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).



May 15, 2022 Fifth 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,	May 14, 2022
5:00pm	Jane & John Daly
	Carole Intravia

ole Intravia Edward Kelly Mary Garrick Margaret A. Esposito

May 15, 2022 Sunday, The People of St. Sylvester 7:30am Jim Kummer James Randazzo 11:00am

May 16, 2022 Monday, Charles J. Feniello, Jr. 8:30am

Tuesday, May 17, 2022 Thelma Griffith 8:30am

Thursday, May 19, 2022 Michael J. Diesel 8:30am

May 20, 2022 Friday, 8:30am Patricia Sanford ~ Living Intention

Saturday, 5:00pm

9:00am

May 21, 2022 Donald Plante Angelina Caggiano Louis Wilson Concetta Reina

Patrick Tardo

May 22, 2022 Sunday, 7:30am Richard F. Bennett Manuel & Rosa Esteves 9:00am 11:00am Karen Smith



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

Maureen Crowe-Freno, George Steppello & Teresa Lancer.

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, Rosa & Luciano Miranda, Corey Govier (child), Robert Cook, Rosemarie Biscardi, Joanne Clark, Joseph Pergola, Cathy McKnight, Carolyn Clarke, Gary Pendleton, Neftali Nieves, Roni & Ray Fiedler, John DiSanto, William Crawford Ronald Matonti, Sr. & Susan Payne Eina.

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.

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.



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 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.*



The Bread, Wine & Altar Candles used at this weekend's liturgies

are the gifts of **The Toscano Famíly**

in loving memory of **Felice Toscano**

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.

- <u>If you have not been fully vaccinated</u>, 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

Spring Flower Sale a Sweet (& Soggy) Success

Hats off to the members of our Gardening Club Ministry led by Sue Rothe who braved the cold, rain and howling wind this past weekend to host our Spring Flower Sale!

Thanks to their dedication and the support of everyone who came out to buy flowers despite the weather, the Flower Sale was quite successful, netting a profit of \$4,361.50 for the parish.

Special thanks also to Forge River Nursery in Mastic for their continued generosity these many years in supplying us with beautiful, hearty plants at a reasonable cost and for donating the large, colorful planter for our raffle.

▓ゎॖॖॖॖॖॖゐॎऄॣॸॖॖॖॖॖॖक़ॳॖॣक़ख़ॖक़ऄॖ



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.

Are You Being Called to Serve?

By virtue of our Baptism, we are all called to holinessthe lay faithful as well as Bishops, priests, and deacons. But have you felt called to serve in a much deeper and committed way? If you are a man between the ages of 30 and 60, who feels that you are being called to ordained ministry as a deacon in the Church, you are invited to come for an Evening of Prayer and Discernment with other men of faith to discuss and explore that very question. There is no cost to the evening-just your time and openness.

COME PREPARED to LISTEN to PRAY to REFLECT to DISCERN where God is calling you!

The evenings are being offered conveniently at three locations in our diocese.

7:00PM, Tuesday, June 7	—	St. Rose of Lima, Massapequa, 2 Bayview Avenue				
7:00PM, Wednesday, June 8	-	St. Mary Manhasset, 1300 Northern Boulevard				
7:00PM, Thursday, June 16	-	St. Joseph, Ronkonkoma, 45 Church Street				
with a Saturday Morning option to be held at						
10:00AM, Saturday, June 18	-	Ss. Peter & Paul, Manorville, 781 Wading River Road				
RSVP by Friday, June 3 rd , to 631-423-0483 Ext. 179 or by email to						

diaconateformation@drvc.org

We thank you and look forward to being with you.

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



Called to Evangelize

Formation

Hospitality

Prayer

Service

Gifts of Treasure

<u>May 8, 2022</u> Regular ~ \$8,169 Renovation ~ \$140

> <u>Last Year (May 9, 2021)</u> Regular ~ \$6,746

<u>Additional Easter 2022</u> ~ \$5,893

Faith Direct ~ Easter 2022 ~ \$1,515

Grand Total ~ Easter 2022~ \$25,717

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!!!

Catholic Ministries Appeal

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Designated Goal: S Amount Pledged to Date: S % of Goal Pledged to Date: S

\$71,300 \$35,997.52 50.49%

100% of every dollar raised is restricted to serve the objectives, programs and mission supported by the Appeal. We are half way to our goal! 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!

Love One Another

Jesus gives the disciples — and us— a new commandment in today's Gospel reading from John, *"As I have loved you, so you also should love one another."* "Love One Another" — three words which seem so simple and easy on the surface, right?

Our initial reaction is to say of course we do that instinctively; we love the people who have meaning in our lives, family, friends — what's so hard about that? If only it was as easy as loving the people who love you back! Jesus continues, *"This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."* And it is with this one sentence that Christ brings this commandment to a whole new level, one that can be very challenging. Jesus broadens the scope to include everyone — EVERY-ONE!!

Jesus is asking us to be examples of Christian love, not only in our families, but in our larger communities, workplaces, country and throughout the world. This commandment covers everyone from your disgruntled neighbor next door to refugees in far flung parts of the globe — and all those in between. We are called and challenged to love them as God's children and respect the dignity of all as brothers and sisters in Christ.

The one thing about Jesus was that He never put up obstacles to His love; He welcomed all. The bible is full of incidences of Christ spending time with tax collectors, adulterers and others not accepted by the society in which He lived. Jesus led by example and now, over 2,000 years later, He continues to command His Church, clergy and all of us, the Body of Christ, to do likewise. There's no mistaking Jesus' intent — it's right there in John's Gospel in black and white. The question is — are we still willing and capable of making the effort? ~ Lori Zito

GET INVOLVED

Ministries/Groups Schedule

- <u>Mondays</u> ~ 10am Drawing Class East Wing
 - ~ 1:30pm Women's Prayer Group (3rd Monday of the Month) East Wing/Worship Room
- <u>Tuesdays</u> ~ 9:30am ~ Watercolor Art Group Patricia Desmond Hall (Downstairs)
 - ~ 1:30pm ~ Legion of Mary Room 2
 - ~ 7pm Choir Rehearsal Church
- <u>Wednesdays</u> ~ 10:30am ~ Prayer Shawl Ministry (1st Wednesday of the Month) East Wing
- Thursdays ~ 9:30am ~ Al-Anon East Wing
- <u>Fridays</u> ~ 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)
- <u>Saturdays</u> ~ 9am ~ Devotion (Rosary/Prayers) (1st Saturday of the Month) Worship Room

If you are interested in getting involved in one of the areas of parish life highlighted here, please contact Lori Zito by emailing lzito@stsylvesterli.org or calling 631-475-4506, ext. 115. For even more ways to *Get Involved*, check out our "ministry guide" tab under the Stewardship/Ministries heading on our website's homepage.

Ushers Welcome All to Parish

We all are familiar with the ushers — men and women we see week after week greeting us with smiles as we prepare to enter the church for Mass. We take for granted that they will be there to welcome, to direct and to assist parishioners, as well as make sure the bulletins are available and take care of the weekly donations of treasure in the collection baskets.

If you "a regular" who attends the same Mass each week, have you ever thought about joining our welcoming team of ushers? All that is required is a willingness to help and a smile! Ushering is an extremely important ministry as you become the first face many people associate with the parish. If you are smiling, helpful and welcoming (all hallmarks of St. Sylvester Parish!) people will leave with a good feeling and want to return. As a matter of fact, we believe so strongly in welcoming the stranger here that the word "welcoming" was added to our mission statement many, many years ago.

Come and be the face of Christ to others!

Prayer Shawl Ministry Offers Comfort & Care to Many

Members of our Prayer Shawl Ministry come together on the first Wednesday of each month to create shawls,



lap robes, hats, scarves and blankets which they, in turn, give out to hospitals, nursing homes, hospices and schools. They also make baby hats and blankets for our local hospital nurseries and neo-natal units. The hope is that the recipients (and their families) realize that they are not alone, and that our faith community prays with them and for them.

If you knit or crochet, this is a great way to get involved and make a difference!

Parish Social Ministry



Clare House - We Are Here to Help!

<u>We are now open on Tuesdays and Thursdays</u> <u>from 10am until 3pm, and on Wednesday</u> <u>evenings from 5pm to 7pm. Friday mornings we</u> <u>have our *Bread Ministry* from 10am –12pm,</u> 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 <u>one</u> 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. <u>We are also looking for some helping</u> 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.

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!





#129 FOR ADVERTISING: THE CHURCH BULLETIN INC., 200 DALE ST., W. BABYLON, NY 11704-1104 (631)249-4994 • www.thechurchbulletininc.com • geosk@aol.com

698-8833 www Greg & Bill's Au Greg & Bill's Dia	32-1112 w.gregandbills.com to Collision, Inc. gnostic Car Care y Accident" 2, Medford 1971	2084 Hor. M The only funeral hor Fan Charles Michael J A C	Hours: Monday - S	<i>I, NY 11763</i> <i>of St. Sylvester Parish</i> <i>rated</i> Comodore n C. Lorey <i>Ness</i> <i>PVC - ALUMINUM</i> <i>Arbors - Cedar - Spruce -</i> <i>Stockade - Custom Wood</i> <i>Post & Rail - Chain Link -</i> <i>Dog Kennels - Vinyl Systems</i> 85 Fax: 631-563-849 <i>Stackade - SPM</i>
DUN RITE LAWN SPRINKLERS Established 1987 Free Estimates Mike Pike - 631-758-4900 Parishioner	NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC FREE ESTIMATES 1 (631) 487-0939 1 (516) 417-8403 Lenny Mannino Master Electrician Ucensed & Insured	FOR ALL YOUR F • Wedding Books • Save the Dates • Invitations. • Envelopes • Thank You Cards • Color FJ • Birth Ann • Brochure • Christmat • Cristmat • Brochure • Christmat • Christmat • Christmat • Christmat • Brochure • Christmat • Brochure • Christmat • Brochure • Christmat • Brochure • Christmat • Brochure • Christmat • Chri	ier Printing ong Island PRINTING NEEDS Vers Vers Call or email us for a free S Call or email us for a free S	CHIROPRACTIC Care Dr. Michael J. Campo Neck/Back Pain - Sciatica • Headaches - Numbeness - Arms/Legs • Disc Problems • Auto/Work Injuries Massage Therapy Avail. • Physical Therapy Medical Drs on Site! Open 6 Days www.southshorechiropracticpc.com 700 Horseblock Rd., Farmingville 732-1386 450 William Floyd Pkwy., Shirley 395-8520
Dignified Affordable Funerals Since 1856 475-0 0	FUN 098 500	Ulan ERAL HOME, O North Ocea	, INC. an Ave., Pato	