

## St. James-St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

119-15 135<sup>th</sup> Avenue

South Ozone Park, NY 11420

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



**We Worship Every Sunday at 10:00 am**

**Visit us at [SouthOzoneParkChurch.org](http://SouthOzoneParkChurch.org)**

Dear Church, two weeks ago, I issued a statement in response to executive orders on immigration. There are many executive orders to be concerned about but one that has sparked fear in our communities. The administration has rolled back guidance to immigration authorities in protected areas such as places of worship, schools, and hospitals... We will continue to speak out against harmful policies and in support of our marginalized neighbors.

Before the change in administration, the ELCA's AMMPARO program has focused on broad outreach and full engagement with those we are called to support through this ministry. We have reached out to immigrants, Lutheran congregations and members, global synod companions, and ecumenical and interreligious partners to help them better understand the changes signaled during this administration's campaign.

ELCA advocacy staff have accompanied Lutheran members to Capitol Hill in recent weeks to raise this topic with elected representatives, highlighting how fear is keeping people from attending worship, accessing health care, or going to school.

We are supporting Lutheran Services of America, Global Refuge, and other Lutheran partner organizations directly affected by executive orders and named in a tweet on X several weeks ago regarding government funding to Lutheran organizations.

Recently, the ELCA along with several ecumenical and interreligious partners convened a summit to join our voices in speaking out against these actions. I will continue to speak out on behalf of the ELCA and as your presiding bishop when policies and political rhetoric threaten the lifeblood of our calling to mission and ministry in God's world. I ask each of you to do the same. Contact your representatives in congress. Volunteer in your community and write letters to your local representatives.

## **The Messenger**

*February 2025 Edition*

Hear this from St. Paul, "So let us not grow weary in doing what is right. For we reap at harvest time if we do not give up." So get motivated and get organized. We are church together, and together we will continue to defend the most vulnerable communities and people among us as Jesus taught us.

Be well, dear church.

*Excerpts from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton's message to the Church, February 14, 2025.*



**Ash Wednesday — March 5, 2025**

**Worship Service with Ashes and  
Holy Communion at 7 PM**



*We journey through the season of Lent with*

**Mid-week Devotions at 7 PM**

March 12 — Loneliness vs. Being Alone

*Luke 4:1-15*

March 19 — Demons within US

*Luke 9:37-43*

March 26 — Racism in Christianity?

*Luke 13:1-9*

April 2 — Welcome Home!

*Luke 15:11-32*

April 9 — A Fragrant Offering

*John 12:1-8*



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, **March 27th from 3PM to 4PM**...and Thursday, April 24th 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](mailto:stjstm@aol.com) and let us know if you have any resources, be it time, talents, and treasures, to grow this new ministry.



**Lenten Soup Supper at 6 PM**

Wednesday, March 12 to April 9

Please sign up now to host !



**...Still Wanted !**

**Usher, Lector, Assistant Minister,  
Communion Assistant, Altar Guild Team**



*Meeting Update*

*Council and Officers for 2025/6 are:*

President—Scott Campbell

Vice President—Ziningi Nduli

Secretary—Eileen Varano

Treasurer—Ella Bisember

Financial Secretary—Ralph Green

Worship—Tricia Harduwar

Altar Guild—Babsy Khargie

Food Program—Gerri Holder

Faith Formation—Dularie Ramdin

## HOLY WEEK



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Palm Sunday**—April 13 at 10 AM

**Maundy Thursday**—April 17 at 7 PM

**Good Friday**—April 18 at 7 PM

**Children's Easter Program**

Saturday, April 19 at 10 AM

**Easter Celebration**—April 20 at 10 AM

**Sunday Worship: 10:00 am**

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**Contact us by Mail:**

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**Website: SouthOzoneParkChurch.org**

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**Pastor Romeo Dabee**

**718-749-4953 (Pastoral Emergencies)**

**Email: PastorDabee@gmail.com**