

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 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

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.



December 1, 2019 First Sunday of Advent

Pastoral Leadership Team

Rev. Dennis A. Suglia, Pastor

Deacon Joseph Mystkowski

Deacon Frank Rivera

Deacon George Riegger, Retired

Theresa Ellner, Business Manager

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
Mon. 10am - 3pm ; Wed 10am - 3pm & 4pm - 7pm ; Fri. 10am - 12pm

Thrift Shop: (631) 475-4506, ext. 124; Tu, Wed & Th ~ 10am - 3pm; Sat ~ 10am - 1pm

We Pray

Saturday, November 30, 2019

5:00pm Russo, Cesarino & Toscano Families
Gloria Terry
James Donohue
Sr. Regina Assumpta
Catherine Hoefler
Jim Reilly
Joanne Massa

Sunday, December 1, 2019

7:30am Donald Gallagher
9:00am Virginia Larsen
11:00am Lillian C. Henderson

Monday December 2, 2019

8:30am Catherine Merrihew

Tuesday, December 3 2019

8:30am Eugene Raymond Ruoff

Thursday, December 5, 2019

8:30am Ralph Stephani, Sr.

Friday, December 6, 2019

8:30am The People of St. Sylvester

Saturday, December 7, 2019

5:00pm James Bledsoe
Ralph Frevola
James Frevola
Peter Frevola
Lucy Gordon
Frank Viola

Sunday, December 8, 2019

7:30am Antoinette Spenelli
9:00am Louis DiCicco
11:00am Deceased & Living Members of Matteo, Caravana & Fusco families

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.

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

Agnes Cantarelli, Andy Magyar, Frank Cayea, Joan McGrattan, Chong Skladel, Matthew Towle, Marie Robbins, Edgard Ugaz, Joseph Tangel, Nina Caravana, Larry Zuaro, Barbara Eustace and Melanie Schmadtke.

We pray for all those who have died, especially:

Donna Becker.

HOLY HOUR

Time spent with our Beloved Savior in Adoration can become the most profound, meaningful, joyful, peaceful and healing experience we could ever encounter.

Please join us Friday, December 13th in the Worship Room, from 8-9pm.



"I Am With You always"

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



Opportunities to help with:

General Maintenance

Cleaning

Setting Up Tables & Chairs for Various Events

Other Interesting & Exciting Opportunities

Available Upon Request!

Please Contact Lori Zito: lzito@stsylvesterli.org

Volunteers to Help at Mass

Sacristan: Helping set up for Mass. Must be 18yrs. or older.

Training available. Please call 631-475-4506, Ext. 101.



Individuals and families are invited to help decorate the church for Christmas on the following Sundays immediately following the 11:00 a.m. Mass:

December 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd.

Questions: email fmcmahon@stsylvesterli.org

Holiday Gift Cards

Fill your Christmas Stocking - we offer over 300 retailer gift cards! **Orders will be placed on December 2nd, 9th and 16th with delivery within a week.** Please circle the denomination for each card ordered if it has more than one listed.

Apparel & Accessories	Qty
Aeropostale \$25	
American Eagle \$25	
Express \$25	
GAP/Old Navy/Banana \$25	
JC Penny \$25 & \$100	
Journey \$25	
TJ Maxx/Marshall \$25	
Department Stores	
Kmart \$25 & \$50	
Kohl's \$25 & \$100	
Macy's \$25 & \$100	
Target \$25 & \$50	
Walmart \$25 & \$50 & \$100	
Dining - Casual	
Applebee's \$25 & \$50	
Carrabas \$25	
Cheesecake Factory \$25	
Chili's \$25	
Chuck E. Cheese \$10	
Dave & Busters \$25	
Denny's \$10	
IHOP \$25	
Olive Garden \$25	
Outback \$25	
Red Lobster \$25	
Ruby Tuesday \$25	
TGI Friday's \$25	

Dining - On the Go	Qty
Dairy Queen \$10	
Dunkin Donuts \$10	
Panera Bread \$10 & \$25	
Starbucks \$10 & \$25	
Subway \$10	
Wendy's \$10	
Entertainment	
AMC Theatres \$25	
Barnes & Noble \$25	
GameStop \$25	
Regal Entertainment \$25	
Fandango \$25	
Home Décor	
Bed Bath & Beyond \$25	
Home Goods \$25 & \$100	
Michaels \$25	
Pier I Imports \$25	
Home Improvement	
Lowe's \$25 & \$100	
Home Depot \$25 & \$100	

Online & Mail Order	Qty
Amazon.com \$25 & \$100	
Groupon.com \$25	
Itunes \$15 & \$25	
Lands' End \$25	
L.L. Bean \$25	
Nook \$10 & \$25	
Specialty Retailer	
Bath & Body Works \$10 & \$25	
Best Buy \$25 & \$100	
CVS Pharmacy \$25	
Sally's Beauty Supply \$25	
PetSmart \$25	
Ulta \$25	
Sporting Goods	
Bass Pro Shop \$25	
Cabela's \$25 & \$100	
Dick's Sporting Goods \$25	
Field & Stream \$25 & \$100	

Name	
Address	
Phone #	Total amount enclosed:
Order Date	# of Gift Cards Ordered:

If you have other favorite restaurants or retailers, please call the parish office at 631-475-4506 ext 101 to see if they participate!

Parish Social Ministry



The Parish Social Ministry Team invites you to join us for a seasonal event to support families in our community with whom we have developed a special relationship...

LIGHT UP THE HOLIDAYS!

Saturday December 7, 4-7pm

Sunday, December 8, 8am-1pm

1. Come before or after mass on the first weekend of December **ONLY**. (Parish Center, East Wing)
2. Make a donation of any amount (cash, check, credit) to light up the holiday season for one of our Clare House families and receive a tag to help decorate our Christmas trees!
3. Write a note to that family expressing holiday wishes, season's greetings, or another sentiment.
4. If you choose, bring a small unwrapped gift (toy, book, or winter clothing) for our Free Market.

Enjoy music, hot chocolate, candy canes, and a festive atmosphere! Special appearance by Santa Claus on Sunday, 9:30-10:45am – come take your picture with this jolly fellow!

Where Does My Money Go?

All donations will be converted into gift cards by the PSM team before distribution to clients. It is fundamental that we strive in all our service activities to empower those on the margins. Gift cards allow clients to make their own decisions about what food, gifts, decorations, etc. they would like for their family. This enhances their agency in the process and respects their human dignity as individuals. With this in mind, please consider making a donation to support our families in need.

Meet the Families of Clare House

- Melissa is a single mom of three children. An unexpected medical emergency with one of her children forced Melissa to take an unpaid leave of absence from her job as a medical assistant. While she was able to use her savings to cover essential bills, it has been difficult to cover all of the household expenses.
- David and her husband Logan have two children, one of whom has severe disabilities that have resulted in very large medical bills. Trica and Logan both work, however, due to their daughter's medical needs, they have both been forced to take unpaid time off from work.
- Maria and her mother emigrated from Mexico two years ago. Maria works in a nearby hotel while attending ESL classes at the local library. She is saving money to move her and her mother out of the studio apartment they currently share. She hopes to return to school to pursue a career in Early Childhood. Education.
- After being released from an impatient drug rehabilitation program, Kevin found himself with no place to live and no employment prospects. He has been working with our case manager to explore education, training and employment programs. Kevin reports that he would like to help others suffering from addictions.
- Gloria is currently raising her four grandchildren. She had been retired for several years when her grandchildren were placed in her custody. She has returned to work but has found it difficult to find full-time employment that provides enough for her to support her new, larger family.
- Brian and Olivia are a newly married couple that recently moved from Ohio to Long Island to help care for Olivia's elderly grandmother. Olivia's grandmother has Alzheimer's disease and requires round the clock care. Brian was able to find a job at a local hardware store, while Olivia has been providing care for her grandmother. Olivia is also pursuing her GED and reports that she would like to become a nurse someday.

Stewardship

One Family in Mission

Called to Evangelize



Formation



Hospitality



Prayer



Service

Gifts of Treasure ~ November 24, 2019

Regular ~ \$13,202

Renovation ~ \$ 48 Solar ~ \$128

Last Year's Collection ~ November 25, 2018

Regular ~ \$8,650

Catholic Ministries Appeal 2019

Designated Goal: \$65,800.00

Amount Pledged to Date: \$42,215

% of Goal Pledged to Date: 64.2%

Number of Donors to Date: 158

Your donation can make a difference!

Make checks payable to: Catholic Ministries Appeal

Parish: St. Sylvester Church

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Please place in collection basket
or return to the Parish Center. Thank you.

HOLIDAY FAIR RECAP!

**What a terrific parish event!
Here are the financial details:**

Boy's & Girl's Baskets	\$ 66.50
Christmas Café (Kitchen)	\$1,692.62
Craft Table	\$ 687.00
Granny's Attic	\$2,715.41
Mrs. Claus' Kitchen (Bakery)	\$ 818.30
Raffle Baskets	\$3,805.00
\$5 Raffles	\$1,875.00
50/50 Raffle	\$ 680.00
Silent Auction	\$ 617.00
Vendor Tables	<u>\$2,388.54</u>
<u>Subtotal</u>	\$15,345.37
Expenses	<u>- \$1,341.42</u>
Total Raised	\$14,003.85

Thank you to all of our
parishioners and members of
our larger community who
came out to support the
Holiday Fair!

Reflection:

"For you do not know on which day your Lord will come," says today's Gospel. Good stewards know that they are accountable to God for all they have and are; therefore they strive to live in readiness for his coming. This Advent we wait patiently for Christ and prepare ourselves for His coming.

Living Stewardship—Formation:

Let us use the season of Advent to prepare for Christ's coming by learning to recognize Him more closely in the world today and by increasing our prayer life.

HOLIDAY FAIR

*Our sincere thanks and gratitude to all of the local business owners in our community who donated so generously to this year's Holiday Fair.
Please support the following as they support our parish!*

LOCAL BUSINESSES

Athens Diner, Middle Island
Argyle Theater
Auto Zone, Medford
Bagels Your Way
Bagel Lovers, Medford
Big Italy Pizzeria
Bowl Long Island, Patchogue
Caffe Amici Restaurant
Carvel, Medford
Ceramics by Denise
Cheers Liquor
Chubs Meats
CM Performing Arts Center
David's Shoe Emporium
Delfiore Italian Pork Store
Dolce Momenti Bakery
Dunkin' Donuts (near Island Rec.)
East Coast Eddies
Elegant Dance Studio
Family Auto Parts
Family Melody Center
Farmingville Liquors
Fashion Diva Nails
Forge River Nursery & Garden
Fun Rentals
Gateway Playhouse
George's Luncheonette
Granite Prestige Inc.

Indy 3000 Auto
Island Recreation
Joel's Bagels
John W. Engeman Theater
Judy's Rainbow Nails
Kerri's Kandies
Kilwin's, Patchogue
Klueless Kunction Entertainment
LA Fitness (Farmingville)
Lemon Tree (Medford)
Little People Haircuts
Mademoiselle Patisserie
Mama Bella's Pizzeria & Restaurant
Massage RX
McManus-Lorey Funeral Home
Medford Card Store
Medford Dry Clearners
Medford Spa & Nails
N.A. Kempo Jae Kwon Do Dojo
Ocean Day Spa
Pinky's Auto Service
Planet Fitness
Relaxation Day Spa
Royal Car Care
Salon de Muse
Splish Splash
Sunshine Liquors



Continued on next page ~

HOLIDAY FAIR

BUSINESSES CONTINUED

Starbucks—Farmingville
Starbucks—Medford
Suddenly Ceramics
Sweet Pea Florist
Swiftway Liquors
Theatre Three
The Paramount
The Tap Room
Thred Boutique
Victorious Pizza

We apologize if any businesses were unintentionally omitted from this list. Please know that we very grateful for your support.



Have a Blessed Advent
& Christmas!

With Gratitude...

Every year when we begin planning next year's Holiday Fair (usually in the beginning of the summer!) we do so with both a sense of excitement and healthy dread! Will the parishioners donate enough for our raffles, Granny's Attic, our Craft Tables and Mrs. Claus' Kitchen? Will vendors buy tables? Will our local businesses support us? Will we have enough volunteers show up to help us with this large event? Will the parish and the larger community come? We are so pleased to be able to now answer all of these questions with a resounding "YES!"

Our parishioners' donations were so generous that there were simply too many to name in these pages! Besides all the coordinators rightly thanked by name by Fr. Suglia last week (the greatest team!!), parishioners baked, made beautiful crafts, sold raffles and "antiques" and worked the kitchen. Our young people came to help the vendors set up and break everything down at the end of the Fair. Others assisted with setting up and putting back all the tables and chairs and cleaning up Granny's Attic. Fr. Suglia's presence and support cheered us on! Staff tirelessly worked the Fair and attended to a million details both before and after its conclusion. And, lastly parishioners and people throughout the area, came to the Fair and shared a laugh and maybe a carol or two! This is our largest fundraiser, but more importantly, this event brings this community together like no other and we couldn't be prouder to be a part of it all!

With great appreciation,

Marie & Lori

Marie Broderick & Lori Zito, Co-Chairs

Faith Formation

If you have not already registered your child for Faith Formation, please call 631-475-4506 X 118 to make an appointment to come in and register. Thank you!

If you are interested in serving as a Teacher/Catechist, please call 631-475-4506 X 118 or email faithformation@stsyvesterli.org

**We currently have the following opportunity for a Teacher/Catechist:
Level 4 ~ Mondays 5:45 to 6:45 p.m.**

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.

What's Happening!

**Go deeper into the riches of our Catholic Faith...
register now!**

Famed Catholic Theologian, Dr. Scott Hahn, will be speaking at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Patchogue on **Saturday, December 14th from 9:00 am - 12:30 pm**

Cost is \$20.00.

Tickets can be purchased on line at

www.stpaulcenter.com/longisland

or by calling the parish at 631-475-4739.

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 Social Ministry Office at 631-475-4506, ext. 122 to arrange for a visit from an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.



What's Happening?

Get Involved!



Drawing Class

Mondays 10am to 12pm East Wing

Art Class

Tuesdays 9am to 12pm Patricia Desmond Hall

Art Class

Saturdays 9am to 12pm Patricia Desmond Hall



First Wednesday of the Month 10:30am to 12pm in the East Wing We knit, crochet, pray and share patterns. The shawls and lap robes are lovingly brought to the sick and homebound. Donations of yarn are appreciated and new members always welcome.

Senior Circle of Friends

Second and Fourth Fridays of the Month
12:30pm to 3:30pm

**There are no meetings in December.
We will start again on Friday, January 10, 2020.**

Support Groups

Al-Anon

Meets every Thursday 9:30am to 12:00pm

Compassionate Friends

(For those who have experienced the loss of a child)
Second Friday of the Month at 7:30pm to 10:00pm

Divorced & Separated Support

If you are going through the pain of marital separation or divorce, we have a parishioner with a degree in psychology and a background in social work who will be happy to meet with you here in the Parish Center to support you at this difficult time. Please contact our Parish Social Ministry Office at Ext. 122 if you would like to set up an appointment.

Prayer Groups

*Please see the Website for more details
for Prayer Group Meetings*

Holy Hour & Adoration

2nd Friday of the month ~ 8pm ~ WR

Charismatic Prayer Group

1st, 3rd & 4th Fridays of the month ~ 8pm
Worship Room

Women's Prayer Group

3rd Monday of the month ~ 7pm ~ EW

Legion of Mary

Tuesdays ~ 1:30pm ~ Room 8

Spanish Legion of Mary

Wednesdays ~ 5:45pm ~ Room 9

First Saturday Devotion

First Saturday of the Month 9am to 10 am Worship Room

Religious Orders

Lay Carmelites

3rd Friday of the month Mass ~ 7pm
Worship Room Meeting ~ 8pm ~ East Wing



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Tuesdays, Doors open at 6:30pm, start time 7:30pm

FRIENDLY, AFFORDABLE, LOCAL

Come enjoy the game!





We are happy to announce that we will be having Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 11:00 AM Mass on the following Sundays:

December 8th & 22nd, January 12th & 26th,
February 9th & 23rd, March 8th & 22nd and April 26th.

What is Children's Liturgy of the Word?

Children's Liturgy of the Word is when right after the opening prayer, but before the readings, children are called up by the priest and accompanied by Catechists to the Worship Room in the Parish Center. There, they hear and reflect on the readings at an age appropriate level, sing the Responsorial Psalm, the Gospel Acclamation and recite a simple Creed before returning to the church to join the rest of the community for the Liturgy of the Eucharist. This will take approximately 20 minutes. During this time the adults and everyone else in the church will be hearing the readings as they usually do.

How can my child participate in the Children's Liturgy of the Word?

When you come to the 11:00 AM Mass on the Sundays listed above, follow the directions of the priest when he calls the children forward to be sent to the Worship Room in the Parish Center. Any child in Level 1 or above is invited to participate. If your child has special needs or is shy, please feel free to accompany your child to the Worship Room.

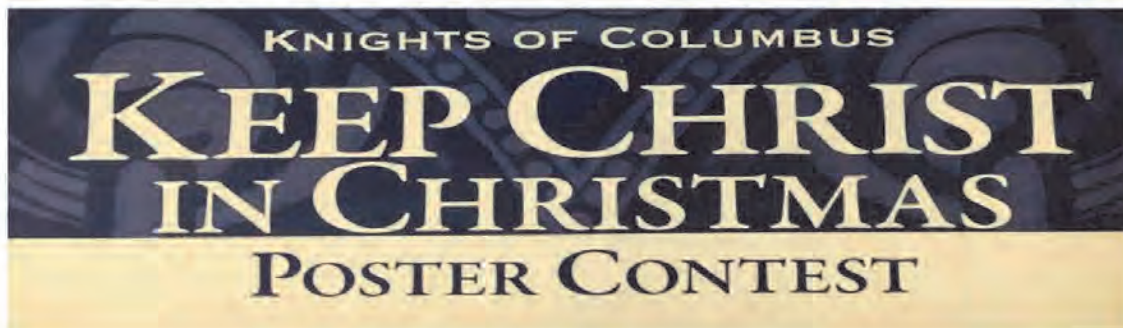


The Children's Choir is open to all students in grades 2-8 in the parish. No audition is required, only enthusiasm for singing is needed. We will be singing the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month during the Children's Liturgy of the Word. The Children's Choir (and the children involved in the Children's Liturgy of the Word) will also sing when we rejoin the full assembly for the remainder of Mass back in the church.

The Children's Choir and ALL children who would like to learn the music for the Children's Liturgy of the Word will rehearse at **10:00 AM** in the Worship Room of the Parish Center on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month.

Please come join us and MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE LORD!

The Children's Choir is under the direction of Therese Blanton.
For information email tmkblanton@gmail.com
or call 631-928-0821

The banner features the text "KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS" in a small, white, serif font at the top. Below it, "KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS" is written in a large, bold, gold-colored serif font. At the bottom, "POSTER CONTEST" is written in a bold, dark blue serif font. The background is dark blue with a subtle, repeating pattern of the Knights of Columbus emblem.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST

The Knights of Columbus, are once again, sponsoring a "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest. There are three age groups: 5-7, 8-10 and 11-14. There will be one winner per age group. Each age group winner will be awarded a prize and may advance to the next level by representing the council.

If your child is interested in participating, please stop by the Faith Formation Office or Parish Office to pick up an entry form that has the rules and judging guidelines. We'll also give you some paper!

All posters **MUST** (no posters will be accepted after December 8th) be submitted and placed in the marked boxes by Saturday December 7th from 4-7PM or Sunday December 8th from 8AM-1PM in the East Wing of the Parish Center at the "Light up the Holidays" event. **Please attach the entry form to the poster.** The "Light up the Holidays" event, which is sponsored by the Parish Social Ministry Team, is designed to help support families in our community. You can help by making a donation to support this event and to Light up the Holidays of families in need.

So come down and drop off your poster, enjoy music, hot chocolate, candy canes and a festive atmosphere! There will be a special appearance by Santa Claus on Sunday from 9:30AM – 10:45AM.

Good Luck!

Call Us Today to Schedule Your Visit!

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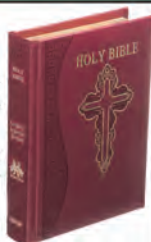
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