

Roman Catholic Church of St. Matthew

35 North Service Road, Dix Hills, New York 11746
(631) 499 - 8520 Fax: (631) 499 - 1530 www.smrcc.org
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Pastor

Rev. Robert Hewes

Associate Pastors

Rev. Joseph Habila
Rev. Benet Uwasomba

Deacon

Carmine DeStefano

Pastoral Associate

Sr. Kathleen McCarthy, O. P.

D.R.E.: Mary Donaldson

Music Director: Lee Forsythe



The Salvation of Souls is the Supreme Law

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

SATURDAY: 4:00 p.m.

SUNDAY: 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. (Family Mass), 11:00 a.m. (Choir Mass),
12:30 p.m. (A Traditional Latin Mass is offered at this regularly scheduled Mass - 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month.)

MONDAY - SATURDAY: 9:00 a.m. Mass in the Church. Holy Days will be printed in the bulletin.

CONFESSIONS

SATURDAY: 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. For any other time, please call to make an appointment with a priest.

BAPTISM SCHEDULE

The 3rd Sunday and the 4th Saturday of the each month. (No Baptisms Easter Sunday or Christmas Weekends.) First-time parents are required to attend a **Baptismal Preparation Class** which is offered on the last Sunday of each month at 11:00 a.m. in the Chapel. (No class is held in December.)
Registration is required for both the Baptism and /or the Baptism Class and must be done online at www.smrcc.org.

MARRIAGE

Arrangements should be made at least 6 months in advance and should be made prior to making plans for a reception. Call the Parish Center for an appointment with the priest or deacon you wish to witness your wedding. All couples are required to attend Pre-Cana.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

LENT 2022

DRAW CLOSER TO GOD!

JOIN US IN THE CHURCH
EVERY TUESDAY OF LENT AT 3:00 PM
EVERY FRIDAY OF LENT AT 7:00 PM

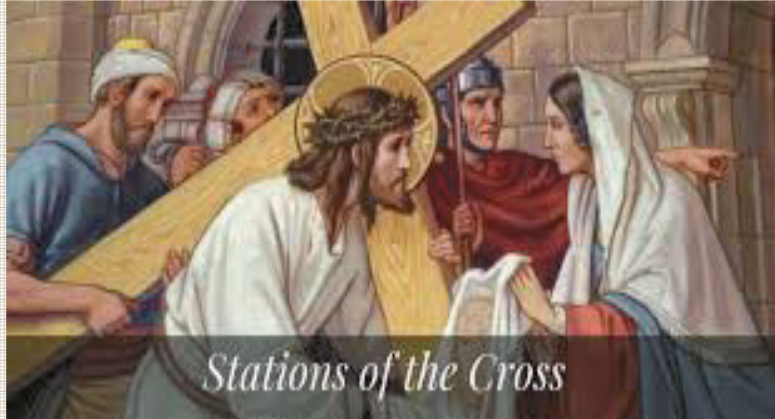
MEDITATION ON THE PASSION OF CHRIST



EUCCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR: EVERY TUESDAY AFTER THE 9 AM MASS

The first Stations of the Cross were walked by Jesus himself on the way to Calvary. Known as the "Via Dolorosa" ("The Way of Suffering") or the "Via Crucis" ("The Way of the Cross"), it was marked out from the earliest times and was a traditional walk for pilgrims who came to Jerusalem. The early Christians in Jerusalem would walk the same pathway that Jesus walked, pausing for reflection and prayer.

Later, when Christians could not travel to the Holy Land, artistic depictions of "The Way of the Cross" were set up in churches, or outside and Christians



would walk from station to station, reading the Gospel account of the Passion, or simply praying and reflecting on each event. While the content or place of each station had changed, the intention was to

make a mini-pilgrimage and follow, literally in the footsteps of Jesus.

This devotion became better known in the Middle Ages, and the Franciscans are credited with its spread. Lent is a time when many people make the Stations and some churches present Passion plays or Living Stations. But anyone can pray the Stations at any time. It is a simple and personal reflection on the passion of Jesus and what it means to us.

LENTEN DISCIPLINES OF FASTING & ABSTINENCE

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Lent 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Lent is a journey from the desert of death to the springs of new life. We follow Jesus into the wilderness of the desert to renew our baptismal covenant with the Father. During this sacred time, we die to sin, and washed clean from our self-centeredness and attachment to the world, rise to divine grace and love. As we enter this privileged season, let us reflect once more on the three means we employ during this forty-day journey of penance and conversion: prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Prayer: Prayer is more simply a conversation with God, and St. Paul reminds us that this conversation must be continued. The Apostle to the Gentiles enjoins us to “pray at all times” (Eph 6:18), “pray without ceasing” (1 Thess 5-17), and “be constant in prayer” (Rom 12:12). To pray this way requires effort. It demands silence, artful listening and remaining in the presence of God. This Lent we remember two powerful ways we enter into this holy conversation: by sitting in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament and through *lectio divina*, a prayerful reading of Sacred Scripture.

Fasting: The Church Fathers speak extensively on the power of fasting to break sin and open our hearts to the grace of God. St. Peter Chrysologus writes: “Fasting is the soul of prayer, mercy is the lifeblood of fasting. So if you pray, fast; if you fast, show mercy; if you want your petition to be heard, hear the petition of others. If you do not close your ear to others, you open God’s ear to yourself” (*Sermo* 43: PL 52, 320, 322). Let us remember, too, that bodily fasting is useless unless it is joined with spiritual fasting, that is, fasting from our passions.

Almsgiving: Scripture brings the three marks of our Lenten journey together and puts the emphasis on the last: “Prayer and fasting are good, but better than either is almsgiving accompanied by righteousness ... It is better to give alms than to store up gold; for almsgiving saves one from death and expiates every sin. Those who regularly give alms shall enjoy a full life” (Tob 12:8-9). Almsgiving is better because it points to charity. We remember we are not only to give materially to those in need but also give of ourselves as we love God and neighbor.

Last October, Pope Francis invited the Church into a synod on synodality. The Holy Father wants the Church to journey together in a multi-year process listening to each other, hearing the Word and celebrating the Eucharist. As we journey towards Easter, let us be united in mind and spirit. May the spiritual exercise of prayer, fasting and almsgiving prepare us for Easter and an experience of the power of God, which “dispels wickedness, washes faults away, restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to mourners, drives out hatred, fosters concord, and brings down the mighty” (*The Easter Proclamation—Exulted*). Then, alive in Christ, we can go forward evangelizing, as Pope Francis would want, with *parrhesia*: “Boldness, enthusiasm, the freedom to speak out, [and] apostolic fervor” (*Gaudere et Exsultate* 129).

May the loving presence of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who remained faithful to her son at the foot of the cross protect and sustain us in our Lenten journey.

Sincerely in Christ,

+ *John O. Barres*
Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Rockville Centre

As You Plan Your Future, Please Consider a Legacy Gift to Our Parish



The principle of Stewardship is frequently discussed in Catholic circles, both among the laity and Church leadership. Stewardship is based in scripture and in Church traditions. Stewardship flows from our gratitude to God for the gifts, with which we have been blessed. We show our gratitude by being generous in our response with our time, talent, and treasure.

As a Priest, I am committing to God as much as I can of my time, talent, and treasure. The Catholic faith has been the cornerstone of my life. The priesthood ever continues to be a source of joy and fulfillment. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the Church. I strive to be a faithful steward and through my service leave a legacy that survives beyond my death.

As your pastor, I would like to encourage you to consider ways that you can leave a lasting legacy. Let me suggest that making a planned gift to the Church is a way you can leave a legacy and express gratitude for what the Church has meant to you. A planned gift can be a lasting way to fulfill your stewardship of treasure.

You may be asking yourself what a planned gift is as it can be a confusing term and it is often misunderstood. Very simply, planned giving describes a donor's commitment to transfer capital assets to a qualified religious organization or other charity. More often than not, a planned gift is made by means of a formal agreement or contract. Planned gifts are normally made from the donor's accumulated wealth as part of an overall estate plan. The most common form of a planned gift is a bequest provision in a will.

Many Catholics find the idea of making a planned gift to their parish appealing. Parishioners often wonder how to go about making a planned gift and they have other questions about planned giving options.

One reason parishioners have questions is that they do not often hear about planned giving in their Catholic community. And Church leaders do not talk about planned giving as much as we could or should. It is my hope that my written reflection will help remedy the lack of information on this important subject.

Here at the Parish, faithful parishioners have found that naming the parish in their wills or trusts to be a very fulfilling way to show their appreciation for what the Church has meant to them. Some parishioners have left planned gifts in memory of a loved one or close friend. Others have made a bequest to support a particular parish ministry, or outreach.

Individuals who make planned gifts often enjoy significant tax advantages from their giving. Still others find that once their surviving family receives a reasonable inheritance, leaving a bequest to the parish is a fulfilling way to show their gratitude for God's blessings and leave a spiritual legacy.

I would prayerfully ask you to consider the Parish as a worthy object of your generosity. The Parish will remember you with gratitude in our prayers and you will have eternal rest knowing that you have left a lasting spiritual legacy. Please give thought to remembering your parish in your estate plan. It is a beautiful thing to do.

God Bless!

For more information on how to leave a Legacy Gift to our Parish through your Will or other estate plans, please call Barbara Kilarjian at 516-678-5800 ext. 257 or email her at bkilarjian@drvc.org.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL 2022

The CMA 2022 begins March 19-20.

At our baptism, we are called to be brothers and sisters in Christ's Family and to serve our Community—to walk in Jesus' footsteps.

Fr. Hewes has asked John Gatto to speak at all Masses, the weekend of March 19-20, about the importance of the Catholic Ministries Appeal, the reasons he supports the Appeal and to thank you for your support of the Appeal.



**CATHOLIC
MINISTRIES
APPEAL**

As **One Family in Mission Building a Community of Faith, Hope and Love**, the Catholic Ministries Appeal addresses our most basic responsibilities as followers of Jesus Christ: to be His disciples, to evangelize one another and to be compassionate to those in need.

The Appeal provides critical funding for ministries that form our youth and adults in the faith; support religious freedom initiatives, promote the sanctity of life at all stages; provide quality education to our young people; feed the hungry and foster vocations to the priesthood and diaconate.

Contact: Parish Office - John Gatto
(631) 499-8520 Ext.117 or
(516) 241-1264

Spring
FORWARD



**Daylight Savings Time Begins
at 2:00 AM Sunday, March 13, 2022**

Mass Intentions

Saturday, Mar 5

4:00 PM Philip C. Pandolfi
Dotty Marciano
Barbara Collazo

Sunday, Mar 6

7:30 AM Kelly Anne Groom
9:30 AM Salvatore Gatto
11:00 AM Angelo & Chad Cortina
12:30 PM (L) Living Intentions of Mary Perry

Monday, Mar 7

9:00 AM Christopher Motlenski

Tuesday, Mar 8

9:00 AM Enrichetta & John Manetta

Wednesday, Mar 9

9:00 AM Rose Maresca

Thursday, Mar 10

9:00 AM Meaghan Regina Burton

Friday, Mar 11

9:00 AM Michael G. Quinliven

Saturday, Mar 12

9:00 AM Salvatore Montesano
Josef Dobler
4:00 PM Lourdes Pineda Iskander
Eileen Flanagan
Philip C. Pandolfi
Angela Di Rodio
Richard Northorn, Jr.
Dorothy Frandolig

Sunday, Mar 13

7:30 AM Connie Walsh
9:30 AM Marie Gatto
11:00 AM Joseph Dentale
12:30 PM Living Intentions of
Anna & Anthony Cantone



I want to make this Lent worthwhile. What can I do to keep the spirit and practice of Lent?

It is important for us to "tune up" our faith, taking some time to renew ourselves through prayer, meditation and education. By deepening our knowledge and understanding of faith, we are often better attuned to its richness and meaning for our life.

Lent is a forty-day period of reflection and penance that prepares us to celebrate the passion, death and resurrection of Christ. Our communication with God and our awareness of him is the purpose of prayer. Setting aside extra time each day helps intensify the season. Prayer includes daily Mass, Stations of the Cross, communal penance services and private confession. Making restitution for sin as well as disciplining our hearts and minds to focus on God is the purpose of penance. It helps us restore a sense of balance to our souls, thrown off kilter by sin. Penance includes personal sacrifice, self-denial, fasting, almsgiving and charitable works.

Finally, spiritual practices help us sharpen our understanding and insight into the meaning and understanding of our faith. When you take your faith seriously, you do what is necessary to follow Jesus more closely, to integrate your life and your faith more carefully.





March 12 & 13



4:00 PM	7:30 AM	9:30 AM	11:00 AM	12:30 PM
M. Brennan	H. Campa	E. Vicente		B. Abadom



4:00 P.M.	7:30 AM	9:30 AM	11:00 AM	12:30 PM
A. Palumbo	J. Campa	B. Napolitano	A. Pappas	B. Abadom



Knights of Columbus
ARCHBISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN
COUNCIL, No. 7479
The Knights Want You!

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING THOSE IN NEED, SERVING YOUR PARISH, GROWING IN YOUR FAITH AND BEING A PART OF THE LARGEST CATHOLIC FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION, THEN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IS THE ORGANIZATION FOR YOU.

The Knights of Columbus invite all Catholic men 18yr and older to join our council. The Knights of Columbus are active in many fundraising events from our annual Golf Outing, Night at the Races, Superbowl boxes, and more to support several charities, and St. Matthews Parish.

We meet every second and fourth Tuesday of the month, first for business, the second is a casual social meeting. We understand that many of you have busy schedules, that is why we only ask for the time you can give. We say Families first.

If you are interested in signing up or learning more about the knights scan the code for a direct link to our website or call Ron Pomian our Grand Knight (631)278-5986.



March 6th - First Sunday of Lent

In today's Gospel, Jesus overcomes the temptations to wealth, power and esteem. As we begin Lent, may we open our hearts to the grace of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God's love this Easter.



These three are the classic means of observing Lent.

The Catholic Ministries Appeal is a perfect and easy way to give alms to people all across the Diocese with one annual donation.

Please consider a pledge this year again!

PARISH MINISTRIES

ALTAR SERVERS: Porzia DiGiorgio: me@porzia.com
and John DiGiorgio: me@johndigiorgio.com

APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER:

Kathryn Giandoreggio: 631-491-3735

ATHLETIC WEBSITE: www.smrcc.org

ATHLETICS DIRECTOR/ INTRAMURAL & CYO TRAVEL

COORDINATOR: Chris Felice: smrccathletics@gmail.com

BAPTISM OFFICE: Bettyanne Russo: 499-8520 x 126

email: stmatthewdixhills@gmail.com

BEREAVEMENT: Kathryn M. Douglas: 631-495-8541

Including: Teens (12-17) who have lost a parent.

Widows and Widowers 65 and under

Widow and Widowers 65 and over

BIBLE STUDY: Anthony Albano: 586-4827

BULLETIN: email: bulletin@smrcc.org

BUSINESS MANAGER: Dolores Tiernan: 499-8520 x 113

CATHOLICS FOR FREEDOM OF RELIGION:

Ann Podina: 858-0684

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL: 499-8520 x 113

C.C.D. RELIGIOUS ED: Mary Donaldson, D.R.E.: 864-3321

Rita Minder, Assistant: 864-3321

CHOIR: Lee Forsythe: 631-499-8520 x 116

Ed Oriani, Cantor for Tridentine Mass

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION:

Ray Smolenski: 243-0449

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS TO THE HOMEBOUND:

Sr. Kay McCarthy: 499-8520 x 124

FEED THE POOR MINISTRY: Frank Harnos: 499-0074 or

Julie Maddaloni: 242-2183

FOOD PANTRY: Sr. Kay McCarthy: 499-8520 x 124

HOSPITALITY: Dolores Tiernan: 499-8520 x 113

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Ron Pomian GK: 631-278-5986

LECTORS: Helen Campa: 586-0682

LEGION OF MARY: Judy Archbold: 667-4629

MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION:

Carol DeStefano: 631-786-7786

PARISH OUTREACH: Sr. Kay McCarthy: 499-8520 x 124

PILGRIM MADONNA: Rosa Nappo: 920-2446 or

Lucia Agnone: 631 522-1436

PLANT ENGINEER: Luis Flores: 631 492-7881

PRE-CANA: Deacon Carmine DeStefano: 631-896-0983

RIGHT TO LIFE: Toni Shannon: 631 586-3807

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY: Patricia Bissex: 631 549-9415

PASTOR/PARISH SECRETARY: Bettyanne Russo:

499-8520 x 126 - email: stmatthewdixhills@gmail.com

SCOUTS BSA: Carissa Scarfi: 631-445-9319

email: cstroop409@gmail.com

SONS OF ITALY: Diana Grauer: 631-242-2710

ST. VINCENT de PAUL: Michael Brennan: 499-8520 x 118

USHERS: Tom Siegler: 631-920-2055

WEDDING MUSIC: Lee Forsythe: 631-334-7138

YOUNG SENIORS MODERATOR:

Fr. Benet: 499-8520 x 125

Business Manager

Dolores Tiernan

Finance Chairperson

Richard Bove

Trustees

Raymond Smolenski

Kevin Bertolini



Collection Totals

February 26 & 27

Weekly: \$15,033.00

Heating: \$ 3,326.00

Faith Direct: \$ 2,300.00

PLEASE NOTE THE UPCOMING BULLETIN DEADLINES

Sunday, March 13 is Monday, March 7

Sunday, March 20 is Monday, March 14

Sunday, March 27 is Monday, March 21

Please email: bulletin@smrcc.org



LONG ISLAND GUILD

A Chartered Guild of the Catholic Medical Association

Attention all Health Care Professionals!

Consider joining the Long Island Guild of the Catholic Medical Association, recently chartered by the national CMA and endorsed by Bishop Barres.

Our mission statement:

To **see** Christ in our patients.

To **be** Christ for our patients.

Goals: Fellowship, Educational and Spiritual Formation, Service.

No dues for local membership. -

For additional information Contact:

cmaliguild@gmail.com

We will meet the second Saturdays of the month following the 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass at St. Matthews R.C. Church, 35 N. Service Road, Dix Hills:

March 12, April 9

Many names on both of our prayer lists below have been there for a very long period of time. Please send an email message to bulletin@smrcc.org within the next 2 weeks and confirm that the person's name you requested should remain on the list. All other names will be removed. All requests must be submitted with the permission of the immediate family.



PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Chloe Atienza
Janet Beaumonte
Carl Colvin
Deborah Clar
Marie Clarke
Lisa Ciota
Marie Coldin
Gerard Costa
Joseph Costa
Vilma Diaztoral
David Falen
Lawrence Famighetti
Laura Lee Gaudio
Gerry Gianutsos

Brendan Gould
Richard Harvey
Providence Henry
Lisa Marie Hulsen
Richard Keller
Elza Kersaint
Gay Anne Macklin
Christian Martino
Joseph Martino
Sophia Marzulla
Don Michne
Rita Minder
Aeon Mitchell
Morris Family
Cynthia Nieves
Rocco Pandone
Gene Parrington

Mary Perry
Marge Puccio
Angie Raia
Robert Richardson
Emma Rosasco
Thomas Ruggero
Giovanni Sacchetti
Cathy Salegna
Cecelia Sanzone
Charles Sanzone
Grace Sanzone
Ralph Savastano
Debbie Serio
Ed & Ann Smith
Albi Snolis
Brian Tripp
Nicholas Varriale

Sandra Varriale
Camille Wending
Lisa Young
Carl Zajac
Christopher Zizzadoro
James Zlokovitz



APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER

The **Apostleship of Prayer** is a worldwide association of Catholics and other Christians who strive to make their ordinary, everyday lives apostolically effective. Through the Apostleship of Prayer, the Pope gives his monthly prayer intentions to the entire Church. For this reason, the Apostleship came to be known as **"the Pope's own prayer group."**

DAILY OFFERING PRAYER - *God, our Father, I offer You my day. I offer You my prayers, thoughts, words, actions, joys, and sufferings in union with Your Son Jesus' Heart, Who continues to offer Himself in the Eucharist for the salvation of the world. May the Holy Spirit, who guided Jesus, be my guide and my strength today so that I may witness to Your love.*

MARCH: For a Christian response to bioethical challenges

We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.



We Pray, especially for our Service Men and Women:

David Leary - Army, Christopher Pavlat - Army, Rev. James Krische - Active - Colonel - Army, Pvt. Brandon Leap - Active - Army, 1st Lt. Dominador Pascual III - Active - Air Force, Pilot Matthew Waldman - Active - Air Force, 2nd Lt. Joseph Morgan - Active - Army, 1st Lt. Christopher Felice - Marines, Christopher Motlenski - Navy, Nicholas Mazzone - U.S. Coast Guard, Peter Mazzone - Marines, SPC John Vautrin-Gardinier - US Army, Lance Cpl. Ryan Matthew Ferrara - Marines, Matthew Kirchner - Army, Noah Kirchner - Air Force, Ensign Melanie Thompson - Navy, Capt. Joseph De Monte IV - Pilot - United States Air Force, Lt. Brendan Johnston - U.S. Navy, Jeffrey Gabriellini - Air Force, Cpl. Michael Grella - Navy Airman, Julien - Army - Iraq, Lt. Col. Robert Wright - Marines, Michael Wissemann, LPL San Sievero - Marines, Ambrose Michelino, Jarod Racuot - Army, Robert Scarpelli, Anthony Lazado - Marines, Richard Freese, Jr. - Navy, Rho Nagasguna - Marines, Michael Doherty - Army, Pablo Quirindongo - CW4 - Army, Cpl. Ronnie Belmarez - Marines, Commander Christopher Grande - Navy, Spec. 4 - Frank Grue - Retired - Army

↔ **If you would like your family member added to the list or if one has returned home, please contact the Parish Office or email bulletin@smrcc.org.** ↔

Parish Policies

Funerals:

As before, families who have to plan a Catholic Funeral Mass are advised to bear in mind that the Funeral Mass is both a celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and a Liturgy that has its own rules and customs. The best place for naturally warm, wide-ranging, and emotional family remembrances or eulogies is at the Wake, NOT at the Funeral Mass. It is the long standing policy of this Parish that NO such remembrances will be done at the Funeral Mass. If there is no Wake, the family may deliver the eulogy at the cemetery or at a subsequent family meal or gathering.

Weddings: There are two forms of the Catholic wedding Liturgy:

The Wedding Ceremony:

This has all the festive elements of a full wedding: music, readings, the vows, the Nuptial Blessing, etc. This is the most common form of the Catholic wedding and is often the most practical and manageable for most families. It is by no means a lesser or "second class" ceremony than the following.

The Nuptial Mass:

This is a celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass with reception of Holy Communion with the wedding ceremony in the middle of the Liturgy. The meaning and inner truth of the Nuptial Mass leads to the following Parish policy: ***a Nuptial Mass will only be celebrated if both Bride and Groom are practicing Catholics, or intend to become observably practicing Catholics PRIOR to the wedding; and who are NOT already cohabiting as if they were already husband and wife. If they are, they must separate their living arrangements PRIOR to the wedding.***

Nuptial Masses are not celebrated on Sundays unless offered by a visiting priest upon the permission of the Parish Pastor.

No one should feel obliged to request a Nuptial Mass who are not able to observe the above requirements. As they say: "no hard feelings." A Wedding Ceremony is recommended in those circumstances with proper Pre-Cana preparation and guidance.

PARISH REGISTRATION NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE AT www.smrcc.org.

New families and new parishioners are encouraged to register with the parish online. Registration forms are also available at the Parish Center.

INSTRUCTIONS IN THE FAITH: Those adults who live in the Dix Hills area and/or those with family in the parish seeking information about becoming a Catholic or completing their Sacraments are invited to contact the Pastor.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK: Those who are seriously ill should request a priest for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

Eucharistic Piety:

This Parish has long offered opportunities for special Eucharistic Adoration in the form of "Solemn Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament;" i.e., the Host is exposed to view in the monstrance for prayer. Currently we have one such Holy Hour, Tuesday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30 AM in the church.

Traditionally, the Church has always encouraged the less formal and more flexible form of Eucharistic Adoration known as "a visit to the Blessed Sacrament" as the primary way to adore Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. In this parish the main church is open for basically 12 hours every day. I notice with pleasure many people "dropping by" to be with Our Lord in the Tabernacle for some time, or only even for a few moments.

Adoration of the Lord in His Eucharistic Presence reserved in the Tabernacle is always beneficial for those who avail themselves of it, no matter even of short duration.

Holy Hour of Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in a solemn form is held every Tuesday after the 9:00 AM Mass.



Mass Cards at St. Matthew's

St. Matthew's Parish offers two types of Mass Cards:

- **Announced Masses:** As the name implies this is a Mass set for a specific date and time and the name of the person(s) for whom the Mass is offered is published in the bulletin and announced at the Mass. These are particularly suitable for those families or individuals who will attend the actual Mass on the day appointed. While anyone can arrange for an Announced Mass, their number is necessarily limited by the number of public Masses offered in a year.
- **Unannounced Masses:** These are Masses that will be offered in the coming year but at an unspecified date, time and place. The priests of the Parish offer these Masses during retreat, vacation, and other days in which they do not have a public Mass. Mass Cards are issued for these Masses with the name of the person(s) written in the card but without any specific promised date or time. This category might be suitable for cases where the family of the named person(s) are not parishioners, live some distance away, or would not otherwise be able to attend a Mass here on a set day or time.

The receptionist will help you in arranging either or both of these Masses and the different offerings for each category.

Parish Office Hours:

The receptionist desk will be "womanned" Monday through Thursday from 9 AM to 1 PM for routine parish business and Mass Cards. On Friday there will be more limited service. Please call ahead when in doubt - 631-499-8520. The Parish Center is not open on a general basis, at this time due to the current public health crisis.

Important telephone extensions for general, non-emergency messages:

- Parish Secretary: 126
- Parish Business Manager: 113
- Religious Education (CCD): 631-864-3321
- Pastor: 130
- For urgent calls for Last Rites or a similar emergency: 631-912-5955.

Contact information regarding Funerals is on the Parish Voice Mail phone greeting: 631-499-8520. As before, please enter the Parish Center through the Main Entrance **only, not the Gym Entrance**. The Main Entrance is between the shrines to Sts. Padre Pio and Mother Teresa of Calcutta. The inner doors to the building are to the right. Please note: As the sign indicates, ring the bell for admittance.

SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES TO REMEMBER, HONOR AND CELEBRATE YOUR LOVED ONES

- Deceased
- Memorial Anniversaries/Birthdays
- Living Intentions of ...
- Wedding
- In Thanksgiving for ...

The name of the person remembered will be printed in the weekly bulletin.

The requested offerings are:

Announced Masses	\$20.00
Unannounced Masses	\$15.00
Altar Candles (week of)	\$25.00
Altar Flowers (week of)	\$50.00
Bread & Wine (week of)	\$50.00



You are welcome to visit the Parish Center, Reception Area to arrange for these offerings.

If you have any questions, please call 631-499-8520 during our business hours: Monday -Thursday, 9am through 1pm.

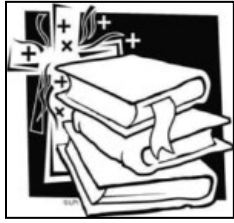
St. Matthew's Gift Shop

Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Unique Religious Gifts, rosaries, books, fonts, statues, picture frames, and so much more!

The Gift Shop is located in the Parish Center, across from the Receptionist area.

All Proceeds Benefit Our Parish Ministry!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Place for Learning and Praying

Our Family/Children's Mass is Sunday at 9:30AM

Mary Donaldson, Director Rita Minder, Assistant

Religion Office Phone 864-3321 Fax 499-1530 maryccd@smrcc.org

REGISTRATION

When registering a new student, 1st thru 8th grade, you must come into the Religion Office on the second floor of the Parish Center, Monday through Thursday, between 11:00AM and 4:00PM. Please be sure to bring a copy of the child's Baptismal Certificate when you come. The fee of \$175.00 per child is due at that time.

GRADE LEVEL MASS

Sunday, March 27, 2022 3rd & 4th grade will attend the 9:30 Mass.

Sunday, April 3, 2022 1st & 2nd grade will attend the 9:30 Mass.

For those attending their grade level Mass listed above, please sit in the front of the Church, try to arrive by 9:10AM and remember your tithing envelope as they are not only used for a donation but also for taking attendance. All family members are invited to join us at this Mass.

CONFIRMATION INFO

The date for Confirmation for our 8th grade students is Tuesday, March 22, 2022. Bishop Robert Coyle will be presiding and there will be two Confirmations, one at 10:30AM and one at 1:30PM.

Wednesday, 3/9 Confirmation Sess. 2 M-Z Rehearsal 7-8PM Hall/Church

SPECIAL NOTES

Tuesday, March 22nd is Confirmation Day and classes are cancelled that day.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

First Holy Communion dates are Saturday, May 7th and Saturday, May 14th. There are two alphabetical sessions each day—one at 10:30AM and one at 1:30PM.

Saturday, March 26th and Saturday, April 2nd is First Reconciliation (Penance) for our 2nd grade students in the Church at 9:45AM and 12:45PM. Please refer to the parent Communion letter for information regarding student date and time.



*Announced for the Second Time
Jonathan Campisi and
Jennifer Powers*

Dear Parishioners,

A few weeks ago, one of my grandnieces, who is 11 and lives in another state, called me. We chatted for some time and then she said, "I have a question to ask you." I said, "I hope I know the answer." She asked, "Could you donate to help build a library and computer lab in Kenya?" Her school had already helped to build a school in Kenya. I didn't expect that question but was delighted that she not only called me herself (and other relatives too) but also that her school was making the students aware of and asking them to help children who were much less fortunate.



Lent is a time of almsgiving. There are so many worthy charities that we can help by our generosity. Mike Brennan, the President of St. Vincent de Paul and I are deeply grateful to you for your enabling us to help others throughout the year. Your monetary donations are certainly needed and help us to pay rent, utility bills, etc. I know that you are not looking to be thanked as you don't even know the recipients of your kindness. But know that these people are so grateful to you and that we pray for all of you.

The Church not only encourages us to give alms during the 40 days of Lent but also encourages us to pray, fast, do penance. The forty days are in imitation of Jesus' forty days in the wilderness. Forty is a significant number in the Scriptures. Moses went to the mountain for forty days to seek the face of God. In prayer and fasting, the people of Israel were in the wilderness for forty years in preparation for their entry into the promised land. Elijah fasted for forty days as he journeyed in the wilderness to the mountain of God.

Fasting isn't always easy. In my early years in the Convent, we weren't permitted to eat in between meals. The kitchen was "off limits." Nor were we served meat or butter 3 days of the week. No complaints, we had enough food and we were learned the reasons for fasting. Some of the people who come to us for assistance have to "fast", not out of choice but because they lack food. I can't thank you enough as you consistently donate a tremendous amount of food. As we begin this holy season of Lent, let us pray fervently for peace and the end of conflict in our world, and for one another, that we will grow in faith, hope and love of God and in compassion for one another.

God bless you.
Sister Kay McCarthy

PS: **March 8-14 is National Catholic Sisters week.** I am so grateful to God for my Religious Vocation and for the many Sisters with whom I have lived and worked and who taught, helped, inspired and prayed for me. Please pray for all us.

These are intercessions that the Sisters and I have included in our morning prayers for Ukraine. **Please continue to pray for the end of this terrible situation.** **Sr.Kay McCarthy**

LORD, TODAY WE CRY OUT TO YOU TO DO WHAT ONLY YOU CAN DO. WE PRAY FOR

- **the protection of the people of Ukraine. Please watch over and guard them with Your peace, provision and endurance**
- **the oppressor's plans to be compromised and frustrated. We ask that the plans for evil will fail and for the miraculous assist in what is righteous**
- **for world leaders who are making consequential decisions. May Your wisdom, courage and Godly counsel be their guide**
- **for those in the military. We pray that you protect them, comfort their families and give victory to those standing for what You value**
- **for courage in the midst of persecution. May they remain steadfast in their love for You.**
- **and finally, we ask You Almighty Father, Prince of peace, to bring peace to the Ukraine and to the world. May conflict end, may violence cease and may hearts be turned to You and find salvation.**



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become an

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*for boys and girls grades 4
and higher*



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an email to me@porzia.com and
include the following information:*

- Your Child's Name
- Address
- School & Grade
- Parents' Names
- Parents' Phone
- Parents' Email
- Preferred Mass for Serving (1st, 2nd, 3rd choices)

Saturdays: 4:00 pm

Sundays: 7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am, and 12:30 pm

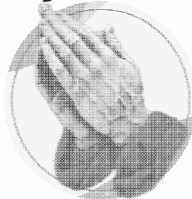


Please pray for the Soul of:

Sr. Ursula Sheridan

Blanche McCabe

Dorothy Frandolig



*The Altar Flowers
In Loving Memory of
Angelo & Chad Cortina
With Love, Your Family*

**Young
Energetic
Seniors
News**

Remember when I left, I said that all the bulletins in February would be re-runs? Well, this one isn't but seems appropriate. Remember, as I sit here in Florida, it's Feb 11, but as you read this, it is March 6. This article therefore, is a little "stale" but I write it as a tribute to all Police Officers and Firefighters, especially Jason Rivera and Wilbert Mora, both who went home to the Lord much too soon at the hands of a sick career criminal.

TODAY I WAS A POLICEMAN

- Today I will not answer the radio call that your boyfriend has come home drunk and beat you again.
- Today I will not answer a radio call that your 16 year old daughter, who is very responsible has not come home from school.
- Today I will not answer a radio call that your store has been robbed or your house has been burglarized.
- Today I will not stop a drunk driver from killing someone. I will not catch a murderer, a rapist or a car thief.
- Today I will not answer a call that a man has a gun, or tried to abduct a child, or that someone has been stabbed or in a terrible accident.
- Today, I will not save your child that you locked in your car, or the child that you were too busy to watch, who went outside and fell into the swimming pool, but I revived. No, today I will not do that.
- Today, I was suspended from my job, because the media, leftist, community organizers, and anti cop politicians, all who know nothing about policing, have vilified my profession.
- Because today I was killed by a drunk driver while helping push a disabled car off the highway .
- Today I was shot and killed during a routine traffic stop to simply tell someone they had a tail-light out.
- Today I was killed in an accident rushing to help a citizen.
- Today I was shot and killed serving a warrant on a known drug dealer.
- Today I was killed by a man when I came to do a welfare check, because his family was too busy.
- Today I was killed trying to stop a bank robbery.
- Today I was killed doing my job.

A Chaplain and an officer will go to a house and tell a mom and dad, or a wife or husband or a child that their son or daughter or husband or wife or father or mother won't be coming home today. The flags at many police stations will be flown at half mast, but most will not notice. There will be a funeral and my fellow officers will come, there will be a 21 gun salute and taps and bagpipes played as I am laid to rest. My name will be put on a plaque on a wall, in a building in a city somewhere. A folded flag will be placed on a mantle, or a bookcase in a home somewhere and a family will mourn. There will be no cries for justice, no riots, no screaming "no justice, no peace," no cars burned, no names called. Only someone crying themselves to sleep tonight will be the only sign that I was cared about. I WAS a police officer.



Sorry no humor this week.. Didn't seem appropriate. Pray for everyone especially those who face danger, so we don't have to.

See you in Church,
Pat



March 2 - April 10
40 DAYS FOR LIFE®

HELP SAVE LIVES IN SMITHTOWN!

You can help protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion!

The Prayer Vigil takes place on the sidewalk in front of the Planned Parenthood building, 70 Maple Avenue, Smithtown on March 2—April 10 from 7 am to 7 pm.
(Park in lot, corner of Main Street & Maple Avenue, near CVS.)

**Each Monday come join your St. Matthew family at the 9 am Mass, then go to Planned Parenthood and pray the rosary with us from 10 am to 11 am.
The babies we save will appreciate your participation.**

Free pregnancy help: 631-243-0066

Help after abortion: <https://drvclife.org/projectrachel/>

A Prayer about Abortion

Lord, you are the Creator of all things; you breathe life into every human before they leave the womb. Lord, we don't know how to stop something this horrible on our own; it is devastating that abortion has weaved its way into many people's minds as an acceptable choice. Please stop the enemy's lies from seeping into the minds of the confused, take away the voice of the wicked.

Help us to have compassion on the women who made or were forced to make the horrifying choice and are now suffering the consequences. Surround them with Your love and remind them that Your sacrifice covers even this and that those who belong to You are free in Christ from the guilt of every sin. Break the chain of guilt in those who have repented before You, revive them to live their life knowing true joy in You. May their changed lives speak volumes about the amazing power of Your forgiveness and love.

Help us to remember the unborn who are unwanted and tossed aside every day; help us to be a light in a world of darkness. Give us opportunities to love people and present the truth of Your Word, use us to offer alternative options to women in desperate situations. Jesus, You have the power to change hearts; we pray for the women considering this option - help them to see there is another way.



Focus on Religious Freedom

Christian Values on Trial in Finland Will Affect Religious Freedom in Europe and the World

"Part of the scary thing about what's happening in Finland is that it could happen anywhere else," said human rights lawyer Paul Coleman. ⁽¹⁾ Coleman cautioned that the Finnish cases are the "canary in the coalmine" for freedom of speech and freedom of religion in the Western world.

If the court finds them guilty, two Christians in Finland face fines or up to two years in prison and thus would set the precedent of making quoting the Bible a criminal offense in Western countries. Dr. Paivi Rasanen, member of Parliament (2011-2015), physician and mother of five and Bishop Juhana Pohjola of the Lutheran Mission Diocese in Finland, were charged with incitement against a minority group for publishing a pamphlet, "Male and Female He Created Them," that states the theological and scientific truth that men and women are different. Bishop Pohjola warned that "the Gospel of Christ is at stake" as Western governments liken the Bible's teachings about marriage and sexuality to "hate speech." ⁽²⁾

"The Prosecutors main idea seems to be that the Bible should not be taught in its own right in public, and that freedom of religion does not allow permission to speak out loud if what is said is considered to discriminate against a minority group," said Bishop Pohjola. "In this view, biblical teachings on marriage, sexuality, sin, and mercy could not be proclaimed publicly. This is an attack on religious freedom." ⁽³⁾

"Although (the Prosecutor) stated this was not about the Bible or about freedom of religion or opinions, she went quite deeply into theological issues," said Bishop Pohjola. ⁽⁴⁾ Throughout her argumentation and questioning, the Prosecutor returned repeatedly to discussions of the nature of scripture, the defendant's interpretation of texts, and the Christian understanding of sin.

The defendants rejected all charges against them as false, arguing that the pamphlet in question and Christian teaching does not consider (minority groups) different before God. "All (people) are of equal worth, and all are under sin, and all are under grace," explained Bishop Pohjola. "We all have the same position before God ... (all) are welcome in our churches, to live in contact with Christ, and to find their identity - just as each of us should find our identity - as the creation of God, redeemed by Jesus Christ." ⁽⁵⁾

"It is incredible this trial is happening in a modern European country and not in a religious theocracy," said Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF) International. ⁽⁶⁾ The court will announce its verdict on March 30, 2022.

(thefederalist.com, 1/24/22(1); ncregister.com, 2/16/22(2)(6); lic-online.org, 2/14/22(3)(4)(5); christianpost.com, 11/11/21; citizengo.org, 2/8/22)

"It is impossible to rightly govern a nation without God and the Bible." George Washington



A Retrouvaille Weekend - You Can Help Heal Your Marriage

Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse?

The Retrouvaille Program is for married couples facing difficult challenges in their relationships. Primarily a practical program to improve communication, build stronger marriages and help couples reconnect. Presenters are not trained marriage counselors, but rather couples sharing their personal stories of marital struggles and the tools they used to rediscover their love.

For confidential information about the Retrouvaille program, or to register for the upcoming weekend that begins on Friday, May 13th please visit our website www.helpourmarriage.org or call 1-800-470-2230 and you will be connected directly and confidentially to a couple from Long Island/Metro Retrouvaille who can help.

Location: Immaculate Conception, 440 West Neck Road, Huntington, NY 11743

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BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP FOR WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS

8 Week Program for Age 50 and Over

Starting Thursday, March 24, 2022 ~ 3:00 – 5:00 pm

St. Joseph Parish Center, 39 N. Carll Avenue, Babylon

For losses that have occurred before December 31, 2021

For more information and registration, please call:

Terry Hoffmann 631-669-0198 or Geri Olson 631-661-8994



DEEPEN YOUR LENTEN DEVOTION

Join the Friends of the Seminary - Sunday, March 20, 2022

“Reconciliation: An Encounter of Love” - Fr. Patrick J. Griffin, CM, will present a Lenten Day of Prayer at the **Seminary of the Immaculate Conception**, 440 West Neck Road, Huntington from **9:30 am to 3:30 pm.**

Talks by Fr. Griffin, Quiet Time, Confession, Lunch and Mass.

Donation - \$50. Reservations required: 631.423.0483x102,

bmalone@icseminary.edu, or www.icseminary.edu



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Good news for families on Long Island!

Inspired by the Morning Star Initiative & led by the DRVC & the Marianist Brothers, a dual-campus N-8 Catholic elementary school will open in September 2021 in Deer Park & Central Islip

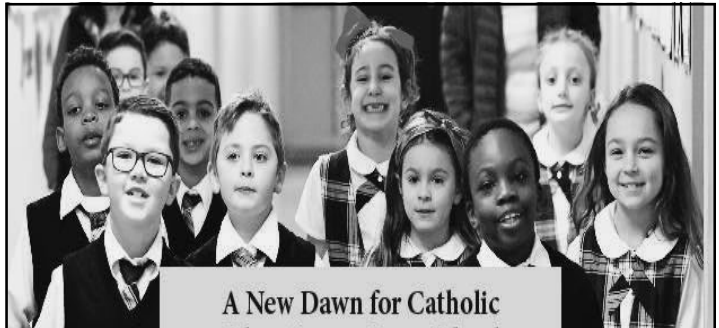
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- * Partnering with Boston College, OLG offers a dual-language immersion program will begin in our Nursery and Pre-Kindergarten classrooms, starting children on the path to becoming bilingual and biliterate in English and Spanish.

Please connect with us to learn more!

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Email: information@olschools.org
Facebook & Instagram @olschools & Twitter @school_olg
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A New Dawn for Catholic Education on Long Island

In January 2020, the Marianists, Tomorrow's Hope Foundation, and the Department of Education launched the Morning Star Initiative (MSI) to revitalize Catholic education on Long Island through a robustly Catholic culture, academic excellence, safe and supportive communities, and fiscally sustainable schools.

DONOR IMPACT TO DATE

To date, fellow Catholics and foundations have pledged more than \$3 million to Tomorrow's Hope Foundation for vital MSI programs and local Catholic school needs, including:

- Tuition assistance for underserved students
- New learning devices for thousands of students and teachers
- Internet connectivity for 300 school families
- The launch of iReady, an innovative web-based student benchmarking tool, among all the Catholic elementary schools
- Vital startup investments in two MSI pilot schools

WHY GIVE?

By supporting MSI, donors can invest in a sustainable and robust educational model for our children and for future generations. Please help make that a reality by making a gift today.

"I am very confident in Brother Tom and the Marianist Brothers who are leading this [MSI] effort, and I am hopeful that other individuals and organizations will support this cause to help ensure our Catholic schools have a bright future."

—MICHAEL PASCUCCI, MSI DONOR

GET INVOLVED

Contact kbill@thmfy.com or call (516) 745-7640



Morning Star Initiative



TOMORROW'S HOPE FOUNDATION

To make a tax deductible donation, please scan the QR code below or complete this form and mail your check to Tomorrow's Hope Foundation with "MSI" written in the memo line.

Tomorrow's Hope Foundation
50 Charles Lindbergh Blvd, Suite 500
Uniondale, NY 11553



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IN MEMORY
OF DANIELA



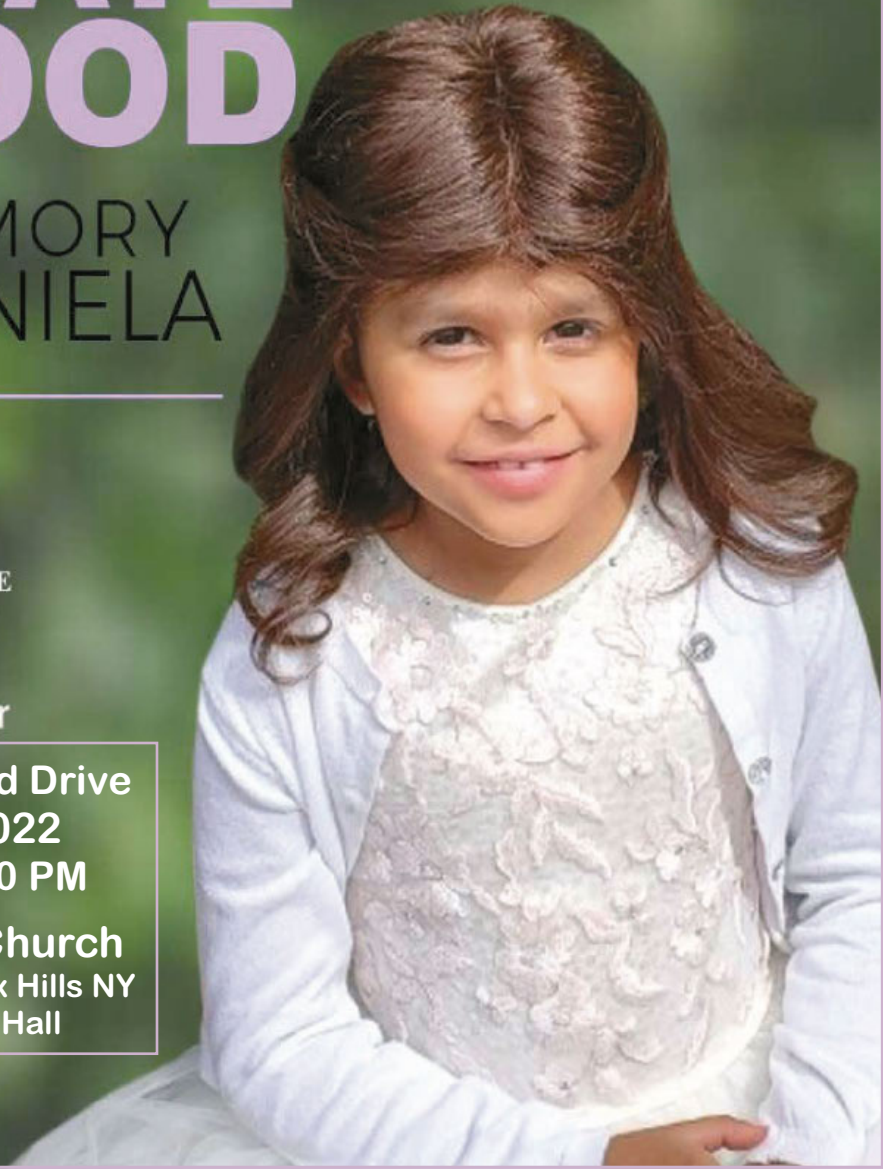
DANIELA CONTE
FOUNDATION



New York
Blood Center

2nd Annual Blood Drive
March 12, 2022
11:30 AM - 4:30 PM

St. Matthew's Church
35 N. Service Rd., Dix Hills NY
In Msgr. Goggin Hall



The Daniela Conte Foundation invites you to honor Daniela Conte in the best way possible, by donating whole blood or double red cells. Join us and help support thousands who are currently fighting cancer. Daniela passed away at 8 years old from a rare cancer on March 2, 2020. In her memory, we will be honoring her life with a blood drive hosted by the New York Blood Center. Blood products are truly lifesaving and give cancer patients a chance to fight back from the cancer that is trying to take them down. We hope you will join us on March 12th, 2022. Together we can fight cancer with every donation.

Every donor that participates will receive a \$10 Starbucks gift card and a plush blanket. An added bonus, all donors will receive a free wellness checkup that includes blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count and cholesterol screening.

Appointments are required to donate -

https://donate.nybc.org/.../sche.../drive_schedule/287829...

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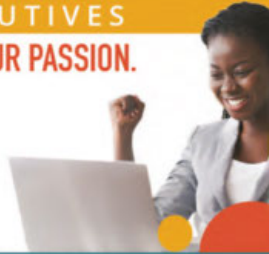
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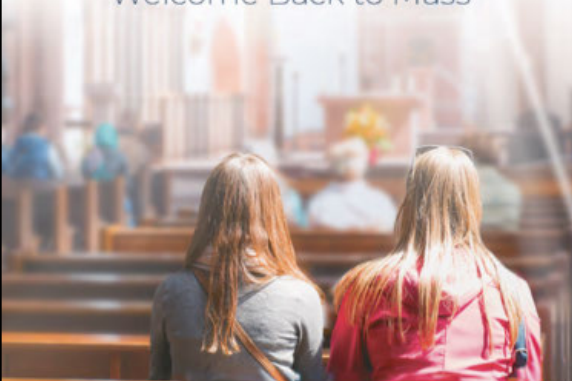
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