

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.



February 16, 2020 The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pastoral Leadership Team

Rev. Dennis A. Suglia, Pastor

Deacon Joseph Mystkowski

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, February 15, 2020

5:00pm Florence White
Thomas Valva
Paul Careccia

Sunday, February 16, 2020

7:30am Dorothy E. Rooney
9:00am Katie Schaal
11:00am Vito & Alice Farello

Tuesday, February 18, 2020

8:30am The People of St. Sylvester

Thursday, February 20, 2020

8:30am Lucille Ann Pickard

Friday, February 21, 2020

8:30am Frances Caravello

Saturday, February 22, 2020

5:00pm Larry Vilardo
Salvatore & Carmela Toscano, 13th Anniversary
Edward J. Frederick
Michael Hindle
Deceased & Living Members of Caravana, Matteo
and Castriota families

Sunday, February 23, 2020

7:30am Sal & Carmela Toscano
9:00am Marie LoSchiavo
11:00am Gloria Vannucci



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

*Claire Kononan, Agnes Cantarelli,
Victor Digilio, and Lawrence Sullivan.*



*The Bread and Wine
used at this weekend's liturgies
are the gifts of
The Bennett Family
in loving memory of
Dorothy E. Rooney*

Do you know someone who is not 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.

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.

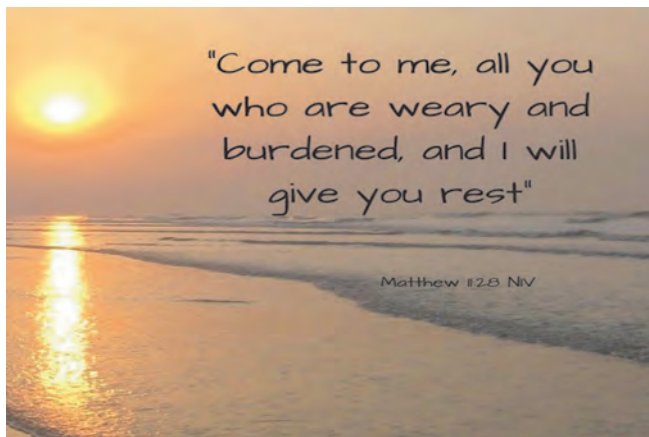
Visit our website at: www.stsylvesterli.org

We Pray



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

Joan McGrattan, Grace Stephens,
Mary Worthington, Paul Mazza, Chris
Frey, Brody Kuenzler, Melanie
Schmadtke, Christopher Ewart, John
McGarvey, Ellen Wisnoski, and Rita
Ruberto.



*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
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

*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.***



Parish Life

St. Sylvester Middle School Ministry

and the

**Knights of Columbus
will be sponsoring a
Simple Soup Supper**

and

Lenten Reflection by Fr. Francis Pizzarelli

SMM (Montfort Father), LCSW-R, ACSW, DCSW
Executive Director-Founder and CEO of Hope House Ministries,
Port Jefferson Station, NY

Hope House Ministries provides compassionate, comprehensive and competent care for the poor, the marginal and the wounded among us; specifically, young people and families in crises, pregnant women, mothers and babies in crisis and all who are abandoned or neglected.

Let this

LENT

Be A Time of Preparation and Renewal
All are welcome!

Saturday, March 7, 2020

Immediately following the 5:00 p.m. Mass

In the Patricia Desmond Hall (Lower Level of the Parish Center)

Free Will Offering to Support Hope House Ministries

Please fill this out, tear off and drop in collection basket at Mass or call 631-475-4506
Ext. 105 with the following information:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Number of people in your party: _____

Parish Life

Hospitality Sunday



Come by Patricia Desmond Hall
(Lower Level of the Parish Center)
after the 9am & 11:00am Masses on
March 8, 2020.



Treat yourself to some
coffee and goodies, as well as fellowship with other parishioners!



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:

February 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.

Catholic Ministries Appeal



Dear Friends,

In last week's Gospel we heard about salt and light, how we must let our light shine among others so that they know the goodness of the Lord. In my homily, I mentioned that a good way to fulfill this mandate from the Lord was to support the Catholic Ministries Appeal.

I would not be a priest today except for the support of the Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA). As I mentioned last week, the CMA affords 100% scholarships to Seminarians to study for the priesthood. Without that support, I can tell you that I would not have been able to afford to enroll in Seminary studies.

The CMA also provides much needed support through Catholic Charities. These services include things like affordable housing for seniors, food and nutrition services, and drug prevention and recovery efforts.

Prison Ministry and Hospital Ministry are two other areas that our CMA supports. As you can see the Catholic Ministries Appeal has a wide breadth and offers comprehensive assistance to the "least among us".

100% of the funds collected through the CMA are used for the ministries that it is committed to. NONE of the funds can be redirected by the Diocese; they are completely restricted to the mission of the CMA.

As I said in my homily last week, the CMA is near and dear to my heart. I would like to repeat myself: If it wasn't for the support of so many toward the CMA, I would not be a priest today.

Please consider joining me and making a pledge to the Catholic Ministries Appeal. No pledge is too small. Be assured your dollars will be committed to much needed services carried out throughout Long Island in our Diocese.

By pledging to the Catholic Ministries Appeal, we are certainly letting our light shine among others, as our Lord asks of each one of us.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor



Stewardship

One Family in Mission

Called to Evangelize

Formation

Hospitality

Prayer

Service



Gifts of Treasure

February 9, 2020

Regular ~ \$7,573

Renovation ~ \$247 Solar ~ \$82

Last Year's Collection ~ February 10, 2019

Regular ~ \$8,151

January Faith Direct Contributions

Regular ~\$9,248.34

Renovation ~ \$785 Solar ~ \$189

Reflection: Stewardship involves more than just the gift we bring to the altar. Today's readings say clearly that it is fidelity to God's law that makes our offering acceptable.

Living Stewardship—Prayer:

The First Reading today tells us that we have a simple choice: to follow God or not. Sometimes, however, we may not know what God is asking of us, or we may be tempted to choose to disobey God. This week, ask the Lord in prayer to show you the way.

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!



Thrift Shop Looking for Helping Hands

Are you a welcoming person looking to share your smile with others? Do you have retail experience or would you enjoy working in a retail environment? If so, the Thrift Shop may be the place for you.

Our Thrift Shop currently has openings for those willing to offer their time and talent to this important part of our Parish Social Ministry. We are seeking people to work inside the Thrift Shop, especially on Saturdays from 10am-1pm, who are familiar with how to work a cash register, or who are willing to learn. We would also greatly appreciate a few, strong souls willing to assist with emptying the outside bins and carrying soiled and unusable items to the dumpsters.

If you are interested in joining our dedicated Thrift Shop team, please contact Lori Zito at 631-475-4506, ext. 115.



Our welcoming Thrift Shop, pictured above, has hours on Tuesday - Thursday from 10am-3pm and Saturday from 10am-1pm and is located right off of our parking lot next to our Parish Social Ministry's Clare House.

Parish Social Ministry

CIVILIZE IT



DIGNITY BEYOND THE DEBATE

A divided country. Fights at the dinner table. Political vitriol. What does it mean to love our neighbors in the midst of such a climate?

As Catholics, we have a long tradition of engagement in the political process as a means of putting our faith into action. We are called to bring the best of ourselves and our faith to the public square—and yet today, many shy away from such involvement because our national and local conversations are filled with vitriol and harsh language, often directed at people themselves.

When personal attacks replace honest debate, no one wins. This kind of attack, no matter the reason, only serves to further divide our communities. As Catholics, we must model a better way. We invite you to join the Civilize It campaign by taking the pledge below as a way to promote civility, love our neighbors, and build community.

Civilize It is about making room in your heart for those with whom you disagree. We are called to recognize that each one of us is a beloved child of God and to respond in love to that reality. Civilize It is a non-partisan call to focus on the dignity of all people, even when we disagree, and to put faith in action by bearing witness to a better way forward.

I PLEDGE:

1. Civility

To recognize the human dignity of those with whom I disagree, treat others with respect, and rise above attacks when directed at me.

2. Clarity

To root my political viewpoints in the Gospel and a well formed conscience, which involves prayer, conversation, study and listening. I will stand up for my convictions and speak out when I witness language that disparages others' dignity, while also listening and seeking to understand others' experiences.

3. Compassion

To encounter others with a tone and posture which affirms that I honor the dignity of others and invites others to do the same. I will presume others' best intentions and listen to their stories with empathy. I will strive to understand before seeking to be understood.

www.wearesaltandlight.org/civilize-it

Shape
your future
START HERE >

United States®
**Census
2020**

Everyone counts/Census 2020

What information will be requested?

The decennial census will collect basic information about the people living in your household, including names, date of birth, sex and race. The Census Bureau will never ask for Social Security numbers; bank or credit card numbers; money or donations; anything on behalf of a political party.

For an explanation of why each question is asked, visit <https://2020census.gov/en/about-questions.html>

FORMING
CONSCIENCES



OF FAITHFUL
CITIZENSHIP

At their November General Assembly, the full body of bishops approved scripts for videos to inspire prayer and action in political life and to help Catholics apply the teachings of Pope Francis to our day.

The videos complement Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, the bishops' teaching document for the faithful on the political responsibility of Catholics, and they seek to help the faithful participate in public life, prioritize faith over partisan politics, engage with civility, and respond to pressing issues of our day.

www.FaithfulCitizenship.org

Faith Formation

Adult Confirmation

**Were you Baptized Catholic, received First Holy Communion
*but for whatever reason***

never celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation?

Coming to St. Sylvester Parish March 2020....

A program for adults who would like to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Classes will begin March and end late May with the celebration of Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday, May 31, 2020.

For more information or to register please

email fmcMahon@stsylvesterli.org or call 631-475-4506 X 107.

Adult Baptism

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

is a process, which welcomes those who wish to inquire about joining the Catholic Church. Along with the guidance and support of members of the St. Sylvester RCIA Team and the community, those who are inquiring, explore the loving presence and action of God in their lives, have opportunities for deepening their prayer life, and prepare for the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation: **Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.**

If you have never been baptized & are interested in becoming a Catholic or, if you are a baptized non-Catholic but would like to become a Catholic, please email fmcMahon@stsylvesterli.org or call 631-475-4506 X 107.

Would you like to get involved in the RCIA Team?

We always welcome new members to the RCIA Team. You can help by sharing your faith, being a sponsor, or making coffee and cake. There are always opportunities for ministers of Scripture Sharers, Catechists, Sponsors and Hospitality. Training and support is available. For more information please email fmcMahon@stsylvesterli.org or call 631-475-4506 X 107.

Faith Formation

If you are interested in registering your child for Faith Formation, please call 631-475-4506 X 118 for information on how to get started!

From time to time we have opportunities for Substitute Teachers/Catechists or Hall Guardians on Mon. & Wed. 4:30, 5:45 & 7:00 pm & Tues. 4:30 & 5:45 pm Each for 1 Hour

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

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.



The Office of FAITH FORMATION DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Upcoming Workshop

Special Needs: Mardi Gras Prayer Service and Brunch
St. Frances de Chantal, Wantagh
Saturday, February 22, 2020
12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Basic Religious Studies Course Series
St. Mary's Elementary School Building, Manhasset
3:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Old Testament

Mondays, February 24; March 2, 9, 16, and 23, 2020

New Testament

Mondays, March 30; April 6, 20, 27; and May 4, 2020

Christology

Mondays, May 11, 18; June 1, 8, and 15, 2020

Divorce & Beyond Support Group

St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Melville

Wednesdays, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2020
7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

School of Missionary Disciples – Lenten Experience

Seminarij of Immaculate Conception, Huntington

Sunday, March 8, 2020

1:45 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Escuela de Discipulos Misioneros – Experiencia de Cuaresma

Seminario de la Inmaculada Concepción, Huntington

Domingo 8 de marzo, 2020

1:45 p.m. a 4:30 p.m.

Retreat Day for the Elect of 2020

Seminarij of the Immaculate Conception, Huntington

Sunday, March 8, 2020

2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Un Día de Retiro para los Electos de 2020

Seminario de la Inmaculada Concepción, Huntington

Domingo, 8 de marzo, 2020

2:00 p.m. a 6:00 p.m.

Catechist Training Level II

St. James, Setauket

Tuesdays, March 10, 17, 24, and 31, 2020

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Bereavement Conference –

For the Bereaved and those Ministering to them.

St. Frances de Chantal, Wantagh

Saturday, March 21, 2020

8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Wonderfully Made Mother and Daughter Tea

Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, Roosevelt

Sunday, March 22, 2020

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Or

St. James, Setauket- East Setauket

Sunday, March 29, 2020

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Or

St. Rosalie, Hampton Bays

Sunday, April 19, 2020

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Bereavement Ministry Facilitator Training Level I & II

St. Bernard, Levittown

Saturdays, March 28; April 4, 18, 25;

May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; and June 6, 2020

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Golden Wedding Anniversary Liturgy

Saint Patrick's, Smithtown

Sunday, May 3, 2020

2:00 p.m.

Annual Afternoon of Prayer & Enrichment - Ministry of Consolation

St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Melville

Thursday, May 14, 2020

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

For more information, workshops, or to register online, please visit drvc-faith.org/event/

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



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 ~ 4pm ~ WR

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



See You in the Spring!

Sponsored by
St. Sylvester's Knights of Columbus

507 Long Island Avenue
Medford
(VFW Building)

Beginning April 2020

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

FRIENDLY, AFFORDABLE, LOCAL

Come enjoy the game!



What's Happening?

Eucharistic Retreat Day

Sunday, February 23, 2020

The Missionaries of The Most Holy Eucharist

Come abide with Him on this day which includes

Hot Breakfast & Lunch

Spiritual Meditations

Holy Mass

Confession, Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet

Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction

The Seminary of the Immaculate Conception

440 West Neck road, Huntington

8am—5pm

To register, please use this link

<https://forms.gle/HeezVkigBAWUy7aD9>

Or call Alison Ferrara, 631-896-0870

\$35 Cash or Check (made out to the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception) will be collected at the door.



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:

lzero@stsyvesterli.org



**THERE WILL NOT BE ANY 8:30AM
MORNING MASS THIS MONDAY,
FEBRUARY 17TH, AND ALL PARISH
OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED IN
OBSERVANCE OF PRESIDENTS' DAY.**

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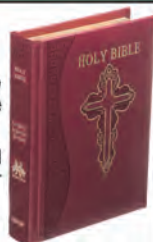
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