

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 light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. (John 1:5).

Sounds familiar? I hope it does, for it forms the basis of the season of Advent leading to Christmas and the centerpiece to our faith in Jesus—the Christ-child. But there's more, with the lighting of one candle, Advent begins on December 3rd this year.

With the lighting of one candle, Advent begins. We have been here before—with one candle. A candle to offer a prayer. A candle to remember death. A candle to mark the passing of another year.

Whether in the church building, around the dinner table, or in the silence of your room, light a candle; you are encouraged to: Offer a prayer. Sit in the silence. Offer yourself. Listen. Wait. Allow the light of Christ to shine in and through you. Amen



The Seafarers International House—New York City port chaplains bring satchels filled with gifts to the ships for the holiday. Every crew member on a ship regardless of their faith or nationality will open their satchels, each containing:

- One Sweatshirt – hooded or not (M-L-XL)
- Three Pairs of Socks – thermal or gym
- One T-Shirt (size M-L-XL)
- One Knitted Winter Cap (scarf optional)
- One Can of Nuts, Large Bar of Chocolate, or Health Snack Bar
- A Holiday or Christmas Card from YOU!

Throughout the season of Advent and Christmas, we will gather these items for donation to the Seafarers International House (www.sihnyc.org). You pick the colors, styles and brands as you go shopping this season!

The Messenger

Advent 2023 Edition



Thank you to all who supported Operation Christmas Child this year—a total of 52 shoe/gift boxes were filled for the children.



Advent Worship Services

Sunday, December 3, 10, 17 & 24 — 10 AM

Christmas EVE Candlelight Worship

Sunday, December 24 — 7 PM

Christmas DAY Celebration Worship

Monday, December 25 — 10 AM

Christmas Service of Lessons and Carol

Sunday, December 31 — 10 AM





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 and Stop and Shop Supermarkets, we launched this new ministry providing a monthly service—the next program is set for Thursday, **December 21st from 3PM to 4PM...**and Thursday, January 18th from 3 PM—4PM.



Yes, volunteers are always welcome at 1 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.

New Members Received



Our Church welcomed Barbara Minerva, Edward Middendorf Sr. and Anna Beharry (pictured below with sister) as new members on Sunday, October 29, 2023.



Harvest Festival 2023



A bountiful feast—Thanks be to God!



Sunday, December 3rd at 11 AM -
Special Congregational Meeting to examine
the 2024 Proposed Budget.
All members are invited to participate!

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

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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