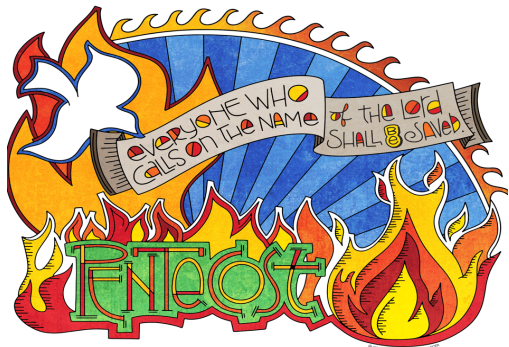


St. James'-St. Matthew's Lutheran Church
119-15 135th Avenue
South Ozone Park, NY 11420

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We Worship Every Sunday at 10:00 am
Visit us at SouthOzoneParkChurch.org

The Messenger

June 2022 Edition

Grace, mercy and peace to you in the name of our Triune God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen

As a Church, we are transitioning from the Easter season into Pentecost, though it is a hope-filled time, living in the promise of the resurrection of Jesus and receiving the Holy Spirit, it is a time marred by mass murders by teenagers with guns.

It is a difficult time for everyone so, I wish to share some excerpts from my sermon on Sunday, May 29, 2022: “Last Sunday, we heard about Jesus sharing peace with his first disciples and a blessing of the Holy Spirit of God. Last Sunday, I also issued a challenge to you to pass on that peace and blessing – be the blessings in the world...So, how are we doing?

I know...I know, it's been one of those weeks—a week in my opinion that will gradually become the norm in these United States. I hope that I'm wrong, but I say this because of the inherent greed (for power), selfishness and disregard for the life of others among our elected leaders.

In my assessment, we are faced with two (2) options: The first one is for us to embrace this new reality and develop coping mechanisms of dealing with trauma and grief on a regular basis OR... Fight – stand up to the law makers, confront them and lobby them to make the necessary changes—changes to validate the sanctity of life: young, old and everyone in between...

In the wake of recent the mass shootings in Buffalo, NY, and Uvalde, TX, by teenagers, there is an overwhelming sense of disillusionment – the feelings that “thoughts and prayers” are becoming too common and, to a great extent, ineffective.

Well, if you are of this view, there is work to be done – as part of the wider church, we have an opportunity to shape public policy and be advocates of the rights to live – to live free from fear and intimidation – to live free from terror and death.

On a weekend when we remember fallen service men and women and celebrate those who defend the rights of life – mainly overseas, it's ironic that we cannot defend the rights of children in school to live...or that of seniors shopping in a supermarket.

My siblings in Christ: Jesus wants the best for you – and for you to know and truly experience the love of God. Jesus wants that same love to be reflected – shine in and through your life – everywhere you may go.

Jesus wants to live in and through you. But most of all, Jesus prays that you never be separated from him – never. Not today, not tomorrow – not ever for you are precious in the eyes of God and worthy to live, free from fear and death itself... Amen!”



Father's Day is Sunday, June 19th—10 AM

*A special gift awaits all men in attendance.
Invite someone to worship with you !*



Part of our mission as a called-out community of believers known as the church is to bring the gospel (the good news of Jesus) to the world. St. James'-St. Matthew's has identified a need in our community for food, and a Food Ministry was launched.

In collaboration with Stacey's Pantry and Key Food Supermarkets, we launched this new ministry providing this monthly service on the 4th **Thursday** of the month—the next one is set for **June 23 from 5 PM to 6 PM**.

What this means is that there is a wonderful opportunity to enrich your lives of service to God and your neighbors. Please contact the Church office either by phone, 718-845-8770 or email stjstm@aol.com and let us know if you have any resources, be it time, talents, and treasures to grow this new ministry.

Yes, Church Volunteers are still needed!



...Still Wanted !

We still need **Ushers, Lectors, and Assistant Ministers**. Please contact Pastor Dabee or the Church Office to indicate your willingness to help make worship a welcoming and meaningful experience for everyone in attendance. Thanks in advance!



*95th Anniversary Celebrations:
Sunday, August 28th & October 30th*

*Synod Bishop Paul Egensteiner
will be with us on August 28, 2022*

Save the Date



After 35 years as musician, organist, choir director and everything music, our beloved **Maurizio Najt retired on May 15, 2022**.
Farewell and God's blessings!



On May 22 we welcomed **Emilio Teubal** as our Director of Music. Emilio is a pianist/composer/arranger originally from Argentina and has recorded over 20 albums. Join us for worship, meet him and hear him.

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

+ + +

Contact us by Mail:

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Office Telephone: 718-845-8770

Office Email: stjstm@aol.com

Website: SouthOzoneParkChurch.org

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Pastor Romeo Dabee

718-749-4953 (Pastoral Emergencies)

Email: PastorDabee@gmail.com