

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY | 2nd Avenue & 22nd Street | epiphanychurch239@gmail.com | (212) 475-1966 | Mail: 239 E 21st Street New York, NY 10010

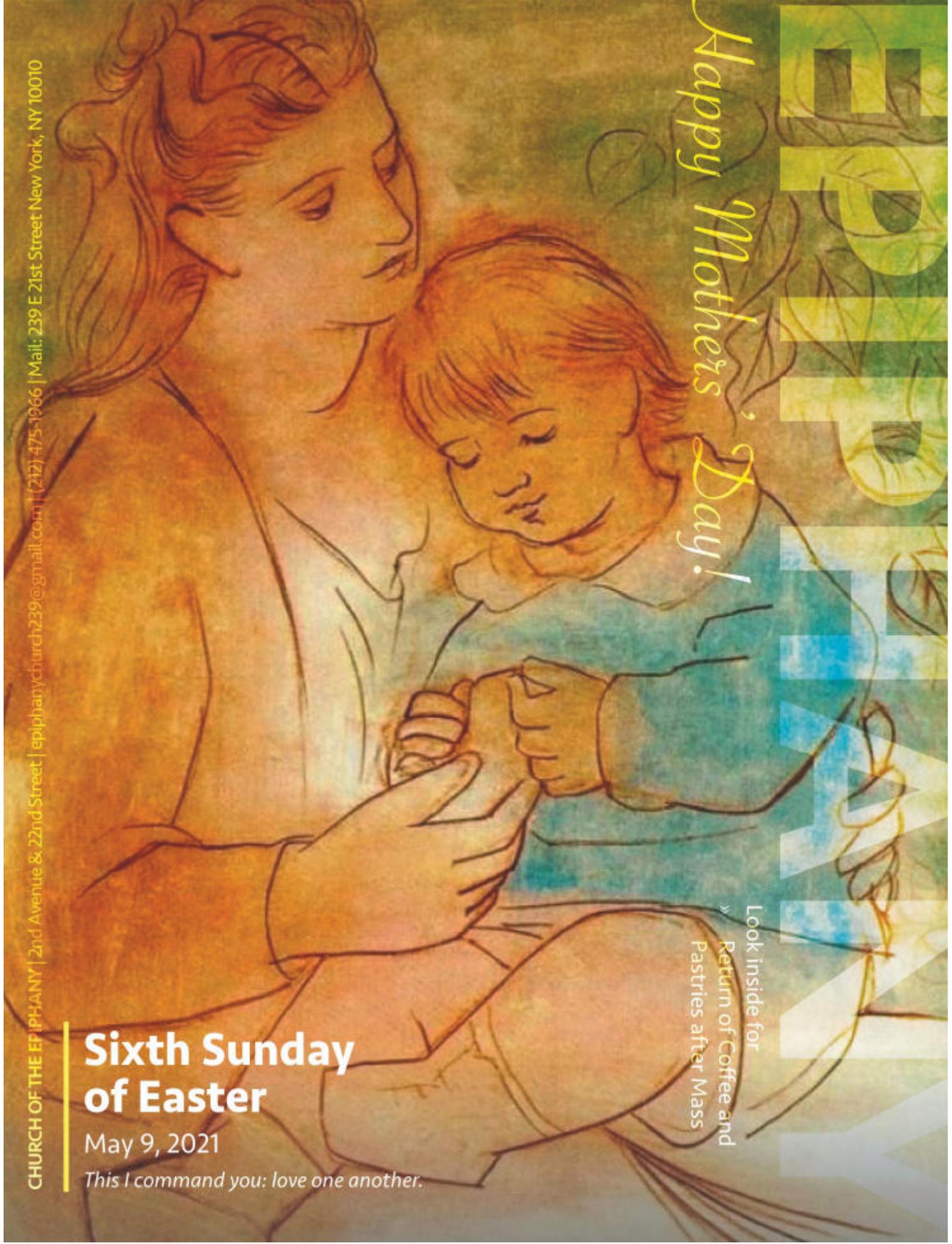
# Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 9, 2021

*This I command you: love one another.*

Happy Mothers' Day!

» Look inside for  
Return of Coffee and  
Pastries after Mass



# WELCOME to Epiphany

LAY DOWN

## OUR LIVES

"The Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to a friend," the book of Exodus says, and in the book of Isaiah it is God himself who says the same thing of Abraham. "Abraham, my friend," he calls him. It is a staggering thought.

The love of God. The mercy of God. The judgment of God. You take the shoes off your feet and stand as you would before a mountain or at the edge of the sea. But the *friendship* of God?

It is not something God does. It is something Abraham and God or Moses and God do together. Not even God can be a friend all by himself apparently. You see Abraham not standing at all, but sitting down, loosening his prayer shawl. He is not being creature for the moment, and God is not being Creator. There is no agenda. They are simply being together, the two of them, and being themselves.

Is it a privilege only for patriarchs? Not as far as Jesus is concerned at least. "You are my friends," he says, "if you do what I command you." The command, of course, is "to love one another," as he puts it. **To be his friends, that is to say, we have to be each other's friends, conceivably even lay down our lives for each other.** You never know. It is a high price to pay, and Jesus does not pretend otherwise, but the implication is that it's worth every cent.

FRIENDS



**Where are you from?** I am a born and raised New Yorker. Born in the Bronx, in Riverdale. I went to Power Memorial Academy, an all boys Catholic school, at 1st and Amsterdam. It doesn't exist anymore. It closed my junior year but I was able to graduate early. I was an only child, but I had lots of cousins growing up, big Italian family. **You are all Italian? What is Raptis?** That is a Greek name. My father's father was Greek, but he was also half Italian. I was really raised very Italian-American. Sunday afternoon—the big Italian dinner with the meatballs and the pasta, and all the stuff! Oh yeah, my wife always talks about the Italian goodbye. You're hugging and kissing in the house, then you go to the front door and you kiss again, then you go to the driveway and you kiss again, and my cousin is hanging in the car talking to me. It takes almost an hour to say goodbye. It's a thing! **What did you study in college?** I went to Iona College. I studied business, and I went to work for a family business right after school. My mother had a children's wear company, and eventually I had my own children's swimwear company. **In the garment district? Not too many Italians there, right?** Yes, but the Italians were in the back end, with sewing and making samples and patterns—very very good with the needle and thread, tailoring. **So you were in the apparel business for a long time.** Yes, but then domestic production killed us. I was selling to Kmart, Walmart. But from there I switched gears and went into mortgage business. And then the bottom of the world fell out, with the financial crisis in 2008. I went to grad school, got an MBA. I was teaching as an adjunct at Mercy College. I still do that here in midtown called Berkeley College, a course called Human Relations, kind of a hybrid combination of sociology, psychology and business. It's a really cool class. I love the demographic. First time in their family college kid, inner city kids, some of them live in shelters. They're really trying to turn the corner and do something with their lives. **But then you did a 180, right?** Yeah. About five years ago, I thought I really love helping people, I love psychotherapy, I think I want to be a psychotherapist. I got into a program and I'm at the end of my training now, but I've been seeing patients for two years. You know that—would have, should have, could



have kind of thing? 20 years ago I should have done this. I love it. I love helping people. You never know what is coming through the door. Everybody has their anxieties, things that have been packed away for years. Establishing a psychoanalytic relationship. We have to help one another. I love to talk to people. **When did you come to Epiphany?** When I finished college in '88, my family helped me buy an apartment in Gramercy. So I've been a resident, I've been in Epiphany since 1989. My wife Cynthia and I met on the phone. She was a vendor for a company that manufactured shoulder pads that went into apparel. We'll be married 16 years in September. She's from the Bronx, too, and has a Puerto Rican background. She works in media.

Now we have two young girls, both of whom go to Epiphany. Sophia, my little one, just had her First Communion this past weekend. Chloe is my 10 year old, in fifth grade. This church is where my kids have had their formative years. It's really a special place for me. I have to tell you, the community is so great. People really want to be there. **Do your kids like being in the city?** Absolutely. I think it's the greatest place to raise your kids. It's so diverse, we are so impacted with culture. I tell them that when you grow up, people will be blown away by the fact that you grew up in New York City. I know it's the right choice for them. We go on lots of trips outside the city too. My daughter is so excited to go to the Garden State Mall! We love the museums, the Central Park zoo. After Covid, we're going to really take advantage of the theaters, ballet, opera. Both of my kids

love Epiphany. We're all there in church on Sunday. **Sports?** Huge, huge, huge Yankee fans. If my daughters ever brought home a Mets fan, it would be all over. I watch the box scores, I'm obsessed: all I want is for the Mets and the Red Sox to lose, and of course for the Yankees to win. **Food?** We grew out of our Gramercy apartment. Now we live north of the UN. But we still love to go to Barfly, we love that place. We like our Italian food, Mexican food. **Netflix? Music?** I binge watch. I love Black Mirror. We're diverse with what we watch and listen to. For music, we listen to Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Rolling Stones. My wife loves salsa. *Interview by Jim Mayzik, S.J. Picture and design by Kevin Jackson.*

# EVENTS AT EPIPHANY

## FIRST COMMUNION and MAY CROWNING



**COFFEE AND PASTRIES RETURNING**

**SUNDAY MAY 9TH 11AM MASS**



# PARISH INFORMATION

## Parish House (Rectory): MAILING ADDRESS

239 East 21st Street, New York, NY 10010

Telephone: 212-475-1966

Website: [epiphanychurch.nyc](http://epiphanychurch.nyc)

e-mail: [epiphanychurch239@gmail.com](mailto:epiphanychurch239@gmail.com)

MASSSES: Mon-Fri 12:10pm

Saturday Vigil 4pm; Sun 11am & 7:30pm

Rev. Austin Titus, *Pastor*

Rev. James Mayzik, S.J., *Parochial Vicar*

Rev. Msgr. Thomas A. Modugno *In Residence*

Kate McHugh, *Principal, The Epiphany School*

Deborah J. Keogh, *Director of Faith Formation & CCD*

John D. Coen, *Director of Music*

Kevin Jackson, *Director of Communications*

José Ramos & Thomas Lewis, *Parish Trustees*

## Announced Mass Intentions

### *Saturday, May 8*

4:00 pm Hugh Lunney

### *Sunday, May 9*

11:00 am Margaret M. Campbell  
7:30 pm intentions of Isabela Garcia

### *Monday, May 10*

12:10 pm Dorothy & Gertrude Walsh

### *Tuesday, May 11*

12:10 pm Mary & Edward Mallon

### *Wednesday, May 12*

12:10 pm Benjamin Cabrera

### *Thursday, May 13*

#### *The Ascension of the Lord*

*HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION*

12:10 pm Antonia Astorina  
5:30 pm people of Epiphany parish

### *Friday, May 14*

#### *St. Matthias, Apostle*

12:10 pm Connie Spadaro

### *Saturday, May 15*

4:00 pm John Huegel

### *Sunday, May 16*

11:00 am Jamie Keane  
7:30 pm Peter F.X. Mulvihill

### *Monday, May 17*

12:10 pm Imelda Principe

### *Tuesday, May 18*

12:10 pm Anant Bhavsar

For weekend Masses only, we ask our parishioners to reserve a seat by responding to the FlockNote e-mails that will be sent to all parishioners who have provided their e-mail addresses. If we do not have your e-mail address, please call the rectory or e-mail the office at [epiphanychurch239@gmail.com](mailto:epiphanychurch239@gmail.com) to be added to our FlockNote contacts.

At all Masses, seating will be assigned at the direction of our hospitality ministers. Seating has been arranged to maintain optimal sanitary conditions and social distancing.

Masks are required



## BASKET COLLECTION

2021  
May 1 - 2: \$4,739



2019  
Apr 4 - 5: \$6,679

### 2nd Collection on May 15-16 Church in Central & Eastern Europe

Nowhere was the pandemic felt more than in the Church in Eastern Europe. The Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church mobilized a network of hospital chaplains to provide care & necessities to medical staff & patients, especially the elderly.

The people in Ukraine & the entire region need your care & support.

We are grateful for your generosity.

## REMEMBRANCE & SPECIAL INTENTIONS

A wonderful way to remember our loved ones who have passed on and to pray for special intentions, while giving back to God

**Announced Mass for 2020 (\$15)**

**Altar Bread & Wine (\$50 / week)**

**Sanctuary Lamp (\$20 / week)**

Our ANNOUNCED MASSES FOR 2021 ARE NOW OPEN

Mass reservations for 2021 are limited :

one 4 pm Mass per parishioner

11 am Sunday Masses may be limited at our discretion.



May 9 - May 15

our  
Sanctuary Lamp

will burn  
for the health of  
Luisa Compas



*Thursday, May 13,*  
*is a*  
**HOLY DAY**  
**of OBLIGATION**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### What Should I Give to God this Easter season?

Truly, all we have, we owe to Christ, who spared nothing of himself on Calvary.

During the Easter season, we build our commitment to God by placing our treasure where our hearts need to be.

Give Him your heart, by supporting Christ's bride, the Church, with a generous donation.

Our Easter & Christmas collection is our most important collection.

Thank you for your heartfelt generosity.

### The 2021 Cardinal's Appeal Stewardship Appeal

**Assigned Goal:** \$161,000 **Pledged:** \$142,815 **Gifts:** 157

**We've reached 89% of our goal!** If even 50% of our parish families pledge a gift to the Appeal, we would easily meet this year's goal set for us by the Archdiocese.

**We're SO CLOSE! Can you help us reach 100%?**

**We are so very grateful to our parishioners who are prayerfully considering a pledge to the Cardinal's Appeal.**

### WHERE YOUR 2021 GIFT GOES



### **DON'T FORGET YOUR MOTHER!**

Throughout the month of May, every Mass will include a special plea for those living or deceased mothers listed on our Mother's Day envelopes, which can be found in the Narthex.

Complete the envelope & place it in the collection basket or give it to a minister.

**We need mothers, and our mothers need us and our prayers.**

### TAX DEDUCTIONS FOR YOUR DONATION TO EPIPHANY

If your 2020 Tax Deductions exceed \$12,200 (single) or \$24,400 (married), and they include church donations, you must obtain a report from Epiphany before filing your 2020 tax return.

Even if you do not itemize, you may deduct up to \$300. To take either of these deductions, please call the parish office to request a statement of donations.



## READINGS: Sixth Sunday of Easter

### Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

When Peter entered, Cornelius met him and, falling at his feet, paid him homage. Peter, however, raised him up, saying, "Get up. I myself am also a human being."

Then Peter proceeded to speak and said, "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him." While Peter was still speaking these things, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the word. The circumcised believers who had accompanied Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit should have been poured out on the Gentiles also, for they could hear them speaking in tongues and glorifying God. Then Peter responded, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit even as we have?" He ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

### Responsorial Psalm: PS 98:1, 2-3, 3-4

**R. The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power. (or: Alleluia)**

Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done wondrous deeds; His right hand has won victory for him, his holy arm. **R.**

The LORD has made his salvation known: in the sight of the nations he has revealed his justice. He has remembered his kindness and his faithfulness toward the house of Israel. **R.**

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation by our God. Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands; break into song; sing praise. **R.**

### 1 John 4:7-10

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love. In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him.

In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as expiation for our sins.

### Verse before the Gospel - John 14:23

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him. **R.**

### Gospel: John 15:9-17

Jesus said to his disciples: "As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love.

If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy might be complete.

This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.

I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing.

I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father.

It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you.

This I command you: love one another."

# Andrett Funeral Home

NO STEPS, ONE LEVEL ACCESSIBLE FACILITY

Our good reputation in the community comes from one thing only - Service  
... at our nearby facility at 199 Bleecker Street.

Pre-arrangements are fully secured and honored.

212-475-2024 • andrettfuneralhome.com

Inquire about our free parking and complimentary car service for visitors

## NEVER MISS A BULLETIN !

Sign up to have our weekly parish bulletin  
emailed to you at [www.parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com)



## Fur by Design

Is your fur  
ready to wear?

Expert full service furriers  
Repairs, alterations,  
restyling

by appointment: 917-886-1205  
experts@furbydesign.com



fur\_by\_design

furbydesign.com

## INFINITY ELEVATOR COMPANY, INC.

Maintenance • Modernization • Construction • Repair



CORPORATE OFFICE  
3 Harding Place, Little Ferry, NJ 07643  
NEW YORK OFFICE  
352 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY 10001  
PeterPone@InfinityElevator.com  
www.InfinityElevator.com



679-1224-5 683-3276

FREE DELIVERY

BUY-RITE DISCOUNT  
INDIVIDUALLY OWNED

THOMAS J. McADAM  
LIQUOR CO.

BOB FINK  
NY STATE RETAIL SHOP  
LIC.802

398 Third Avenue  
(Between 28th & 29th Streets)

## SPREAD THE WORD:

A Thriving, Vibrant  
Community Matters



Support Our  
Advertisers!



Where Children Learn and Grow  
Established in 2004

Drop off programs for  
Twos, Threes and Pre-K &  
classes from five months  
to five years.

128 East 36th St., NYC, 10016

212-779-3434

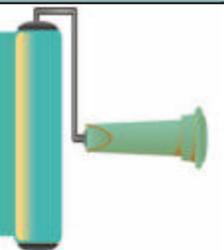
www.weeonesclub.com

AVAILABLE  
FOR A LIMITED TIME

ADVERTISE YOUR  
BUSINESS HERE

Contact **Al Wickenheiser** to place an ad  
today! [awickenheiser@4LPi.com](mailto:awickenheiser@4LPi.com)  
or (800) 477-4574 x6409

SUPPORT THE **ADVERTISERS**  
THAT SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY



# Andrett Funeral Home

continues to serve you...

Our good reputation in the community comes from one thing only - Service

... at our nearby facility at 199 Bleecker St.  
Pre-arrangements are fully secured and honored.

 NO STEPS, ONE LEVEL  
ACCESSIBLE FACILITY

**212-475-2024**  
andrettfuneralhome.com

Inquire about our free parking and complimentary car service for visitors

## WARSHAW HARDWARE

Serving Gramercy Park  
• since 1925 •

**212.475.5820**

**248 THIRD AVENUE**  
bet 20 & 21 Street

**Hours:** Mon to Fri 8-6  
Sat: 9-5

## MOLLY'S

pub REStAURAnt shebeen

287 THIRD AVENUE  
NEW YORK, NY 10010  
Phone: (212) 889-3361  
Fax: (212) 545-9464  
PETER O'CONNELL | JOHN RONAGHAN  
www.mollysshebeen.com

## The Bluebell Café

293 Third Avenue  
New York, NY 10010  
Phone: (646) 649-2389  
Fax: (646) 649-2427  
Email: info@thebluebellcafenyc.com  
Manager: Sheila McDonagh  
www.thebluebellcafenyc.com

PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE  
MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM

**\$29.95/MO**  
BILLED QUARTERLY

PLUS SPECIAL OFFER

CALL NOW! 1.877.801.7772  
WWW.24-7MEDALARM.COM



**Our thoughts and prayers are with our fellow NYC community during this pandemic. We are here to help!**

Open for business via phone or e-mail for all your insurance needs.

**EILEEN J. SHASHATY, CPCU, ARM**

212-697-2533 • eileen@rexwyon.com

REX WYON INSURANCE 420 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NYC WWW.REXWYON.COM



# The Gannon Funeral Home Inc.

Wm. P. Gannon, Owner

**(212) 532-6579**

152 East 28th Street, New York, New York 10016

Since 1924 "Serving Epiphany Parish Members

www.gannonfuneralhome.com



## WE'RE HIRING AD SALES EXECUTIVES



- Full Time Position with Benefits
- Sales Experience Preferred
- Paid Training
- Overnight Travel Required
- Expense Reimbursement

CONTACT US AT

careers@4LPi.com • www.4LPi.com/careers

Connors & Sullivan  
Attorneys At Law  
Wills • Estates • Trusts  
Medicaid • Elder Law

*"Don't Lose Everything To A Nursing Home"*

Home & Hospital  
Interviews Available

Saturdays on  
AM 570 Radio 8-9am,  
AM 970 6-7pm & Sundays  
on AM 970 11am-12pm  
"Ask Lawyer Mike"

110 E 59th St., Brooklyn, NY  
**718-238-6500**

## The Manhattan Kid's Club

Childcare 3 M to 5.8 Years

**212-677-0608**

www.TheManhattanKidsClub.com

## PROVENZANO LANZA FUNERAL HOME, INC.

Family Owned Since 1900

Traditional Funerals, Cremations, and Prearrangements

Licensed Funeral Directors - Michael Lanza • Anthony Lanza

43 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10003

(212) 473-2220 • Fax: (212) 473-2263

www.provenzanolanzafuneral.com

Se Habla Espanol



Ad info. 1-800-477-4574 • Publication Support 1-800-888-4574 • www.4lpi.com

Church of the Epiphany, NYC

04-0693