

St. Sylvester R.C. Church

68 Ohio Avenue, Medford, NY 11763

www.stsylvesterli.org

(631) 475-4506

A community praying, growing, serving & welcoming in Jesus Christ.

Eucharist:

Saturday 5pm; Sunday 7:30am, 9am & 11am.
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday @
8:30am in the Church. Rosary recitation
begins at 8:15am before morning Mass. Holy
Days as announced.

Baptisms:

Celebrated on pre-determined dates. *Prior to making plans*, please call the Parish Center for Baptism dates, for preparation class dates, and important information regarding Godparents.

Reconciliation/Confession:

For those seeking spiritual healing.
Saturday: 4:00 to 4:30 pm in the Sacristy or by
appointment 631-475-4506, Ext. 101 or email
dsuglia@drvc.org.

Confirmation:

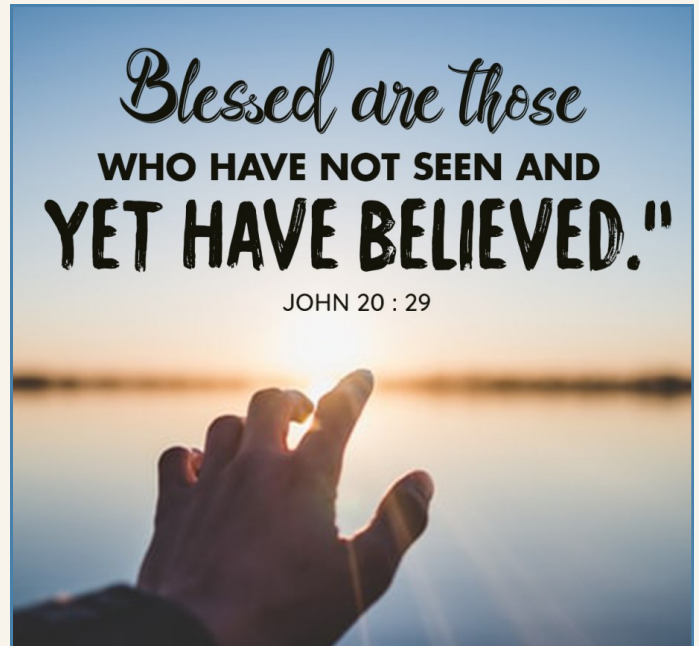
In the Fall for the youth of the parish. Adults
and young adults can also be confirmed at
Pentecost. Please call the Faith Formation
Office 631-475-4506, Ext. 118.

Marriage:

Friday @ 3, 4:30, 6pm; Saturday @ 11:00am,
12:30pm, & 2:00pm. Arrangements must be
made one year prior to the requested date.
Please be aware that all the Sacraments of
Initiation should have been celebrated prior to
the requested wedding date and Pre-Cana
preparation is required. No plans should be
made prior to meeting with a priest or deacon.

Anointing of the Sick & Dying:

For those needing surgery or serious medical
treatment and for those in danger of death.
According to the Catechism of the Catholic
Church #1515, the Sacrament should be
received once, unless during an illness the sick
person's health worsens, or for subsequent
surgeries, or after recovery they begin a new
illness. They may then receive it again. Every
second Friday of the month @ 8:30am Mass,
or call the Rectory at any time (option "0" on
the parish voice mail).



April 24, 2022
Second Sunday of Easter

Pastoral Leadership Team

Rev. Dennis A. Suglia, Pastor

Rev. Dan Picciano, Weekend Assistant

Deacon Joseph Mystkowski, Retired

Deacon George Riegger, Retired

Michael Lofaro, Administrator,
Faith Formation

Frances McMahon, Director,
Faith Formation & Music Ministers

Lori Zito, Director,
Parish Ministries & Events

Office Information

Parish Office: (631) 475-4506, ext. 101; Fax (631) 475-1057; email: parishoffice@stsylvesterli.org
Hours are Monday through Friday, 9am ~ 12 noon and 1pm~5pm.

Faith Formation Office: (631) 475-4506, ext. 118; email: faithformation@stsylvesterli.org
Please call (631) 475-4506, ext. 118 to make an appointment and we will be happy to serve you!

Parish Social Ministry at Clare House: (631) 475-4506, ext. 122; Fax (631) 475-6058.
Hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am ~ 3pm.; Wednesdays 5pm ~ 7pm. Bread Ministry takes place on Fridays from 10am—12 noon. Please call the number above or press the number “5” on the parish phone message for assistance.

Thrift Shop: (631) 475-4506, ext. 124. Hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10am ~ 3pm.; 1st Saturday of month 10am-1pm.

We Pray



Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 23, 2022
5:00pm Luigi & Maria Russo ~ *42nd Anniv.*
Linda Romaine
Dan Gunn ~ *Living Intention*
Caroline Mistretta ~ *1st Anniversary*
Gina Pizzicheni

Sunday, April 24, 2022
7:30am Joseph A. Breier
9:00am Anthony DeLise
11:00am Dante Taylor

Monday, April 25, 2022
8:30am Nicole Gavigan ~ *Living Intention*

Tuesday, April 26, 2022
8:30am The People of St. Sylvester

Thursday, April 28, 2022
8:30am The People of St. Sylvester

Friday, April 29, 2022
8:30am Frances Ward

Saturday, April 30, 2022
5:00pm Cecilia Lik
Jane Tinti
Irene Bradley
Edward Leitgeb ~ *6th Anniversary*
Robert Lucido

Sunday, May 1, 2022
7:30am The People of St. Sylvester
9:00am Giulia Capone
11:00am Patricia Blunnie



We remember and pray for all those who have died, especially:

Victoria Seidel.

If you have had a close family member pass away and would like him or her placed on this list, please send the name of the deceased with the correct spelling, along with your name and contact information, to:
ecareccia@stsylvesterli.org
or call 631-475-4506, ext. 101.
Thank you and God bless.

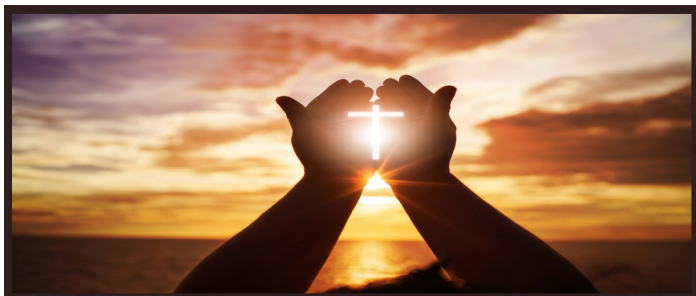
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

MISSION STATEMENT

To build and maintain a bridge connecting parish leadership and parishioners that facilitates transparent, honest and respectful dialogue and communication. To enable parishioners to ask questions, raise concerns and make suggestions that will impact the future directions of the parish.

Please keep our Council members in your prayers as they carry out their responsibilities: Patricia Coppola, Ashley Perrone, Tom Mowat & Bill Sisco.

We Pray



Please pray for all who are sick,
especially . . .

John McGarvey, Krista Teigland,
Corey Govier (child), Martha Lee, Linda Lee,
Al Schmadtke, William Crawford, Jack
Wustenhoff, Bernardita Gloria Sorrentino,
Janine Currie, Rosa & Luciano Miranda,
Rem Jahrsdoerfer, Bettina Kakaria,
Diane Maxwell, John Ackerman
Ronald P. Matonti, Sr., Brian Greck,
Robert Cook, Rosemarie Biscardi,
Joanne Clark, Barbara Gosnell, Kurt Wolff,
Rebecca Farrell, Joseph Pergola
Cathy McKnight & Carolyn Clarke.

In order to keep our Sick List up to date, we will remove all names at the end of each month. Simply call or email the Parish Office if you wish to place someone on the list. Please remember that for the sake of privacy, this request must be made by either the sick person him/herself, or by an immediate family member. Thank you.



Please pray for world peace and
all public servants
including the following who are
serving on active duty:

Captain Meghan Munisteri, D.O., Army
Major (Sel.) Maurice "Joe" Grosso, Air Force
Captain Hannah Grosso Dustin, Army
Captain Michael Dustin, Army
1st Lieutenant Michael Hawkins, Army
Captain Peter Duff, Army
Lieutenant J.G. Brett Reilly, Navy
Chief David Patricio, Navy

If you have a family member who is currently serving on active duty in the military and would like his or her name added to this prayer list, please call 631-475-4506 Ext. 101 or email ecareccia@stsylvesterli.org Please notify the same of any change in status. Thank you.

Romans 12:12

*Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction,
persevere in prayer.*

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all our volunteer ministers, including our RCIA Team, Music Ministry, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Altar Servers and many others who worked in the background to enhance our liturgies for Holy Week and Easter.

It was wonderful to see so many parishioners in the church this week. To those of you who have recently returned, *Welcome Back!* Let us rejoice in Christ's Resurrection and continue to move forward together in faith.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Matthew A. Suglia

Fr. Suglia



*The Bread & Wine
used at this weekend's liturgies
are the gifts of
Marie DeLise & Family
in loving memory of
Anthony DeLise*

Keeping Pace With NYS & Diocesan Guidelines

Effective now:

If you have been fully vaccinated, wearing a mask in the Church or Parish Center is now optional.

If you have not been fully vaccinated, you continue to be responsible for wearing a mask in the Church and Parish Center in accordance with the federal and state's implementation of the CDC guidance.

In either case, for the health, safety, and respect of others, we ask you to continue to use common sense in maintaining social distance from others when choosing your seat in the church.

At Communion time, for the safety of all, please receive the Host in your hands, step to the side, place the Host in your mouth, and return to your pew. Please consume the Eucharist before returning to your seat.

If you want to receive Communion on your tongue, please go to the very end of the priest's line for the safety of everyone.

The Bishop's dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation due to the ongoing pandemic has been lifted. As usual, this obligation does not apply to those who are ill, those who are confined to their home, a hospital, or nursing facility, those with serious underlying health conditions or those who are caring for a vulnerable family member.

Our Sunday worship will continue to be livestreamed on Saturdays at 5pm and Sundays at 11am, and will continue to be posted on the website for those who fall into any of the categories listed above.

Our priority continues to be for the safety and health of everyone. We appreciate your patience, understanding and cooperation, and will continue to keep you updated on changes as we move forward.

Yours in Christ,

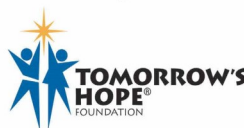
Fr. Suglia



Invest in the Future of Our Church!

Create scholarships for students to attend our Catholic Elementary Schools!

100% of your parish's collection goes to scholarships! Half stays close to home for students at your own school (parish and regional schools), half goes to scholarships for students throughout Long Island attending our Catholic schools!



Give to the Second Collection next Sunday during Mass!
Saturday, April 30th | Sunday, May 1st



"You are called to care for creation, not only as responsible citizens, but also as followers of Christ!"
~ Pope Francis

POPE FRANCIS WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU! JOIN US FOR SYNOD LISTENING SESSION

Pope Francis has called for a **Synod on Synodality** to be held in Rome in 2023 in an effort to foster better **communion**, increased **participation** and clarity of our **mission** as Christians living in the present day. As part of this Synod, Pope Francis is asking the entire Church throughout the world to reflect prayerfully on how the Holy Spirit is calling us to **journey together** as Church to God's heavenly kingdom. It is the Pope's desire that *all people from all walks of life* within the Universal Catholic Church participate!

Each diocese throughout the world will be holding Listening Sessions which will provide opportunities for us to listen to God in our own hearts, share our experiences, and then listen to one another. Here in the Diocese of Rockville Centre, all parishes are being asked to hold these sessions which will open with prayer and Scripture and hopefully conclude with new pathways forward guided by the Holy Spirit.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR PARISH'S SYNOD LISTENING SESSION ON SATURDAY, MAY 14TH FROM 9:30AM-11:00AM IN THE PARISH CENTER LOWER LEVEL. WE ASK YOU TO REGISTER BY FRIDAY, MAY 6TH BY CLICKING ON THE SYNOD LOGO FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE'S HOME PAGE.

WE WILL FOCUS ON TWO QUESTIONS POSED BY POPE FRANCIS:

How is this *journeying together* happening today in your local Church?

**What steps does the Spirit invite us to take
in order to grow in our *journeying together*?**

Consider your joys, difficulties or obstacles on the journey and what insights you have gained. Responses are recorded anonymously. This is your chance to have your voice heard and help shape the future of the Church!!

A summary report of the Listening Session will be sent to the Diocese which will compile a final report to be submitted to the USCCB. Their findings, in turn, will be brought to the Synod with Pope Francis next year.

Refreshments will be served.

***You are invited to join Fr. Suglia in exploring....
“The Bible is a Catholic Book” by Jimmy Akin***

At 7:00 PM in the East Wing of the Parish Center.

1st Class: Monday May 23rd

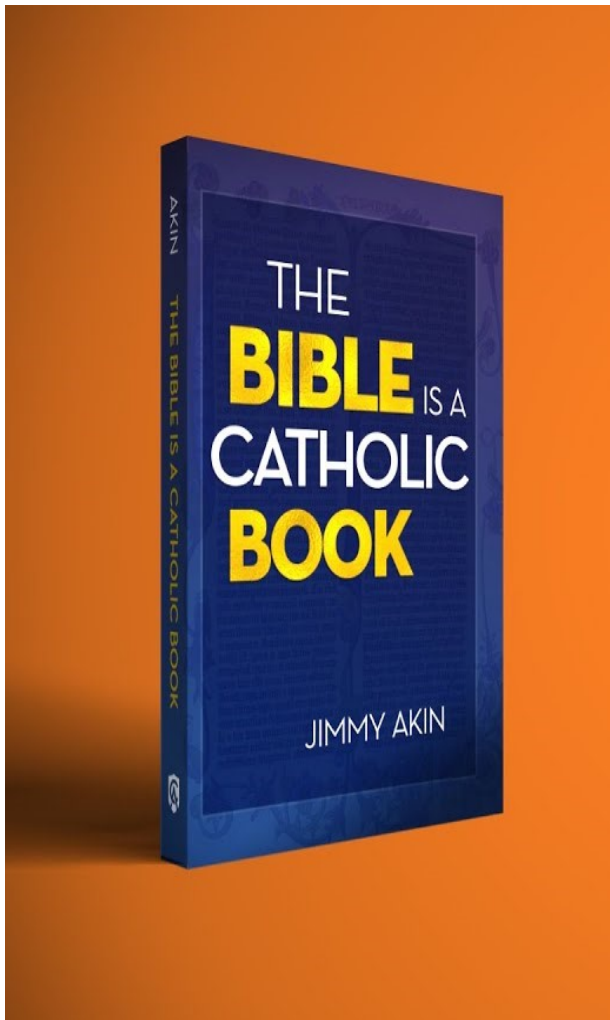
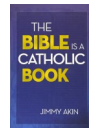
2nd Class: Monday, June 6th

3rd Class: Monday, June 13th

4th Class: Monday, June 20th

**The fee is \$20 for each person attending, whether you take a book or not.
The \$20 fee includes the book, “*The Bible is a Catholic Book*.”**

**To register, please go to our website, click on this icon,
and follow the directions.**



In *The Bible Is a Catholic Book*, Jimmy Akin shows how the Bible cannot exist apart from the Church. In its origins and its formulation, in the truths it contains, in its careful preservation over the centuries and in the prayerful study and elucidation of its mysteries, Scripture is inseparable from Catholicism. This is fitting, since both come from God for our salvation.

If you are a Catholic who sometimes gets intimidated by the Bible, *The Bible Is a Catholic Book* will help you better understand and take pride in this gift that God gave the world through the Church. We are the original Bible Christians !

And even non-Catholics will appreciate the clear and charitable way that Jimmy explains how the early Church gave us the Bible and how the Church to this day reveres and obeys it.

Divine Mercy Sunday

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday. You may recognize this painting which is displayed in the front of the church, but perhaps do not know the history behind it.

In 1931, Jesus appeared to a young nun in Poland, Sister Faustina, asking her to paint the image of Him she saw, which is the same one seen directly to the right. The two rays emanating from Jesus' heart represent blood and water. The pale ray is water (Baptism) and the red ray is blood (Eucharist). Christ also asked that the words "Jesus I Trust in You" be included and that it be venerated in her chapel and throughout the world. Sr. Faustina told her spiritual director what she had experienced and he was moved to use his own money to commission an artist to paint the image.

Sister Faustina was also given the following prayer that is the part of the Divine Mercy Chaplet which is said on each "Our Father" bead of the rosary. *"Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world."* The Divine Mercy message is one of mercy and trust. God wants us to repent of our sins and ask Him to pour his mercy upon us and the whole world. He also wants us to be merciful and forgiving to others and to trust completely in Him. Jesus told Sr. Faustina to encourage others to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet to receive mercy at the hour of death and in the presence of the dying so that they too receive His infinite mercy.

In 2000, Pope John Paul II declared Divine Mercy Sunday a universal feast of the Church and in 2002 attached a plenary indulgence to it. To receive the plenary indulgence, one must go to confession, receive the Eucharist and pray for the Pope's intentions in addition to reciting the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Sister Faustina Kowalska, a sister of Our Lady of Mercy, died in 1938 at the age of 33 and was canonized on April 30, 2000 by Pope John Paul II. She was the first saint canonized by him in the new millennium.

If you are interested in learning and praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet, there are instruction cards on the table underneath the picture of Our Lady of Guadalupe in the front of the church near the baptismal font. The Chaplet can also be found on the USCCB website and is prayed here each Friday after morning Mass.

I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: "Jesus, I Trust in You." ~ Diary of St. Faustina, 327



St. Sylvester **Flapjack Fundraiser** **at**



**1935 North Ocean Avenue
Farmingville, NY 11738**

**Saturday, April 30, 2022
8am-10am**

**Tickets are \$12 each (\$5 for children)
and can be purchased in the Parish Office
and at select Masses.**

**Meal Includes: Pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs and a beverage
(coffee, juice, soda or tea). Ticket valid for pancake event only.
Applebee's menu items are not included as part of purchase.**

All proceeds benefit St. Sylvester Parish.

SPRING FLOWER SALE

St. Sylvester Church, 68 Ohio Ave., Medford

FRIDAY, MAY 6th ~ 10AM TO 4PM

SATURDAY, MAY 7th ~ 9AM TO 6PM

SUNDAY, MAY 8th ~ 8:30AM TO 12PM

(MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND)



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Faith Formation



**Blessings
and Congratulations to
Brianna Fasulo
and
Corin Ingui
who celebrated
Baptism, Confirmation
and Eucharist
and
Keira Reynolds
who completed the
Sacraments of Initiation
by celebrating
Confirmation
at the Easter Vigil.**

**Corin Ingui, (left), Keira Reynolds
(center), Brianna Fasulo (right).**

**Thank you to the RCIA Team for
accompanying and leading!**

Faith Formation

An Easter Greeting

From St. Sylvester Faith Formation Office

*As we see new life bursting forth in nature all around us,
may we be open to and recognize the Divine Presence
in ourselves, each other and all of creation...
a sure sign of God's promise of eternal life!*

Easter Blessings, Fran, Mike and Terese



Are You Called to be a Catechist?

We are inviting you to consider becoming a Catechist for Faith Formation. If you think you may be interested, please email fmcMahon@stsylvesterli.org for more information on what Levels/Grades, days and times are available. Thank you!

All Are Welcome!!

Did you know that we have an Individualized Faith Formation Program for children with special needs?

If your child has special needs, and has been diagnosed with:

Autism, ADD or ADHD, Reading Disability, Cognitive Speech Delay, ODD or Other Behavioral Concerns, Sensory Processing Disorder, Other Health Impairment

...please know that there is a place for your child in the St. Sylvester Faith Formation and Sacramental Program. We have been blessed with volunteers who are educated and experienced in working with children with special needs and their families. Please call the Faith Formation Office at 631-475-4506 Ext. 118 so that we can help in placing your child in the class that will be most beneficial for them.

HELP PROTECT OUR CHILDREN and VULNERABLE ADULTS

TO REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE involving diocesan personnel, priests, deacons, teachers, employees or volunteers at schools or churches in the Diocese of Rockville Centre, please call our confidential hotline number at **1-516-594-9063** and speak with Mary McMahon, LCSW, Director.

IF YOU SUSPECT a child or vulnerable adult is being—or has been abused, call the New York State Hotline phone number: **1-800-342-3720** If you suspect someone is in immediate danger, call 911.

Stewardship

One Family in Mission



Called to Evangelize

Formation

Hospitality

Prayer

Service

Gifts of Treasure

April 17, 2022 ~ Easter (to date)

Regular ~ \$18,309 Renovation ~ \$115

2021 Easter

Regular ~ \$18,195

April 10, 2022 ~ Palm Sunday

Regular ~ \$12,298 Renovation ~ \$340

2021 Palm Sunday

Regular ~ \$5,022

***These figures do not include contributions made through Faith Direct.*

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU
*to all those who, in the spirit of stewardship,
continue to financially support the mission
and ministry of the parish!!!*

20 Catholic Ministries Appeal

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Our 2022 Catholic Ministries Appeal is in full swing! Thank you to the 108 donors who have already made a pledge or one-time donation to the CMA. **We are at currently at 46.15% of our \$71,300 goal for this year.**

100% of every dollar raised is restricted to serve the objectives, programs and mission supported by the Appeal. **If we reach 80% of our parish goal, all funds raised and received between 80-100% of our goal are returned to us for our own programs, services and needs.**

Pledges and donations can be made by check payable to the *Catholic Ministries Appeal* or by credit card through the CMA icon on our website's homepage. Mail in brochures are available in the church and in the Parish Center.

Thank You! Every gift counts!

Calming Words at a Scary Time

John's Gospel begins with the disciples in hiding in a locked room in fear of their lives. Jesus suddenly appears in their midst and says, "*Peace be with you,*" showing them His crucifixion wounds in His hands and side as proof that He is the Lord. He doesn't chastise them for being afraid and hiding or tell them they should have done things better. Jesus' appearance gives the dejected followers of Jesus hope, along with a message of peace and a mission, "*As the Father has sent me, so I send you.*"

As disciples, Jesus' message and mission is meant for all of us as well — faith-filled followers who need to hear and internalize Christ's words during this frightening and unsettling time of pandemic, polarization and war. The Risen Lord wants to bring peace to our lives and hope to our hearts, and then send us forth to carry that peace and hope to others. Are we like the disciples who believe and rejoice in the Lord's words, or more like cynical Thomas, who did not encounter the Resurrected Christ with the other disciples and struggles to hope and believe until he has absolute proof?

As we now celebrate the Easter season, and with it the beauty of spring and renewal of the earth, let us take a breather from our daily challenges and stresses and try to feel the Lord's presence and peace in our lives. God knows we need it!! And then, share the gifts of your faith with others in ways both big and small. "*Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed!*" ~ Lori Zito

*"Do not be afraid.
I am the first and last, the one who lives."
~ Revelation 1:17*

Parish Social Ministry



Clare House - We are here to help!

We are now open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am until 3pm, and on Wednesday evenings from 5pm to 7pm. Friday mornings we have our *Bread Ministry* from 10am –12pm, where local stores and bakeries donate bread, rolls, etc. for those in need throughout our community. If you have an emergency situation that requires assistance, please call our intake line and leave only one complete message stating your name, number, and primary need: 631-475-4506 x122.

Clare House is open for Emergency Food Distribution and other requests at the days and times listed above. Please come to the front door for assistance.

We are currently in need of the following donations to assist others: coffee, tea, jelly/jam, instant mashed potatoes, shampoo, conditioner, body wash and gas station gift cards. We are also looking for some helping hands on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 12pm-3pm! If you would like to help us to help others, please call the Parish Office.

Please place donations in the church bin when you come to Mass or drop them off at the Parish Center or Clare House, and kindly check the expiration dates on your items. Thank you!



Thrift Shop is Open

The Thrift Shop hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am until 3pm. It will also be open on the first Saturday of each month from 10am until 1pm.

New and **gently-used** items may be donated when the thrift shop is open or placed in the bins.



Please do not leave items outside the Thrift Shop at night or in inclement weather. This creates extra work for our staff and does nothing to further our mission. Items left in this manner are often ruined and must sadly be tossed into the dumpster. *Also, due to space limitations, we cannot accept large items such as furniture, TV's, appliances, mattresses, etc.*

Thank you in advance for your support.
We look forward to serving you!



GET INVOLVED

Ministries/Groups Schedule

Mondays ~ 10am Drawing Class
East Wing

~ 1:30pm Women's Prayer Group
(3rd Monday of the Month)
East Wing/Worship Room

Tuesdays ~ 9:30am ~ Watercolor Art Group
Patricia Desmond Hall (Downstairs)

~ 1:30pm ~ Legion of Mary
Room 2

~ 7pm Choir Rehearsal
Church

Wednesdays ~ 10:30am ~ Prayer Shawl Ministry
(1st Wednesday of the Month)
East Wing

Thursdays ~ 9:30am ~ Al-Anon
East Wing

Fridays ~ 12:30pm ~ Senior Circle of Friends
Patricia Desmond Hall (Downstairs)
(2nd & 4th Fridays of the Month)

~ 6:30pm ~ Lay Carmelites
(3rd Friday of the Month)
Worship Room/East Wing

~ 7pm ~ Compassionate Friends
(2nd Friday of the Month)
(Group for those who have lost children)
Patricia Desmond Hall (Downstairs)

Saturdays ~ 9am ~ Devotion (Rosary/Prayers)
(1st Saturday of the Month)
Worship Room

Want to Learn How to Make a Rosary?

Our Legion of Mary makes rosary beads for our Faith Formation children and for others who come to the Parish Center seeking them.



May, the month of Mary, is fast approaching. If you would like one of the Legion of Mary members to teach you how to make your own Rosary, please contact Lori Zito at 631-475-4506, ext. 115.

13th Annual Women's Retreat "Behold Thy Son"

Calling ALL women! Come ponder "Motherhood" in your heart after the example of Mary. The Legion of Mary invites you to come pray with Mary, especially for children and for priests.



This overnight retreat includes reflections, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and periods of silence, as well as an opportunity to receive the sacrament of reconciliation.

Friday, May 6—Saturday, May 7, 2022
Check in Friday 1-6pm; Ends Saturday at 9pm

Seminary of the Immaculate Conception
440 West Neck Road, Huntington, NY

Cost: \$150 per person
*Includes inner Friday, 3 meals Saturday
and private room with shower*

*Please send form below with check payable to
St. Patrick Parish to: St. Patrick RC Church
280 East Main St., Smithtown, NY 11787
Attn: Legion of Mary*

NAME _____

EMAIL _____

ADDRESS _____

PARISH _____

DIETARY NEEDS? _____

APPROX. ARRIVAL TIME _____

*For additional information contact :
Lana Maggio at 631-374-1116 or Corrinne Addis
at 631-804-7222 or keepntuch@aol.com.*

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UKRAINE

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Outpatient Facility:

1529 North Ocean Avenue, Medford, NY 11763

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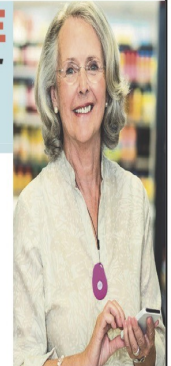
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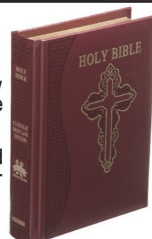
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