

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:

Sat: 5pm; Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am & 11am
Parish Center: M, Tu, Th and Fr: @ 8:30am.
Holy Days as announced.

Baptisms:

Celebrated on pre-determined Sunday afternoons. ***Prior to making plans***, call Parish Center for Baptism dates, for preparation class dates, and important information regarding Godparents.

Reconciliation:

Sat: 12 noon or by appointment.

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.

Marriage:

Friday @ 3, 4:30, 6pm; Saturday @ 10:30am & 2:30pm. 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: Every second Friday of the month @ 8:30am Mass for those needing surgery, serious medical treatment, or seeking spiritual healing.



*"I will follow you
wherever you go."*

~ Luke 9

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

June 30, 2019 ~ 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

S.S. ... St. Sylvester ... Here we go!

Dear friends in Christ,

The LORD said to Elijah:

"You shall anoint Elisha, son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah,
as a prophet to succeed you."



I grew up on Long Island, down in Southwestern Nassau County in a little community called The Five Towns. We spent lots of warm spring and summer days down at Atlantic Beach. There you could see many ships and recreational boats navigating in the Atlantic Ocean with New York's Harbor on the horizon.

It "goes without saying" that Long Island has a large recreational fishing community (and commercial one at that, too). I have some "zealous" friends that fish quite a bit. I am always grateful for some fresh tuna, striped bass, or fluke when my buddies bring it home.

For me, as a kid, it was fishing off the surf in Atlantic Beach, or into Reynolds Channel off the jetty. Although I do not possess the resources nor time to commit to off-shore angling like my "buddies," I still get excited thinking about fishing from time to time.

This is what is so exciting about fishing; that unseen reality of what lives underneath the sea. Perhaps also an adrenaline rush when you have a fish on and then the catching of something (so long as it is not a crab).

The Church is like a ship. This seaward image is meant to tempt our minds to recall Jesus on the Sea of Galilee, the former carpenter now a holy passenger with the first disciples, yes fisherman!

Jesus says, "Follow Me, I will make you fishers..." in the Gospel. What does this mean? May I propose a thought or two about His mission call?

The follow Him part is easily absorbed by our minds, but not so easy at times to follow with our total being (our souls). However, if we attempt to distill the Gospel down to one thought, it could be this: MERCY (Pope Francis, The Joy of the Gospel).

It has been said that regardless of what we do, or do not do, God's love for us can never change. He created us, knitted us in our Mother's wombs, and loves us into existence. He seeks solely that we yearn to live with Him forever in Heaven. Complete selflessness.

Secondly, Jesus gives us some pretty good guidance for living:

Treat others as you wish to be treated.

Love them as I have loved you.

And then,

Turn the other cheek.

~ Continued on next page...

Again, some of these precepts are easy, others not so much.

But the becoming fisherman part should be pretty clear. We are called to know Him and love Him ... and teach others to do the same. We do as much through:

Random acts of kindness.

Supporting charitable endeavors.

Serving others, especially the poor and marginalized.

Many other ways and works of virtue.

Here we are, we begin again. From our First Reading today, the Lord called Elijah to anoint Elisha as his successor. Today I am called to succeed Father Tom Coby as your new Pastor. I would never characterize myself as a "prophet." Preferably instead, as "Just a simple worker in the vineyard of the Lord" (Pope Benedict at his Election to the Pontificate, April 19, 2005).

The Parish of Saint Sylvester is a ship in the fleet of the Holy Roman Catholic Church. Let us begin this journey; one which the Lord God has given us. A voyage where we are asked to encounter Christ in each other, vectoring our lives through sacred work toward the eternal kingdom of Heaven.

We begin again. "The S.S. Saint Sylvester" is underway. Let us guide each other to become Saints!!!

Yours in Christ,



Father Suglia (soo-LEE-ya)

Words cannot adequately express how happy I am to be your new Pastor! In the coming days, weeks, months, and years ahead, I look forward to meeting all of you and together, forging a bond in Christ Jesus our Lord.

I have to say that I do not know much about Saint Sylvester's...except that there is a strong legacy of pastors and priests who have served the community in Medford these last years. A word of great gratitude to Father Tom Coby for his gracious hospitality to me upon my appointment and since in helping me to make the transition here.

Welcome Fr. Dennis Suglia!

We will have Hospitality on Saturday, June 29th after the 5:00 p.m. Mass
and
Sunday June 30th after the 11:00 a.m. Mass in the Patricia Desmond Hall
(Lower Level of the Parish Center)
to welcome Fr. Dennis Suglia,
the new Pastor of St. Sylvester Parish!

Please stop by to say "Hello" and have some light refreshments!

Office Information

Parish Office: (631) 475-4506 ext 101; Fax (631) 475-1057; email: parishoffice@stsylvesterli.org
M, Tu, W ~ 9am - 12 & 1 - 8:30pm; Th, Fri ~ 9am - 12 & 1 - 5pm; Su ~ 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
M ~ 10am - 3pm ; Wed ~ 10am - 3pm & 4pm - 7pm ; Fr ~ 10am - 12pm

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

We Pray

Saturday, June 29, 2019

5:00pm Willie Beslanovics (14th Anniversary)
The Living & Deceased Members of the
Matteo, Caravana & Castriota Families
Joseph Rotundo (47th Anniversary)
Lucy Mazzeo (19th Anniversary)
Vincent DiPrima

Sunday, June 30, 2019

7:30am Rosa & Manuel Esteves
9:00am Kenneth Glover
11:00am Robert Edwards

Monday, July 1, 2019

8:30am Eleanor Keating

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

8:30am The People of St. Sylvester

Thursday, July 4, 2019

8:30am No Mass

Friday, July 5, 2019

8:30am The People of St. Sylvester

Saturday, July 6, 2019

5:00pm Paul Maniscalco
Edward Zatwarnicki
Frank Tornincaso, Sr.
Viola Hoehlein
Vincent DiPrima

Sunday, July 7, 2019

7:30am Eleanor Keating
9:00am William Fairbrother
11:00am Drew Natoli

We pray for all who have died, especially . . .

Dolores A. Kress., Anton Vormittag, Mary Gioe.

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.*

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

Jim Newkirk, Marie Grimaldi, Bob Prentiss, Pam Hinton, Andy Magyar, Agnes Cantarelli., Baby Emma Connolly, Joyce Lowder, Alice Fareello, Richard Palma, Elizabeth Pagano, Roberta Aguiar, Brian Podlesny, Frank Cayea.

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.

Please remember that the Parish Center is only open in the evening on Wednesdays and that we close at 3pm on Fridays while we are on our summer schedule.



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

Stewardship

Gifts of Treasure
June 23, 2019

Regular ~ \$9,631
Renovation ~ \$140
Solar ~ \$105

We are the Hands of Christ!

Thank you for entering into the spirit of stewardship renewal of Time and Talent these past few weeks! Everything we have is a gift from God, and as disciples, we are called to be the Hands of Christ! Thank you for making or renewing your commitment to share your gifts here in our parish, as well as at home, in the workplace and the larger community! If you haven't yet completed this year's Time & Talent Commitment Form, please do so today.



Catholic Ministries Appeal 2019

Designated Goal:	\$65,800.00
Amount Pledged to Date:	\$39,665.00
% of Goal Pledged to Date:	60.3%
Number of Donors to Date:	133

Your donation can make a difference!

Make checks payable to: Catholic Ministries Appeal

Parish: St. Sylvester Church

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

**Place in collection basket
or return to the Parish Center. Thank you.**

**"Stewardship is transformative. Once we embrace the stewardship message it changes the way we look at *every* decision we make. Stewardship becomes a total way of life."
~ Archdiocese of St. Louis**

Faith Formation

**On-Line Registration
Has Been Extended
Until July 31, 2019!**

**Please go to www.stsylvesterli.org and click on
Faith Formation
and then Registration.**

***If you are interested in becoming a member of
the Faith Formation Ministry as a Teacher/
Catechist, please call 631-475-4506 X 118
or email
faithformation@stsylvesterli.org***

BAPTISMS

*Baptism is the door to life and to the
Kingdom of God.
Let us welcome those who were newly
baptized into our Community of Faith
during the month of
June 2019*

***Maria Del Pilar Barrera Fana
Clara Lane Caldiero
Olivia Marie Russo***

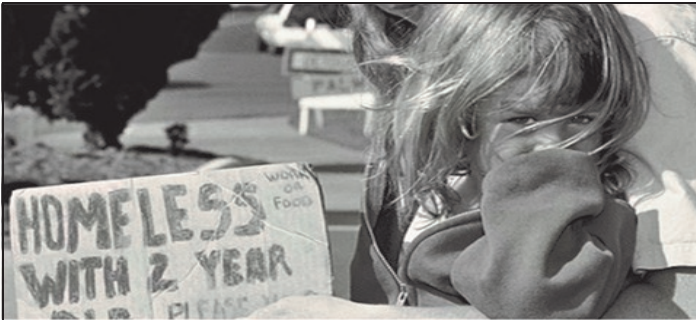


Save the Date!

Our Parish Appreciation Breakfast for all volunteer ministers will be Saturday, July 20th at 10:30am at Villa Lombardi in Holbrook. Invitations have been sent out, but sometimes our computer generated lists miss someone (or the post office does). So, if you have not received an invitation and are part of a ministry here at the parish, PLEASE contact Lori Zito at lzito@stsylvesterli.org or 631-475-4506, ext. 115 because we want you to join in the festivities!

We ask that everyone kindly respond by Friday, July 5th as we have to give a final head count, and look forward to seeing you there!

Parish Social Ministry



Wash Kits for the Homeless

Every summer we create hundreds of wash kits to support the Stand Up for the Homeless event at the end of August where over 800 people receive access to multiple services in a single day! In preparation, we will once again be hosting a community service event making wash kits for the homeless. We are in need of travel size hygiene items – shampoo, conditioner, body wash, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, washcloth. Please continue to donate these items by placing them in the donation bin in the church or bringing them directly to Clare House.

Thank you for your generosity!



Back to School Program

During the summer months of July and August we will be collecting financial donations to support our Back to School program. Donations can be made electronically on our website, or via cash/check in an envelope marked "back to school" and placed in any collection basket, brought to the parish center or Clare House. All donations will be converted to gift cards.

Why gift cards, you may ask?

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 supplies, bags, shoes, 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.

Thank you for your generosity!

First Saturday Devotion



Come and join us for song and prayer as we say the Rosary next Saturday, July 6th, at 9am in the Parish Center Worship Room.

Parish Life

EMERGENCY BLOOD SHORTAGE  **New York Blood Center**

ST SYLVESTER'S CHURCH

Blood Drive

Sunday, July 14th

8:00am – 2:00pm

Parish Center

68 Ohio Avenue, Medford, NY 11763

All Donors will also get a FREE Coupon to McDonald's!
Good for 1 Free Premium Sandwich or salad with any purchase!

Donating is Safe & Simple.
Your donation will help to **save up to THREE lives.**

♥♦Thank You for Caring! ♦♥

- **Must Bring I.D.**
- Minimum Weight 110lbs.
- No New Tattoos for past 12 months.
- Age 16 – 75 (16 year olds must have parental permission)



For questions concerning medical eligibility:
1-800-688-0900 or visit www.nybc.org

For More info: Tony Speelman @ 631-236-6327

 **New York Blood Center**

Prayer Groups

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 Tuesday of the month ~ 7pm ~ EW

(In August meets on the 3rd Wednesday; no July meeting scheduled)

Legion of Mary

Tuesdays ~ 1:30pm ~ Room 8

Spanish Legion of Mary

Wednesdays ~ 5:45pm ~ Room 9 (*summer hours*)

Third Order of Carmelites

3rd Friday of the month

Mass ~ 7pm ~ Worship Room

Meeting ~ 8pm ~ East Wing

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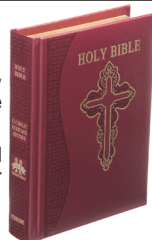
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