

ST. JUDE JOURNAL

APRIL 2026

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...and more!

APRIL CALENDAR

* * *

Parish Office

526-221-2505

Mon.–Thu.

9:30am–1:30pm

* * *

HEALING SERVICE 2nd WED

11:00 A.M.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 A.M. HE

10:15 A.M. HE



FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Parish,

As we enter the month of April, I invite you to join us in the journey of Holy Week - a sacred time when we reflect on Christ's passion, death, and resurrection. Holy Week isn't just a series of services; it's an opportunity to walk together in faith, remembering the story that shapes our lives as Christians. Whether you are able to attend every service or just one, your presence is a blessing to our community.

Alongside these sacred moments, we also look forward to some joyful traditions - especially our annual Easter Egg Hunt! This delightful event brings laughter and excitement to both young and old, as we search for colorful eggs hidden around the rectory

backyard.

And a bit of extra fun with Cascarones - brightly decorated, hollowed-out eggs filled with confetti. Watch out, because breaking a Cascarón over someone's head is a playful way to shower them in good luck and the spirit of celebration. Both traditions are a wonderful way to share in the joy of Easter with our parish family.

With Easter hope,
Mo. Jimmie Sue

VESTRY VIEWS By Maria Smith



Every Easter season as we celebrate the resurrection, I think about God's hand in spring's renewal and the physical transformation of our world. Even though scientists have discovered the many processes of life that we take for granted, it still amazes me that there is such meticulous design in the changes occurring.

I think about photosynthesis-converting light energy to chemical energy, the perfect symmetry found in plants and animals, and the migration of birds and insects.

The Monarch Butterfly uses celestial and magnetic cues and software in a tiny brain the size of a pinhead to fly from the northeast to the same forest in Mexico for the winter, and back to the US in the spring every year. I believe this is only one example of God's presence in our world.

Surrounded by the miracles of nature, I feel a spiritual renewal and stirred to devotion. Our church offers us all the beauty and joy of the season and a sense of belonging. I look forward to celebrating Eastertime with our church family at Saint Jude's.



VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Treasurer's Report: Brian presents updated Treasurer's Report.

- Motion to accept Treasurer's Report. **Unanimous approval.**

Business:

- The roofing company John Goess was selected to do our roofing and gutter repairs.

Action Item:

- N/A.

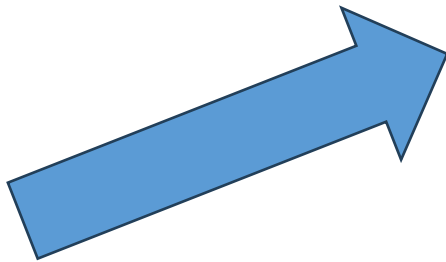
Rector's Report:

- I made pastoral care calls and visits.
- Ash Wednesday services went very well.
- Submitted our Parochial Report.
- The funeral for Robert Rincon was lovely. As was the service for Jean Heisler.
- Held the Wedding Rehearsal for Jiha and Kim on 3/17. Their wedding is 3/21.
- Met with Flower Guild to plan Easter Flowers. Met with Country Fair Team for continued planning. Met with Social Justice Team.



TREASURER'S REPORT By Brian Quinn

- January Net Operating Income surplus of \$2,655
 - Snow removal was \$1,660 for the year to date
 - Two less deposit as 2 Sundays with no in person services this year
- February YTD Net Income surplus of \$13,649
 - Includes other funds such as VBS, LGBTQAI, COVID, FMM & Loan Payoff Fund, Insurance Repair Funds
 - Insurance received \$15,155 to date
- Loan stands at \$37,645 at Feb EOM
 - Meeting to discuss campaign to pay of loan on 3/25
 - No early payoff penalty from Flagstar
 - Donation of \$20k last year which covers loan expenses for 2026
 - Additional \$10k donated to Debt in March
- Pledge Status:
 - Figure from Finance Committee is \$245,783
 - Pledges submitted to office for 2026 is \$212,868 with pledge count of 50
 - Last year was \$222,404 with pledge count of 61
 - Pledge \$51,978 thru February



CLOTHING COLLECTION BIN



We are collecting used clothing and shoes in our Collection Bin. St. Jude's receives ten cents per pound of any items donated and receive a check on a weekly basis. None of the donations are made into rags.

Please share with your family and friends about our Clothing Collection Bin – every pound counts.



FEBRUARY 2026 Financial Summary



	Yearly	Feb Actuals
Operating Income	312,120	62,592
Altar Donations	3,813	280
Special Offerings	3,490	395
Miscellaneous Contributions	21,740	715
Building Use	1,300	250
Outreach & Mission Income	4,100	349
Total Income	346,563	64,582
Expense		
Worship	4,493	844
Formation	870	18
Outreach & Mission	30,180	4,505
Stewardship	2,690	0
Hospitality	1,000	0
Building Maintenance	53,010	7,953
Rectory Maintenance	9,525	1,878
Loans and Bank Fees	200	94
Office & Office Supplies	9,955	1,539
Insurance	39,871	6,922
Miscellaneous Expenses	3,300	24
Personnel	214,582	38,152
Total Expense	370,146	32,229
Surplus/(Deficit)	(23,583)	32,353



HEALING SERVICES

11:00 am to 11:30 am Healing Service will be on Wednesday, April 8th in the Chapel with Ken Norian and Chris Vanenburg.



SUNDAY SCHOOL by Barbara Arnold

As part of the mission in Sunday School, students are encouraged to grow their faith by helping others. The past few months have been a great example of this and the dedication of our youth to the program.

Vacation Bible School Registration

VBS Registration is open now for PreK through 6th grade
<https://www.myvbs.org/churchofstjude> Please register by June 15.

A colorful poster for Vacation Bible School (VBS) titled "Knights of North Castle". The background is a snowy, mountainous landscape. In the center, a large, stylized shield contains the words "KNIGHTS OF NORTH CASTLE" in a bold, blocky font. A cartoon dragon is flying in front of the shield. The text "COESBURY'S VBS" is in the top left corner. On the right side, the text reads: "VBS at The Church of St. Jude July 6-10, 2026 9am - 12 pm". Below this, the address "3606 Lufberry Ave Wantagh, NY 11793" is listed. A QR code is present, and the text "Games, Crafts, Science, Music" is written in a curved font. At the bottom right, the website "www.myvbs.org/churchofstjude" is provided. At the bottom center, it says "Sponsored by Episcopal Ministries of Long Island".



EASTER CANDY FOR EASTER EGG HUNT NEEDED



Please donate candy needed for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Please donate wrapped small candies that would fit into the plastic easter egg. All donations can be left in Classroom 4. Thank you!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHARITY – ANSWER THE CALL

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Sunday School charity "Answer the Call." All the monies collected during Advent Boutique and the Christmas Card service goes towards the charity. Thank you to everyone who keeps filling the donation cans located outside of classroom 4. The charity collection continues till mid-May

😊 Thank you!



Palm Sunday, March 29, 8:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.

Blessing of the Palms, Holy Eucharist

Maundy Thursday, April 2, 7:00 p.m.

Hand Washing, Holy Eucharist, Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday, April 3, 12:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

12:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. - Veneration of the Cross;

Easter Vigil, April 4, 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 5, 8:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.

8 a.m. - Holy Eucharist 10:15 a.m. - Holy Eucharist

Easter Egg Hunt & Cascarones

HOSPITALITY REPORT By Kathy Hecht



Many thanks to all the Coffee Hour hosts in March. Thank you to our Scouts for hosting on Scout Sunday. Congratulations to them and to other members of Service Organizations. Thanks also to all those who signed up to host in April and May. There are only a few slots still open.

Easter is the first Sunday in April. While the youth and young-at-heart are hunting Easter eggs and pelting each other with cascarones, there will be coffee and snacks in the Parish Hall for those who wish to sit and chat.

Looking forward, the Start-of-Summer Picnic will be on May 17th. More information and volunteer sheets will be available at the end of April.



Thanks to all who contribute to the Coffee Hour donation basket. Your generosity is needed as supplies have become more expensive. As always, any questions, see Kathy Hecht or Amy Deppe.



THANK YOU'S



- Thank you to everyone who helped prepare Cascarones and who've already brought Easter candy!
- Thank you to everyone who has signed up to be a Passion Reader :)
- Thank you to the Altar Guild and Flower Guild for preparing the

church for Holy Week and Easter 😊

- Coffee Hour Hosts – thank you!

A “WARM HELLO” FROM A PAST CHURCH MEMBER – CRAIG SCHWARTZ



Mary, Craig, and John

fair. My mom oversaw the craft table and made those very cute Christmas mice. We both talk about St. Jude with fond memories.

I grew up with the Church of St Jude and all the wonderful people I knew. From age 14 to 24 I was the Sexton at the church. Every Saturday, I would clean all that red carpet. And on Sundays open the doors for the first service with my Mom. I enjoyed talking with the flower ladies and alter committee on Saturdays. The annual country fair was my favorite day at church. People from all over Wantagh would come to the event to find the best crafts and trinkets at the

ST. JUDE'S LGBTQAI+ GROUP

What our group is about



We get together for discussions and events celebrating, discussing, and helping each other complete the connection between God and the LGBTQAI+ community in the Church.

If anyone would like to be added to the LGBTQAI+ emailing list, Facebook group or if you have any questions about our group, feel free to email Mo. Jimmie Sue at revdeppe@gmail.com.

Remember ALL are welcome, the A stands for Ally! You are already a member of our group if you are a member of St. Jude's welcoming community of faith!



Come to the Pride Pizza
Dinner for a evening of
fellowship in the
Parish Hall :)

Wednesday, May 20th - 7pm-8:30pm

Allies welcome!

LOVE WHO
YOU ARE

ST. JUDE'S SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM

The Social Justice Team is a group of parishioners who are interested in finding ways to support the marginalized and vulnerable in our communities. We explore how we can work towards meeting their needs, and also work toward a society that promotes dignity and due process for all people?

We meet every other Sunday following Coffee Hour. Our April meetings are scheduled for 4/12 and 4/26. Last month we distributed 50 postcards to interested parishioners to contact their representatives regarding due process. We also created a banner to display for No Kings Day 3.0 on 3/38/26. Please feel free to join us when your schedule allows.



MISSION CENTER



The St. Jude Mission Center at the Little Red Barn currently serves 15-20 families every other week. We are currently stocked with baby essentials and food thanks to donations from parishioners here at St. Jude, as well as, St. Francis in Bellmore, and from supermarket drives by CAP, Wantagh Kiwanis, and Levittown Kiwanis.

Dates Open: The Mission Center is open at St. Jude's on 4/12 and 4/19. We are open from 1:00pm to 2:30pm.

Donations Needed:

- Size 6 diapers
- Baby wipes
- One-pound packages of rice
- Black beans
- Canned fruit
- School snacks for kids (protein bars, cookies, chips)

If you are interested in volunteering or sponsoring a fundraising event for the Mission Center, we are always happy to discuss those opportunities. Please contact Mother Jimmie Sue, Barbara Rice Thompson, or Patty Doll.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Maundy Thursday Service – April 2nd @ 7pm
- Good Friday Services – April 3rd @ 12pm & 7pm
- Easter Vigil Service – April 4th @ 7pm
- Easter Sunday & Easter Egg Hunt & Cascarones – April 5th
- Easter Healing Service – April 8th @ 11am
- **May Journal Deadline** – April 20th





SAVE THE DATE – MAY 17TH

May 17th is Recognition Sunday, Special Communion,
and the Beginning-of-Summer Picnic!
Burgers, hot dogs, charcoal, etc. will be provided by St. Jude.

FIND ST. JUDE'S ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Instagram: search for @stjudeepiscopal

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StJudeWantagh/>

YouTube: Search for @stjudeepiscopal

<https://www.youtube.com/@stjudeepiscopal>

A simple way to boost our online presence is to like and share all the wonderful events and pictures we post. Please consider giving us a “like” and a “follow”.

CHURCH OFFICE CORNER

2026 Sanctuary Lamps/ Altar Flowers (Live or silk)/ Altar Candles / Mass Cards signup is online or call the office: <https://forms.gle/Q7DqqaCHm5LrvLFX6>

Please print the name of the individual(s) you wish to remember or honor. If looking for a whole month, please choose the month-long option; or for a specific date choose this instead. Please make a new form for each month (all December on one form) or choose a specific Sunday.

FROM YOUR EDITORS

If you would like to write an article, please contact Mo. Jimmie Sue. If you know someone who would like a copy, please contact Sue Heilig.

THE BISHOP

The Rt. Rev. Lawrence Provenzano

THE RECTOR

The Rev. Jimmie Sue Deppe

WARDENS

Charles Garbowski (2028)	Alan Hecht (2027), Clerk
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VESTRY

Michael Nersesian (2028)	Adrienne Comito (2028)
June Gerbracht (2027)	Maria Smith (2029)
Jon Mortagua (2029)	Janine Scarlatos (2027)
Laura Anne Loud (2027)	Lauren Wangner (2029)
Ken Norian (2028)	Brian Quinn, Treasurer

STAFF

Deacon: The Rev. Deacon Walter H. Fuller
Music Director: Shira Fishkin
Parish Administrator: Susan Heilig
Sunday School Coordinator: Barbara Arnold

OFFICE CLOSED: Monday, April 6th





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 (March) 8am Worship 10:15am Worship  Decorate Cascarones	30 CAP P.H. 7pm	31 AA 7:30pm	1 (April)	 Maundy Thursday 7pm	 12pm & 7pm	 7pm
5  8am Worship 10:15am Worship Easter Egg Hunt & Cascarones	6 CAP P.H. 7pm 	7 AA 7:30pm	8 11am Lay led Healing Service - Chapel	9 AA 7:30pm	10 9:30am Mice Makers AA 7:00pm	11
12 8am Worship 10:15am Worship	13 CAP P.H. 7pm	14 AA 7:30pm	15	16 AA 7:30pm	17 9:30am Mice Makers AA 7:00pm	18
19 8am Worship 10:15am Worship	20 CAP P.H. 7pm Journal Deadline	21 AA 7:30pm 7:30pm Vestry Meeting	22	23 AA 7:30pm	24 9:30am Mice Makers AA 7:00pm	25
26 8am Worship 10:15am Worship	27 CAP P.H. 7pm	28 AA 7:30pm	28	30 AA 7:30pm		

SJ CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Maundy Thursday Service – April 2nd @ 7pm
- Good Friday Services – April 3rd @ 12pm & 7pm
- Easter Vigil Service – April 4th @ 7pm
- Easter Sunday & Easter Egg Hunt & Cascarones – April 5th
- Easter Healing Service – April 8th @ 11am
- **May Journal Deadline** – April 20th

The Church Office is open from 9:30am to 1:30pm, Monday through Thursday; at other times please call the office and leave a message - 516-221-2505. You can always email the office. at SJWantagh1@gmail.com.

CHURCH OF ST. JUDE (EPISCOPAL)

3606 Lufberry Avenue

Wantagh, NY 11793

O: 516-221-2505

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TO:

CELEBRATING ST. JUDE'S IN PICTURES
SCOUTS SUNDAY



WE ENCOURAGE OUR LITTLE'S CURIOSITY ABOUT CHURCH

