

# 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 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](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 any time (option "0" on  
the parish voice mail).



**June 12, 2022**

**The Most Holy Trinity**

## **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@stsyvesterli.org  
Hours are Monday through Friday, 9am ~ 12 noon and 1pm~5pm.

**Faith Formation Office:** (631) 475-4506, ext. 118; email: faithformation@stsyvesterli.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

<b>Saturday,</b> 5:00pm	<b>June 11, 2022</b> Al Meinecke Patricia Ann Conboy Laura Quintero Ian Saalfield Annette Caravana Frank Cayea ~ <i>2nd Anniversary</i>
<b>Sunday,</b> 7:30am 9:00am 11:00am	<b>June 12, 2022</b> Joan K. Bennett Angelo Pagano Luigi & Maria Russo
<b>Monday,</b>	<b>June 13, 2022</b> The People of St. Sylvester
<b>Tuesday,</b> 8:30am	<b>June 14, 2022</b> Mary & Pete Kummer Katy Dyer
<b>Thursday,</b> 8:30am	<b>June 16, 2022</b> Scott Forst
<b>Friday,</b> 8:30am	<b>June 17, 2022</b> Most Reverend Emil A. Wcela
<b>Saturday,</b> 5:00pm	<b>June 18, 2022</b> Robert F. Birk Jean Murphy Frank Rowan Mario M. Busuttill Frances Grillo
<b>Sunday,</b> 7:30am 9:00am 11:00am	<b>June 19, 2022</b> For All Fathers, Living & Deceased For All Fathers, Living & Deceased For All Fathers, Living & Deceased



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

**Edward Yezarski, Cathy McKnight,  
and Rich Broderick.**

*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@stsyvesterli.org](mailto:ecareccia@stsyvesterli.org)  
or call 631-475-4506, ext. 101.  
Thank you and God bless.*

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

#### MISSION STATEMENT

**To build and maintain a bridge connect-  
ing 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 responsi-  
bilities: Patricia Coppola, Ashley Perrone,  
Tom Mowat & Bill Sisco.**

# We Pray



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

John McGarvey, Rosa & Luciano Miranda,  
Corey Govier (child), Robert Cook,  
Rosemarie Biscardi, Joanne Clark,  
Joseph Pergola, Carolyn Clarke,  
Gary Pendleton, Neftali Nieves,  
Roni & Ray Fiedler, John DiSanto,  
William Crawford, Ronald Matonti, Sr.,  
Susan Payne Einar, Joseph Roepcke,  
Barbara Gosnell, Liam Clark (child),  
Michael Virostko, Terry Heslin,  
Karen Summers and Melissa 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  
Captain Michael Hawkins, Army  
2nd Lieutenant Matthew 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@stsyvesterli.org Please notify  
the same of any change in status. Thank you.*

*Romans 12:12*

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

Come to me, all you who are  
weary & burdened,  
& I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28



## COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Do you know someone who is  
no longer able to attend Mass  
but would like to receive the  
Eucharist?



Please have them or a family  
member call our Parish Office  
at 631-475-4506, ext. 101 to arrange for a visit  
from one of our Extraordinary Ministers of  
Holy Communion.

*The Bread & Wine  
used at this weekend's liturgies*

*are the gifts of  
The Bennett Family*

*in loving memory of  
Joan K. Bennett*

# *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

## *Special Exposition, Silent Adoration of Blessed Sacrament for Feast of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)*

You are invited to join Fr. Suglia for a special exposition of the Eucharist followed by 30 minutes of silent adoration at the conclusion of the 11am Mass next Sunday, June 19th, in celebration of the The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi).

This special parish exposition and adoration also marks the beginning of a three-year eucharistic revival declared by the U.S. bishops which will culminate with the National Eucharistic Congress in 2024. It is the Bishops' hope that the revival will foster a greater understanding and appreciation for the Eucharist in Catholics throughout the country.



# Faith Formation in 2022—2023

We hope you and your families are doing well and enjoying the warmer weather. We are excited to share with you the plans for the coming Faith Formation year! We continue to develop the program to be more family-oriented, balancing Church and home life, empowering and encouraging parents to be witnesses of the faith and providing opportunities for families to experience God's loving presence in all they do and in all the places they are!

**This is what the program will look like for the 2022-2023 year!**

- ~ All classes will meet at the parish, except for some of the Individualized Faith Formation classes, which are designed to assist children with special needs in preparing for and receiving Sacraments.
- ~ Class times will be one hour and fifteen minutes instead of one hour long.
- ~ Classes will meet twice a month instead of every week.
- ~ There will be a Sunday/Saturday Mass component for every Level to be involved in.
- ~ There will be Mass Reflection Forms to be completed once a month.
- ~ Children's Liturgy will be offered twice a month which will be helpful for children in completing the Mass Reflection Forms.
- ~ Different Levels will be invited to bring cookies, donuts, etc. to Hospitality on specific Sundays that coincide with Children's Liturgy.

Level 1 will meet once a month on Saturday from 9:00 to 10:15 am in the Parish Center. Parents will sign child into classroom and then go downstairs to meet with the other adults for hospitality and a parent presentation. They will sign their child out of class at 10:15 am.

Levels 2-6 will meet at the same time so parents will be able to drop off their children of different levels all at the same time. Level 2-6 will meet Tuesday and Thursday from 4:45 to 6:00 pm and on Wednesday from 5:15 to 6:30 pm.

Level 7 will meet Tuesday and Thursday from 6:15 to 7:30 pm. Level 7 will attend the 5:00 pm Mass once a month on designated Saturdays, followed by pizza/food in the Lower Level of the Parish Center and Community Service activities tied to Confirmation preparation.

Level 8 will have immediate preparation and celebrate Confirmation in the fall. After Confirmation they will be invited to participate in a leadership role at the Saturday 5pm Mass once a month.

## 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 mail [mlofaro@stsyvesterli.org](mailto:mlofaro@stsyvesterli.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

June 5, 2022

Regular ~ \$10,217      Renovation ~ \$614.75  
(Regular includes one special donation of \$1,000)

Last Year (June 6, 2021)

Regular ~ \$7,072      Renovation ~ \$405

Faith Direct ~ May 2022

Regular ~ \$12,772      Renovation ~ \$565

*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!!!*

### WE CELEBRATE GOD'S GIFTS!



The Holy Spirit has given the disciples of Jesus many gifts! How blessed are we to receive so many gifts and talents from God so that we may, in turn, be the Light of Christ to others! **Come to our Ministry Fair this Sunday and find out more information about all the ways you can use your gifts to**

***Get Involved*** here in the parish! We ask all those who are interested in finding out more information on a particular ministry, as well as those who are recommitting to serving here in the parish, to **place your completed *Get Involved! Stewardship Time and Talent Response Forms*** in the collection basket or return them to the Lori Zito in the Parish Center.

Jesus tells us, "You are the light of the world." Let us use our light, our God-given gifts, in all aspects of our lives to help build God's Kingdom here on earth.

### The More Things Change...

As we mark the Feast of the Most Holy Trinity today, we should keep in mind that over 2,000 years later our Church is still being persecuted in some parts of the world, and even close to home.

Take the case of Cardinal Joseph Zen, age 90, who was recently arrested in Hong Kong for allegedly breaking China's national security law. Cardinal Zen is known for speaking out for Catholics in mainland China. His arrest comes on the heels of many Christian house churches in China being destroyed or forced to remove their crosses by the ruling Communist Party. And just this past weekend over 50 people, including many children, were killed by gunmen as they attended Pentecost Mass at St. Francis Catholic Church in the Ondo state in Nigeria. The priest who was celebrating the Mass was abducted.

Lastly, we have the heinous crime which took place last week much closer to home at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Park Slope, Brooklyn. A \$2 million tabernacle was stolen, the hosts that were in it were strewn all over the altar and the angel statues which flanked the tabernacle were beheaded. The USCCB sadly reports at least 138 incidents have occurred at US Catholic Churches across 35 states and the District of Columbia since May 2020.

As we celebrate the many gifts of the Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, let us recognize those that are still persecuted for our faith. Let us pray to the Holy Spirit for wisdom and courage, to Jesus that He may show us how to truly love our neighbors as ourselves, and to the Father to bring peace to our world. May we never become so complacent in our blessings that we forget what a privilege it is to have the freedoms we enjoy. And may we always remain people of action and hope.  
~ Lori Zito

**"...hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us."**

~ Romans 5:5

# MINISTRY FAIR & ART SHOW

**SUNDAY, JUNE 12TH AFTER  
THE 7:30, 9 & 11AM MASSES**

INTERESTED IN **GETTING INVOLVED** HERE IN THE PARISH?

LOOKING FOR A MEANINGFUL WAY TO **USE YOUR TALENTS**  
FOR THE GOOD OF OTHERS?

WANT TO **LEARN MORE** ABOUT WHAT GOES ON HERE  
AT ST. SYLVESTER BESIDES WEEKEND MASSES?

STOP BY OUR MINISTRY FAIR TABLES OUTSIDE IN FELLOWSHIP PLAZA  
AND MEET THOSE ALREADY MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE PARISH!  
THEN BE SURE TO STOP BY OUR **ART SHOW** IN THE PARISH CENTER  
EAST WING AND SEE THE WONDERFUL WORK DONE BY OUR  
WATERCOLOR AND DRAWING GROUPS.

REFRESHMENTS \* GIVEAWAYS

*Stewardship*

*is heart work*



**DON'T JUST COME TO CHURCH. BE THE CHURCH!**

## What's the Difference Between Volunteering & Ministry?

It sounds like the beginning of a joke, but in fact it is a valid question which people ask me often – What exactly is the difference between volunteering your time and getting involved in ministry?

Volunteering is a wonderful, praiseworthy thing to do and it is usually goal-oriented; there is a need to be filled and the volunteer fills it. Ministry is *different*. Ministry is also volunteering in the sense that you may give of your time to complete a task or project, but the motivation is not the same. When you are involved in ministry it is deeper than just completing a task, and ministry can happen anywhere – not only on church property. It can, and should, be a part of our daily lives!

Getting involved as a minister is a direct result of the call to action we receive at Baptism. As we are the Church, we should feel a spiritual pull to participate in the life of the Church, in our families and throughout our communities to help build God's Kingdom here on earth. However, with our involvement there also must be a recognition on our part that God, as our loving parent, has given each one of us very different gifts, and that it is our responsibility to nurture these particular gifts and then gratefully share them with others. **Part and parcel of being involved in a ministry is discernment, a recognition of what you have been gifted with and an understanding of your Christian call to use these gifts in service to God and one another.** *“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace.” 1 Peter 4:10*

***Ministry is not a job, or simply a task to be fulfilled. It is a calling.*** I have met with many parishioners over the years who do wonderful things in the community and tell me they want to be involved in the parish, but have no special gifts to share – *all of them do, but none of them see it!* This is why we say that Stewardship is a way of life – because once you understand that God has given you unique gifts to use and share, it energizes and affects every part of your life!

Let Christ be your Light, and in turn, be the Light of Christ to others!

Happy Summer!

Lori Zito

Director of Parish Ministries & Events



***You are the light of the world.  
A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden...  
Just so, your light must shine before others,  
that they may see your good deeds  
and glorify your heavenly Father.  
~ Matthew 5***

# 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: ramen noodles, pancake mix, pancake syrup, whole grain snacks, laundry detergent, dish detergent, toilet paper, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, shaving cream, razors, feminine products 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!



## Come & Check Out Our Thrift Shop!

The Thrift Shop hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am until 3pm, and 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. We are in particular need of boys' and girls' clothes sizes 4-6x at this time.



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!



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**2:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.**



TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT  
SCAN THE QR CODE OR CONTACT,  
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OR CALL 1-800-933-2566

FOR MEDICAL ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS,  
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## 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** ~ 12:00pm ~ 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

## St. Sylvester Knights of Columbus Host Night at the Races

The Knights of Columbus will sponsor a *Night at the Races* on Saturday, June 18th at the Medford VFW Post, 507 Long Island Avenue. Tickets are \$15 each and include hot dogs, beer, wine, soda, coffee and tea, with ice cream & cake for dessert. (No children under 13 please.)

Doors open at 6pm and post time is 7pm. There will also be a 50/50 raffle available for purchase.

Please contact Pete Novak at 516-816-5884 or Pete Bertran at 631-289-2095 for additional



## COLUMBIETTES RAFFLE OFF FAMILY BASKET FOR PARISH

The St. Sylvester Columbiettes will be selling raffle tickets after all Masses in June for their large Family Basket loaded with food, games, lottery tickets and gift certificates — valued at over \$200!



Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5 and the drawing will be Sunday, June 26th after the 11am Mass. All proceeds from this raffle will go to St. Sylvester, so please consider purchasing a ticket. Good luck!

Call Us Today to Schedule Your Visit!



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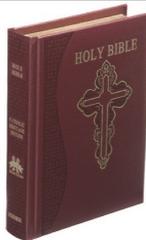
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