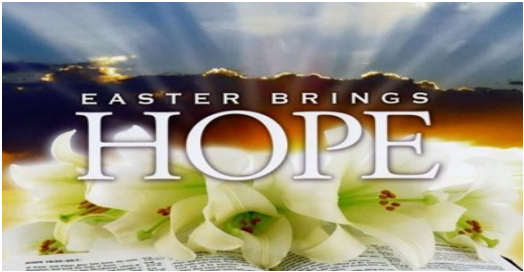


St. James-St. Matthew's Lutheran Church
119-15 135th Avenue
South Ozone Park, NY 11420

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

An Easter Blessing
by Pastor Romeo Dabee

As we gather on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox (yes, that is how Easter Sunday is determined) we will engage in shouting and singing: “He is risen! Yes! He lives. I know that my redeemer lives!” Since Jesus died and since this was his mission – on our behalf, we can conclude: Jesus has conquered death and made the grave the gate to eternal life for all who believe.

The German theologian Jurgen Moltmann says it best as he describes the great span of time from Good Friday to Easter. Moltmann said: “God weeps with us so that we may someday laugh with him.” And today is that day when we laugh with God. Easter is a highpoint on the roller coaster of every believer’s life. The dressing up with new outfits, festive music and the cheerful news stir our emotions and cause our hearts to ring with joy.

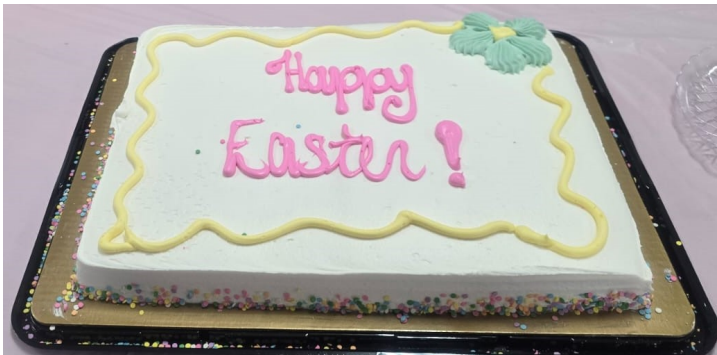
Very true! But quite often, in the weeks after Easter, the roller coaster takes a steep dive; and that should not be. For Jesus was raised by God, not just for a today, but forever. He is our ever-living head. **Each Sunday is a celebration of our risen Savior.** Therefore my siblings in Christ, I pray that you would keep the Easter message ringing in your hearts and shining in your lives. Because Jesus lives, he lives, yes he lives forevermore.

May God bless you and your families in this time of joyous celebration; for Christ is risen indeed.. Amen. Alleluia!



The Messenger
Easter 2025 Edition

*Easter Fellowship and
Children’s Program*





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 partnership with Stacey's Pantry (St. Jacobus, Woodside), St. Paul's, Richmond Hill and Key Food and Stop and Shop Supermarkets, we launched this new ministry providing a monthly service —the next program is set for Thursday, **May 22th from 5PM to 6PM...**and Thursday, June 26th from 5 PM—6PM.



Yes, volunteers are always welcome **2 hours** before to help prepare bags! 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.



Thank you to all who made our worship during Lent and Easter a time of joy!

Special thanks to our worship assistants, musicians & organist, ushers, lectors, assisting ministers and altar guild team.

Thanks to all who prepared soup, meals and fellowship during Lent and Easter and helpers for our Children Easter Program



The Rev. Dr. Katrina Foster was elected Bishop of the Synod during the MNYS 2025 Synod Assembly held May 2–3 in Melville, NY.

With her election, The Rev. Dr. Foster becomes the first woman to serve as Bishop of the Metropolitan New York Synod, a historic milestone in the Synod's ongoing commitment to equity and inclusion.

She has served congregations in the Bronx, Bridgehampton, and Amagansett. Now serving as pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church in Brooklyn, she brings over 30 years of ordained ministry experience, having revitalized parishes, developed senior housing and community centers, and led inclusive ministries for LGBTQIA+ individuals, immigrants, and underserved families.

"I am humbled and energized by this call to serve as Bishop, and I believe God is leading us toward a future of bold faith and compassionate action," stated The Rev. Dr. Foster. "Together, we will focus on Evangelism that invites, Discipleship that transforms, and Financial Stewardship that sustains, so that our congregations become more effective Jesus-following, neighbor-serving communities of faith."

The Rev. Dr. Katrina Foster will officially assume office on **August 1, 2025**. The formal rite of installation is scheduled for **November 22**, following a period of transition and preparation to assume the role and responsibilities of the office of Bishop.

Let us pray for our new Bishop and the church in this time of transition!

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

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Contact us by Mail:

St. James—St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

119-15 135th Avenue

South Ozone Park, NY 11420

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