

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

From our new Bishop Katrina Foster



Thank you for joining our community this weekend (Nov. 22) at the installation. Whether you traveled from the Hudson Valley, Long Island, New York City, or beyond; whether you joined online via livestream; whether you attend a Lutheran church each week or simply felt called to attend and witness this historic event, your presence made the day even more meaningful.

I will serve as the Bishop for all New Yorkers and we, with our unique Lutheran Christian witness, will be power-filled servant leaders in all our neighborhoods. From the Hudson Valley's hills and parkways to Long Island's beaches and railroads, to New York City's skyscrapers, tenements, and subways, every one of our neighbors is deserving of compassion, dignity, and justice. Our ministry aims to see and uplift the humanity of all people.



The Messenger
Advent 2025 Edition



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. Thank you for participating!



Advent Worship Services

Sunday, November 30, December 7, 14 & 21 — 10 AM

Christmas EVE Candlelight Worship

Wednesday, December 24 — 7 PM

Christmas DAY Celebration Worship

Thursday, December 25 — 10 AM

Christmas Service of Lessons and Carol

Sunday, December 28 — 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, Key Food and Stop and Shop Supermarkets and St. Paul's Richmond Hill, we are providing a monthly service —the next program is set for Thursday, **December 18th from 3PM to 4PM**...and Thursday, January 22nd from 3 PM—4PM.



Yes, volunteers are always welcome by 1 PM to help! 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.



...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.



Thank you to all who supported Operation Christmas Child this year—a total of 61 shoe/gift boxes were filled for the children.



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 *November 30th* 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



Sunday, December 7, 2025 at 11 AM -
Special Congregational Meeting to examine and vote on our 2026 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