM: LOVING LUCAS



Music Ministry

In honor of Memorial Day on Monday we will be singing 'America the beautiful"
Prayers go out to all serving our country, past and present.

At the 10am Mass, the Adult Choir will sing, as their special hymn, There Is A longing # 402 in the Music Issue. This is one of the new hymns we will be adding to our Mass Music. It's very lively and easy to learn.

Again, I need to remind everyone that being in the choir doesn't mean you have to read music. About half the choir members DON'T know how. It doesn't stop the group from working hard to learn any piece of music I give them. I pick music that is suited to the liturgy and what the choir is able to learn. With commitment and dedication, they get the job done.

Take the time during the summer to consider joining one of our three choirs as an Apostle of Hope.





VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PARTY



THE SSPJ PASTORAL TEAM WISH TO SAY "THANK YOU!"

Honoring our "Apostles of Hope" who serve all Parish Ministries

You and a guest are cordially invited to join us on,

Saturday, June 9, 2018

Please join us at the 5pm Mass for a special blessing

Followed by a fun evening of

Dinner, Music and Dancing

Please consider joining these festivities with great food, wine and music

From 6:00pm—9:00 pm the auditorium

Thank You for all you do!



Kindly mail, drop off at the rectory office, or place in the collection basket.

Clearly label your envelope "VOLUNTEER CELEBRATION PARTY"

YES!I WILL JOIN THE CELEBRATION!!

Please respond before: MONDAY, MAY 29, 2018

NUMBER OF ADULTS (ONLY) ATTENDING (Circle 1 or 2)

NAME(S):





Vacation Bible Camp



July 16th-20th

9:30am - 12:00pm Monday - Friday For children ages 4-9 years old.

Theme "Miracles of Jesus"

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.

* \$25 Tuition includes supplies, a daily healthy snack and a VBC T-Shirt.

Registration forms will be received at the Rectory One Carow place St. James, NY 11780

CAMPER REGISTRATION 2018

Camper's Name				
Address				
City				
DOB	Age	_ Grade (as of s	9/18)	
Phone #		Cell #		
E-Mail		Allergies		
Emergency Contact				
Contact #	R	elationship		
Special Needs:				
T-Shirt Size (Children's)	S M L	(Adult) S	M L	XL

WE ARE ALMOST AT OUR CMA GOAL!!!

We are currently at <u>91%</u> of our Catholic Ministries Appeal Goal of \$119,700! In any small way, might you help us reach our goal?

In any small way, might you help us reach our goal?

Many thanks for your kindness and generosity of heart!

\$119,700.00 Pledges at 5/22/2018 \$109,330.



2018 Catholic Ministries Appeal

Monday is Memorial Day and we would like to recognize and show our appreciation to all who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country and the freedoms we enjoy.

We would like to ask you to take a moment tomorrow to pray for those that have served and are serving our nation. Many families have lost loved ones, and our military men and women that have survived will face countless struggles and challenges for the rest of their lives.

On Monday when we honor and celebrate their service and sacrifice, let us also remember the once homeless veterans, who because of your support of the Catholic Ministries Appeal, have been helped through our ministries and programs like Catholic Charities *Project Veterans' Independence*.

Thank you for your support! You make a difference in the lives of so many through your prayers and generosity!

SSPJ Parish Calendar For The Week of May 27th, 2018

Sunday,

May 27th, 2018 Children's Liturgy 10:00am Stained Glass Club 11:00am 7:00pm AA Meeting

Auditorium Stained Glass Wksp Philip & James Room

Monday, May 28th, 2018

No events scheduled in honor of Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 29th, 2018:

1:30pm Spirit of Love Prayer Group 6:00pm Chords of Faith Year End Party 7:30pm Chords of Faith Rehearsal

Prayer Room In Church Cantina Choir Loft

Wednesday, May 30th, 2018:

7:00pm Youth Ministry Auditorium

Thursday, May 31st, 2018:

2:00pm Eucharistic Adoration 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

Chur Choir Loft

Friday, June 1st, 2018:

3:00pm Stained Glass Club

7:00pm AA Meeting

8:00pm First Friday Nocturnal Adoration

Stained Glass Workshop Philip & James Room Church

Saturday, June 2nd, 2018:

4:30pm Guild Car Raffle Ticket Sales School Lobby/Outside Children's Liturgy 5:00pm Auditorium

7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 7 Eagle Court of Honor Auditorium

Weekly Collection:

Sunday May 20, 2018

Sunday Collection: \$12,241. Faith Direct: \$3,823 Children's Jug: \$28.

Total Collection: \$16,092. Many thanks for your generous support of Sts. Philip & James Parish





On June 3, 2018 we celebrate Corpus Christi, the Solemnity of the most holy **Body and Blood of Christ.**

While we commemorate the Eucharist as our spiritual nourishment, we should not forget that there is also much physical hunger in the world.

For that reason members of the Peace and Justice Committee will ask parishioners after all the masses on Corpus Christi Day to sign "Bread for the world" letters to our elected representatives. We will urge them to protect key programs that will reduce hunger and poverty as they work on the 2019 budget and spending bill.

The Rosary is said every morning Monday thru Friday after the 7:30AM mass in the church also every morning before the 9:15AM mass

Monday thru Saturday in the prayer room.

Eucharistic Adoration is available every Thurs. 2-4PM and Fri. evening 8-9 PM in the main church



Banns of Marriage **First**

Shawn MacDowell-St. Peter's Islip То Christine Cortopassi SSPJ

Third

Michael James Smith-SSPJ

То

Jessica Donna Killer Holy Cross-Nescoset

Mass Intentions, For the week of May 27th, 2018

Saturday, May 26th, 2018 8:00pm Louise Tyminski Sunday, May 27th, 2018 8:00am For The Parishioners of SSPJ 10:00am Ted Petry 12:00Noon Collective Mass: Harrison Thrasher, Jr. Graciela Osorio Jerry Amato Terry Byrne Leona Peters Carmine DiConzolo

Monday, May 28th, 2018~Memorial Day

7:30am Lisa Scotto

9:15am Kathryn M. Hurley

Tuesday, May 29th, 2018

7:30am Francis Walsh

9:15am Mary Fritz

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

Anna Capizzio Angela Amoroso Angela Boccio McComb AnnMarie M. Baby Mattia Lubrano Betty Schmidt **Brett Dowling** Brennan Steinorth Bryan Van Colt Carole Hennessy Carol Walz Catherine Burseind Christel DeBlasio Christopher Tallarico Christina Meringolo Daisy Abruzzo David Shankles Dawn Kopel Dylan Lauro Eileen Zink Elinor Glasser Faith VanGostein Florence Donahue Gerard Duffy Ginny McAuley Greg Helen McDowell Hillary Boehme James Gietzen Jeanine Esposito Tansey

John Bombace John Capizzio John Hernandez Julianne Kathleen N. Kitty Cronin, Krista Farley Kylie Quigley Laura Andrucki & family Linda Sue Louis Giordano Mark Montesano Marie DelCiello, Marie Fabry Marie Loughlin Mary McDonough Michael LaVecchia Nancy Fornabia Pasquale Santoro Patricia Casey Patricia Fontana Patricia Monetti Paulette Agoglia Robin Graham Denis Raymond Fox Rosemary Morgan Sean Winters Suzanne McCue Terence Hobbes Teresa Orlik Thomas McKay Terry Pace

Josette Perconti Joseph Perconti Joe Alberigo Vivien Cordes Safely Home ... We Remember,

Martha Bartone

Concetta Cerritto

Wednesday, May 30th, 2018

7:30am Eileen Carlson

9:15am Mary Fritz

Thursday, May 31st, 2018

7:30am Charles Saladino 9:15am Collective Mass:

Joseph Agostino

Friday, June 1st, 2018

7:30am Joseph Clarke

9:15am John Herrmann

Saturday, June 2nd, 2018

Laura Dennis 9:15am

5:00pm Michael G. DiMeglio

Sunday, June 3rd, 2018 8:00am For the Parishioners of SSPJ

10:00am John Pavelka

12:00Noon Collective Mass:

Rev. Otto Froehlich Rev. William Murphy Connolly & Kathjen Families Gloria Goodyear Jessica Lorraine Nadzan

We Pray for those Who Serve LCDR, MEGAN M, SHUTKA-VIK, USN



CAPT. WILSON MARKS, US CAPTAIN MICHAEL DOLÁN, 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, USAH SGT. CONNOR F. SCOTT, USMC CORPORAL 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
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 RICHARD MAIER, U.S.M.C.
PRIVATE JOSHUA OLSEN, USARNG
GLEN CRIMA-U.S. ARMY
PFC. ANTHONY SCIAMETTA
MARIO CATANIA, USMC
RYAN ANTHONY NASCIMENTO, U.S.M.C.
ENS. RYAN M. SHOWS U.S.N.
STAGE SGT. PLAN RESPONDE U.S.M.C. STAFF SGT. RYAN REXRODE U.S.M.C. DR. KARA VANDEKIEFT, LT.COL.USAF SGT. STEPHEN D. OUTCAULT, USMC

News From Our Religious Education Ministry

"Participating in the faith formation of our children, that is where a relationship with Jesus, is born...

It begins with loving parents and continues in the faith filled hands of a Catechist"

Our Religious Education Program Is Seeking Catechists
For All Grade Levels:
From Communion II(2nd grade) through Confirmation II (8th grade)
And Our Special Needs Religious Education Program.

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

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

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

Registration for the 2018-2019 Religious Education School Year will begin on June 1, 2018:

Please visit the Parish website at: www.sspj.org and follow the instructions to enroll your child/children in our Religious Education Program for the 2018-2019 school year.

Any family registering a First Grader or a child new to our Parish, is asked to contact us to schedule an appointment to register your child.

Please contact us via email at religioused@sspj.org or by phone at 631-584-3204 To arrange a convenient appointment date and time.



PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO STS. PHILIP & JAMES SCHOOL, 359 CLINTON AVENUE, ST. JAMES, NY 11780

SSPJ School News!!!

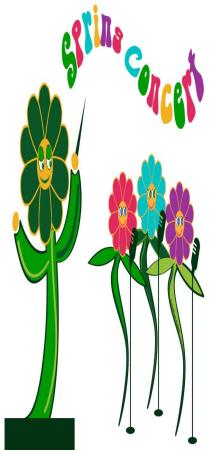


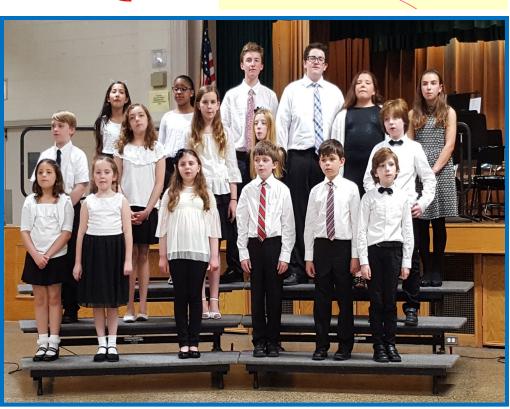


Congratulations SSPJ Choral Club Members on a job well done!

Your Spring Concert Performance was outstanding!

Thank you for sharing your talent with us and singing a wonderful medley of Friend Songs!









2018 Sts. Philip & James Car Raffle

1 Carow Place, St. James, NY 11780

DONATION: 1 for \$20 / 6 for \$100

1st PRIZE:

Win a 2018 Mercedes-Benz CLA250 4MATIC® 2 Year Lease

(Subject to Terms and Conditions of Lease Contract)

\$15,000

2nd Prize: \$250...3rd Prize: \$100...4th Prize: \$100...5th Prize: \$100

Drawing will be held on Sunday, June 24, 2018. Sts. Philip and James Church, the last night of the Family Festival. Winner need not be present. Must be 21 years of age or over to participate.

Thank you to Mercedes-Benz of Smithtown for their continuous generosity and support. In the event that less than 1,000 tickets are sold, prize becomes a 50/50 cash prize.







JUNE 21ST - 24TH

THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Please consider one of our 2018 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

As a Family Festival Supporter your name will be displayed on signage along with other supporters. Festival Supporters will receive 2 Pay-One-Price tickets.

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

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Price
Festival Sponsor \$1,500

□Ride Sponsor....\$500

Supporter \$200

Please return no later than June 13th.

ddress____

Address____

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Phone _____ E-Mail ____

Please list our donation as follows:

Amount Enclosed:

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



SAINTS PHILIP AND JAMES COUNCIL COUNCIL #12839

KNIGHTS ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2018

Smithtown Landing Country Club 495 Landing Avenue • Smithtown, NY 11787

Mike Tully

This Year's Honoree:





FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Contact: Thomas Sica (631) 521 – 4771 sikachu45@hotmail.com

Registration: 8:30 am Shotgun Tee Off: 10 am

May the Course Be With You

Breakfast Sponsored By:

Doda's Gold Shield Catering

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NAME:
Address:
Phone:
E-Mail:
Number of Players: \$175.00 per person (includes Golf Cart, Lunch, Cocktail Hour, Dinner)
Dinner only: \$75.00 per person
Total: \$
Number attending:

Please Make Checks Out To:

Sts. Philp & James K of C Council #12839 P.O Box 201 St. James, NY 11780

For Credit Card or PayPal:

Please Visit Our Home Page / Website: www.kofcsspj.org

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-	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

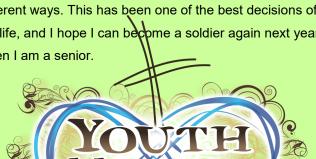
Chris Saracino YouthLeader Senior, Smithtown High School

Roman Soldier

I was honored to be a soldier at Living Stations of the cross at SSPJ. When I was first presented with the role, I was hesitant. I was nervous to be in front of all these people. However, after realizing how important this event is to the parish, I took on the role and was willing to do my absolute best. Knowing that everyone in the parish is family, I no longer was worried. Last year, I was only a reader of one station and I knew how meaningful it is so being a soldier was amazing to me.

For weeks leading up to Good Friday, myself and other kids from youth ministry prepared each and every step. We worked together with the great help from Frank Brancaccio and a couple other adult leaders. After many rehearsals, we were confident in bringing the parish a wonderful performance. With hard work and dedication, everything went fantastically. Not only was this experience fun but one I will never forget. But, it allowed me a grow in my faith. I grew closer to God and after this experience, Good Friday will hold an extra special place in my heart.

I am so grateful for Youth Group and the parish allowing me to be in the position I am to even become a soldier. Again, I am so glad this parish is a family and I had the opportunity to participate in an event that works through people in all different ways. This has been one of the best decisions of my life, and I hope I can become a soldier again next year when I am a senior.



Matthew Schepis , Junior Smithtown High School East

Liturgical Dancer

I have been part of our parish's presentation of the Living Stations of the Cross for three years now, and it is always such a humbling experience to be a part of. Each year, I have participated in liturgical dancing, which is performed before the Living Stations. Our dance is meant to be a prayerful experience, and also to create the atmosphere for the events that are depicted after it concludes. Every year, every youth and every adult involved in preparing for our two presentations on Good Friday works so hard to make our Living Stations the best that it possibly can be for us and for those that come to pray with us. The reward is immeasurable.

Being a part of a prayerful experience like this has changed my life. As I pray the dance and the Stations of the Cross, it's impossible to imagine the pain and suffering that Jesus endured for us all on Good Friday. The Living Stations of the Cross goes to show us that even though our sin was great, His love was greater. To be a part of the Stations and to also watch the Stations unfold is one of the most surreal experiences I could be involved in. I am beyond grateful to have been allowed to perform for and pray with the parish in the name of our Savior.



Celebrating the Liturgy-With Grateful Hearts We Serve

PRESIDER SCHEDULE-FOR June 2nd & 3rd,, 2018

Saturday, June 2, 2018 5:00 PM	Sunday, June 3, 2018 8:00 AM MASS	Sunday, June 3, 2018 10:00 AM MASS	Sunday, June 3, 2018 12:00 MASS
Father Patrick Osei-Poku	Father Patrick Osei-Poku	Father Tom Haggerty	Father Tom Haggerty
Deacon John			Deacon John

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS SCHEDULE - FOR June 2nd & 3rd, 2018

Saturday, June 2, 2018	Sunday, June 3, 2018	Sunday, June 3, 2018	Sunday, June 3, 2018
5:00 PM	8:00 AM MASS	10:00 AM MASS	12:00 NOON MASS
A. Keenan	M. Kenney	H. Orlando	C. Rubano
H. Keenan	A. Mantia	P. Schifilliti	D. LaVecchia
T. Laiz	P. Martin	J. Alternative	B. Chandler
R. Piazza	W. Ramos	G. Amen	J. Hanrahan
G. Priebe	K Rapp	D. Bleggi	M. Lebrun
J. Primavera	E. Sica	R. Bleggi	J. Linder
L. Taurassi	T. Sica	T. Boboris	M. Napoli
L. Tepedino	C. Haff	T. Cafaro	T. Pace
D. Toto	W. Haff	M. Dolce	A. Santo
R. Wilms	J. Harvey	C. Donnelly	V. Rubano

ALTAR SERVERS SCHEDULE - FOR June 2nd & 3rd, 2018

Saturday, June 2, 2018	Sunday, June 3, 2018	Sunday, June 3, 2018	Sunday, June 3, 2018
5:00PM MASS	8:00AM MASS	10:00 AM MASS	12:00 NOON MASS
P. Bisel	M. Russo	B. Kieran	N. Hoonhout
C. Williams	B. Keese	O. Jacobs	I. Cole
B. Doran	K. Keese	M. Stephens	E. Zeman
L. Doran	K. Dobokowski	A. Kaiser	P. Mazzola
R. Green	S. Dobokowski	N. Fazzini	

LECTOR SCHEDULE -FOR June 2nd & 3rd, 2018

Saturday, June 2, 2018	Sunday, June 3, 2018	Sunday, June 3, 2018	Sunday, June 3, 2018
5:00PM MASS	8:00 AM MASS	10:00AM MASS	12:00 NOON MASS
E. Nicastro	A. Mondrone	C. Lombardi	G. Law
J. Contrino	P. Kanuika	M. Koke	P. Geier

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Getting Ready for Next Sunday

June 3rd - Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ - Cycle B

Scripture Readings ONLINE

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

Reflections on Next Sunday's Scripture Readings

Exodus 24:3-8 Psalm 116 Hebrews 9:11-15 Mark 14:12-16,22-26

"Blood is thicker than water." We recognize that family relationships imply family loyalty. Common history and common origins mean that we share a common bond. Today's readings focus on the obligations and relationships formed because of a blood bond. To share a common history is to live a common life.

In the passage from Exodus, Moses returns from the mountain and reports God's demands for a covenant relationship with the Chosen People. Moses obtains the people's commitment and then symbolizes that bond linking Israel with Yahweh. He writes the terms of the relationship and erects an altar and twelve pillars. Only after reading the terms does Moses sprinkle the people with blood. The end result is the creation of a new family.

The only day on which the high priest could enter the Holy of Holies of the Jerusalem Temple was the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur). The high priest atoned for the sins of his household by using the blood of a bullock. He atoned for the sins of the people by sprinkling the blood of both the bullock and a goat in the Holy of Holies, thus keeping alive the bond between God and Israel. The author of Hebrews sees Good Friday as the Day of Atonement. Jesus' own blood makes possible our entrance into the heavenly sanctuary.

Today's gospel links Jesus' death with Israel's great feast of liberation, the Passover. At the first Passover, the blood on the doorpost prevented the death of the firstborn. The bread broken at the Last Supper symbolizes the disciples' sharing in Jesus' self-offering. Drinking from the cup of his blood creates a new and dynamic common bond.

The Eucharist is a precious experience. Its very nature implies a bond with God and with the community. Our destinies are intertwined. We cannot be loners, for blood is a common bond.

John Craghan, Th.D., S.S.L.
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This is my Body

This is my Blood

For reflection...

In the Eucharist we are joined both with Christ and with each other in love. How are we and our parish "Eucharist" to each other?

Recall an experience of a meal in which you really felt united with those around the table. What insights might this lend to our experience of Eucharist?

In the first reading, blood seals the covenant
between God and the Israelites. What
is the relationship between blood and
life? What kinds of covenants/solemn
agreements have you made in your
life? What might they reveal to you of
Eucharist?

Jesus gives us himself in Eucharist to nourish and sustain us. Disciples of Jesus model his self-giving love. Who are some of the people you know who give of themselves for others?

What are your thoughts or feelings as you receive the Body and Blood of Christ?

Spiritual Reflection by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

ON FRIENDSHIP

One of the richest experiences of grace that we can have this side of eternity is the experience of friendship.

Dictionaries define friendship as a relationship of mutual affection, a bond richer than mere association. They then go on to link friendship to a number of words: *kindness, love, sympathy, empathy, honesty, altruism, loyalty, understanding, compassion, comfort,* and (not least) *trust.* Friends, the dictionaries assert, enjoy each other's company, express their feelings to each other, and make mistakes without fear of judgment from the other.

That basically covers things, but to better grasp the real grace in friendship a number of things inside that definition need explication.

First, as the Greek Stoics affirmed and as is evident in the Christian spirituality, true friendship is only possible among people who are practicing virtue. A gang is not a circle of friendship, nor are many ideological circles. Why? Because friendship needs to bring grace and grace is only found in virtue.

Next, friendship is more than merely human, though it is wonderfully human. When it is genuine, friendship is nothing less than a participation in the flow of life and love that's inside of God. Scripture tells us that *God is love*, but the word it uses for love in this case is the Greek word *agape*, a term which might be rendered as "family", "community", or "the sharing of life". Hence the famous text ("*God is Love*") might be transliterated to read: *God is family, God is community, God is shared existence, and whoever shares his or her existence inside of community and friendship is participating in the very flow of life and love that is inside the Trinity.*

But this isn't always true. Friendship and family can take different forms. Parker Palmer, the contemporary Quaker writer, submits: "If you come here faithfully, you bring great blessing." Conversely, the great Sufi mystic, Rumi, writes: "If you are here unfaithfully, you bring great harm." Family and community can bring grace or block it. Our circle can be one of love and grace, or it can be a one of hatred and sin. Only the former merits the name friendship. Friendship, says St. Augustine, is the beauty of the soul.

Deep, life-giving friendship, as we all know, is as difficult as it is rare. Why? We all long for it in the depths of our soul, so why is it so difficult to find? We all know why: We're different from each other, unique, and rightly cautious as to whom we give entry into our soul. And so it isn't easy to find a soulmate, to have that kind of affinity and trust. Nor is it easy to sustain a friendship once we have found one. Sustained friendship takes hard commitment and that's not our strong point as our psyches and our world forever shift and turn. Moreover, today, virtual friendships don't always translate into real friendships.

Finally, not least, friendship is often hindered or derailed by sex and sexual tension. This is simply a fact of nature and a fact within our culture and all other cultures. Sex and sexuality, while they ideally should be the basis for deep friendship, often are the major hindrance to friendship. Moreover, in our own culture (whose ethos prizes sex over friendship) friendship is often seen as a substitute, and a second-best one at that, for sex.

But while that may be in our cultural ethos, it's clearly not what's deepest in our souls. There we long for something that's ultimately deeper than sex – or is sex in a fuller flowering. There's a deep desire in us all (be that a deeper form of sexual desire or a desire for something that's beyond sex) for a soulmate, for someone to sleep with morally. More deeply than we ache for a sexual partner, we ache for a moral partner, though these desires aren't mutually exclusive, just hard to combine.

Friendship, like love, is always partly a mystery, something beyond us. It's a struggle in all cultures. Part of this is simply our humanity. The pearl of great price is not easily found nor easily retained. True friendship is an eschatological thing, found, though never perfectly, in this life. Cultural and religious factors always work against friendship, as does the omnipresence of sexual tension.

Sometimes poets can reach where academics cannot and so I offer these insights from a poet vis-à-vis the interrelationship between friendship and sex. Friendship, Rainer Marie Rilke suggests, is often one of the great taboos within a culture, but it remains always the endgame: "In a deep, felicitous love between two people you can eventually become the loving protectors of each other's solitude. ... Sex is, admittedly, very powerful, but no matter how powerful, beautiful, and wondrous it may be. If you become the loving protectors of each other's solitude, love gradually turns to friendship."

And as Montaigne once affirmed: "The end of friendship may be more important than love. The epiphanies of youth are meant to blossom and ripen into something everlasting."