

# St. Sylvester R. C. Church

68 Ohio Avenue, Medford, NY 11763

[www.stsylvesterli.org](http://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 Parish Center. Rosary recitation begins at  
8:15am before morning Mass. Holy Days as  
announced.

## ***Baptisms:***

Celebrated on pre-determined dates. ***Prior to making plans***, call 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](mailto: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  
631-475-0418 any time.

While he was  
with them at table,  
he took bread,  
said the blessing,  
broke it, and  
gave it to them.



## April 26, 2020 Third Sunday of Easter

### Pastoral Leadership Team

**Rev. Dennis A. Suglia**, Pastor

**Deacon Joseph Mystkowski**

**Deacon George Riegger**, Retired

**Michael Lofaro**, Administrator,  
Faith Formation

**Frances McMahon**, Director,  
Faith Formation & Music Ministers

**Justin McMahon**, Director,  
Parish Social Ministry

**Lori Zito**, Director, Parish Ministries & Events

# Office Information

**Parish Office:** (631) 475-4506, ext 101; Fax (631) 475-1057; email: parishoffice@stsylvesterli.org  
Mon. Tues. & Wed. 9am-12 & 1-8:30pm; Thurs. & Fri.. 9am-12pm & 1-5pm; Sun. 9:30am-12:30pm.

**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  
Please call the number above or press the number "5" on the parish phone message for assistance.

**Thrift Shop:** (631) 475-4506, ext. 124

## We Pray

### ***Saturday, April 25, 2020***

5:00pm Dolores & John Murray  
Edward Leitgeb  
Luigi & Maria Russo  
Marylee Backhaus  
Philip A. Melfil

### ***Sunday, April 26, 2020***

7:30am Mario Gambino  
9:00am Catherine Muhlenforth  
11:00am Dante Taylor

### ***Monday, April 27, 2020***

8:30am The People of St. Sylvester

### ***Tuesday, April 28, 2020***

8:30am William Mahony

### ***Thursday, April 30, 2020***

8:30am Nicoletta Ferrante

### ***Friday, May 1, 2020***

8:30am Dorothy & Charles Lorey, Sr.

### ***Saturday, May 2, 2020***

5:00pm Schubert Camacho  
Ricardo Bustamante  
Richard McKinney  
Charles Funk  
Carmela Toscano

### ***Sunday, May 3, 2020***

7:30am Mario Gambino  
9:00am Ernest D. Puleo  
11:00am Richard Faria



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

*Crestina Pugliese, Sandra Provenzano,  
William Gartung and Avelardo Valentin.*

### **A PRAYER FOR PROTECTION IN TIME OF PANDEMIC**



O Mary,  
you always brighten our path  
as a sign of salvation and of hope.  
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,  
who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain  
while remaining steadfast in faith.  
O loving Mother,  
you know what we need,  
and we are confident you will provide for us  
as at Cana in Galilee.  
Intercede for us with your Son Jesus,  
the Divine Physician,  
for those who have fallen ill,  
for those who are vulnerable,  
and for those who have died.  
Intercede also for those charged with  
protecting the health and safety of others  
and for those who are tending to the sick  
and seeking a cure.  
Help us, O Mother of Divine Love,  
to conform to the will of the Father  
and to do as we are told by Jesus,  
who took upon himself our  
sufferings and carried our sorrows,  
so as to lead us, through the Cross,  
to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.

*Under thy protection we seek refuge,  
O Holy Mother of God.  
In our needs, despise not our petitions,  
but deliver us always from all dangers,  
O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.*

### **HELP PROTECT OUR CHILDREN**

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.

**Visit our website at: [www.stsylvesterli.org](http://www.stsylvesterli.org)**

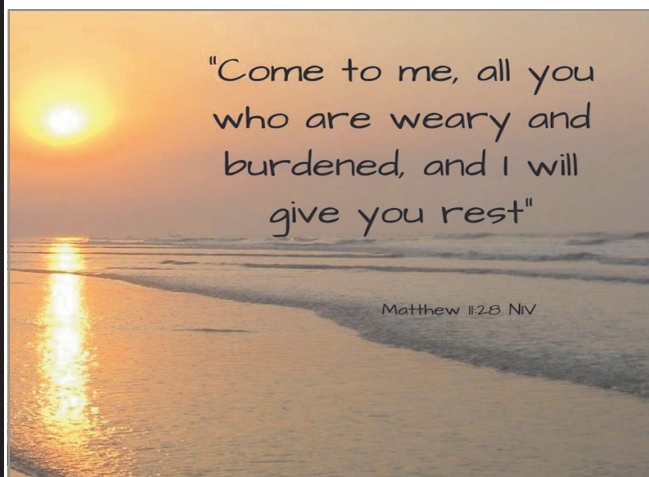


# We Pray



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

Theresa Mazza, Melanie Schmadtke,  
John McGarvey, Ellen Wisnoski, Rita  
Ruberto, Joan McGrattan, Nello &  
Cesira Liberatore, Robert Schwarz,  
Bill Berger, Marge Golden, Chong  
Skladel, Frank Cayea, Christopher  
Ewart, Barbara Perrone, Mike  
McCrann, Luanne Bell and William  
Valentin.



*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*



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

Captain Meghan Munisteri, D.O., Army  
Captain Maurice "Joe" Grosso, Air Force  
1st Lieutenant Hannah Grosso, Army  
1st Lieutenant Michael Dustin, Army  
2nd Lieutenant Michael Hawkins, Army  
Petty Officer 2nd Class Elena Greck, Navy  
Lieutenant Nicoli Carlson, Navy  
Captain Holly Grosso Carlson, Army  
Captain Peter Duff, Army  
Ensign Brett Reilly, 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](mailto: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.***



**PASTOR'S COLUMN  
SS MEDFORD  
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**



Dear Friends,

Happy Easter! Jesus Christ is truly risen today, Alleluia, Alleluia! Although we are physically separated these days, we are still spiritually connected.

That said, this has been a bizarre few weeks. Our schedules have been upended in ways that we never expected.

It is times like these when we can focus on our faith. What better time than to devote some time each day, both individually and with our families, on prayer, meditation and perhaps reading the bible. We have an opportunity to approach our new norm with a new found focus on our interior life with God.

The important thing is to remember that Jesus did rise from the dead. Two thousand years of tradition have passed but this truth never fades. Throughout that time there have been pandemics and wars, natural disasters and plagues. Nonetheless, the central truth of the resurrection guides us that we are called to new life in Christ.

Let this Easter season bring us closer to Him who saves us from sin and death. Let us be confident that those who have succumbed to the virus have followed Him into eternity. And let us continue to be united to one another through our prayer, always remembering that this too shall pass.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Suglia



# Faith Formation Registration Information



We hope that you and your families are well, safe and staying hopeful. We have been keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers during these past few weeks.

Next week would have begun registration for the 2020-2021 Faith Formation year. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, registration will not take place as usual, but rather at a later date. To put your minds at rest, we want to assure you that your child/ren will be moved up to the next Level for the 2020-2021 year. As soon as we know what the Faith Formation Program will look like in the fall, we will contact you so that you can register your child. Level's 2 & 7, and Older Sacrament classes will be contacted as to when Sacraments will be celebrated as well.

In the interim, please continue to utilize the Family Resource Page on the Parish website. You can access the page by clicking this link [www.stsylvesterli.org/family-resource-page](http://www.stsylvesterli.org/family-resource-page) or visiting the Parish website at [www.stsylvstrelri.org](http://www.stsylvstrelri.org). Hover over Faith Formation and click on Family Resource Page. Under Loyola Press, you'll see helpful information for families as well as other information that you may find useful. Level's 2 and 7, look at the links on the Family Resource Page as well as at the top of your child's calendar for the website that you can access videos for your child to watch. We'll be updating the Family Resource Page with more helpful information.

Mass is offered weekly from St. Sylvester on the parish website with Fr. Suglia. Join fellow parishioners virtually to celebrate. See the Sunday Connection link on the Family Resource page on the parish website to prepare your family for mass or sign up with Franciscan Media to receive a weekly newsletter.

Please know that we are here for you. If you have any questions or concerns, please email [faithformation@stsylvesterli.org](mailto:faithformation@stsylvesterli.org).

Let us pray for one another, during these unprecedented times, for those suffering from COVID-19, their families and health care providers. Let us pray and remain hopeful that this will pass quickly.

Blessings,  
Fran Mike and Terése



# Faith Formation

## Do You Have Questions?

Please know that if you have questions regarding your child's Faith Formation or as an adult questions about preparing for Sacraments you can reach us by email at [faithformation@stsylvesterli.org](mailto:faithformation@stsylvesterli.org)

## God's Love is Unconditional!

A decree from Rome granting Plenary Indulgences to the faithful during this current pandemic including "health care workers, family members and all those who in any capacity, including through prayer, care for them." has been granted. To read the entire Decree of the Apostolic Penitentiary go to: <http://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2020/03/20/200320c.html>

### What is a Plenary Indulgence?

God's granting special grace by removing all effects of previous sin to those who turn to God in their time of need. If the intention in your heart is to be reconciled to God and to your neighbor, then your sins are forgiven along with any remaining negative effects from the sin.

### How does that work?

Normally we would gather at Mass and for other forms of prayer and devotions, but because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the necessary social distancing, we are unable to. We can however still unite spiritually through our individual practices as well as shared virtual experiences. This could include uniting "through the media to the celebration of Holy Mass, the recitation of the Holy Rosary, to the practice of the Way of the Cross or other forms of devotion, or we can recite the Creed, the Lord's Prayer or invoke the intercession of our Blessed Mother, Mary, and offer this time of suffering in a spirit of faith in God and charity towards our brothers and sisters, along with the will to fulfill the usual conditions (meaning to celebrate the sacrament of Confession, and receive Holy Communion as soon as possible)". Through these actions and intentions we will be granted Plenary Indulgence.

### No Matter What...

For those who are too sick to pray, even those who may have only ever said just "a few prayers," God's Mercy and Love is already with them, especially during their time of suffering. And, should it be their time to leave this life, as we know it, God will embrace them and bring them to everlasting life. We know this because **God's love is unconditional**. God sees into our hearts and knows, before we even say a prayer, who we are. God's love and forgiveness, God's salvation for all humans is an unmerited, gracious and generous, free gift.

# Stewardship

## One Family in Mission

Called to Evangelize

Formation

Hospitality

Prayer

Service



### Gifts of Treasure

**April 19, 2020**

**Regular ~ \$6,794**

*(This amount does not include  
Easter Offerings*

*which will be published at a later date.)*

**Last Year's Collection ~ April 21, 2019**

**Regular ~ \$22,310 (Reflects Easter )**

*Thank you to all those who, in the spirit of  
stewardship, continue to financially support  
the parish during this challenging time!!!*

### Reflection:

Once again, we read in the Gospel that Jesus comes to His disciples and reveals to them that He is truly risen. God does not leave us alone to figure out life by ourselves; He is always present, asking that you invite Him into your life.

### Living Stewardship—Prayer:

“Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?” This week, try to make time to open up and read your Bible — even if it just a passage or two. Then arrange for some quiet time afterward and let the Lord speak to you.

**“Is prayer your steering wheel or  
your spare tire?”**

~ Corrie ten Boom

THE LORD GIVES EACH OF US  
A VOCATION, A CHALLENGE  
TO DISCOVER THE TALENTS  
AND ABILITIES WE POSSESS  
AND TO PUT THEM AT THE  
SERVICE OF OTHERS.

*Pope Francis*

### Will & Estate Planning

Consider leaving a legacy of faith by remembering our parish in your will or bequest. Saint Sylvester RC Church is a fully compliant charitable organization registered as a 501 (3)C non-profit.

Please contact Father Suglia directly if you have already made provisions for St. Sylvester or if you would like to remember us when you conduct your estate planning.

Thank you and God bless!





## **Clare House Closed Until Further Notice**

In order to comply with social distancing requirements and in an effort to limit all unnecessary contact our team is working remotely. We are still here to help! We will continue to support individual clients on a case by case basis. If you have an emergency situation that requires assistance please call our intake line ONLY:

**631-475-4506 x122**

Please leave only one complete message stating your name, number, and primary need.

Please keep in mind that in the current state of emergency:

- \* National Grid will not shut off service due to non-payment.
- \* PSEGLI will not shut off service due to non-payment.
- \* Evictions will not be enforced.
- \* Those with mortgages who are unable to pay, should contact their lenders, as many will work with clients during this time.
- \* Those who need emergency shelter should call DSS for instruction.  
631-854-9100
- \* DSS offices are open, but staff is limited and there are no face-to-face interviews

**Please check the website and follow us on twitter for information about available resources or ways to help.**

Call Us Today to Schedule Your Visit!



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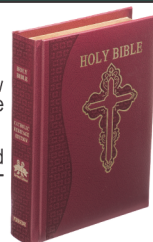
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