

# 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 Parish Center. Rosary recitation  
begins at 8:15am before morning Mass. 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/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:***

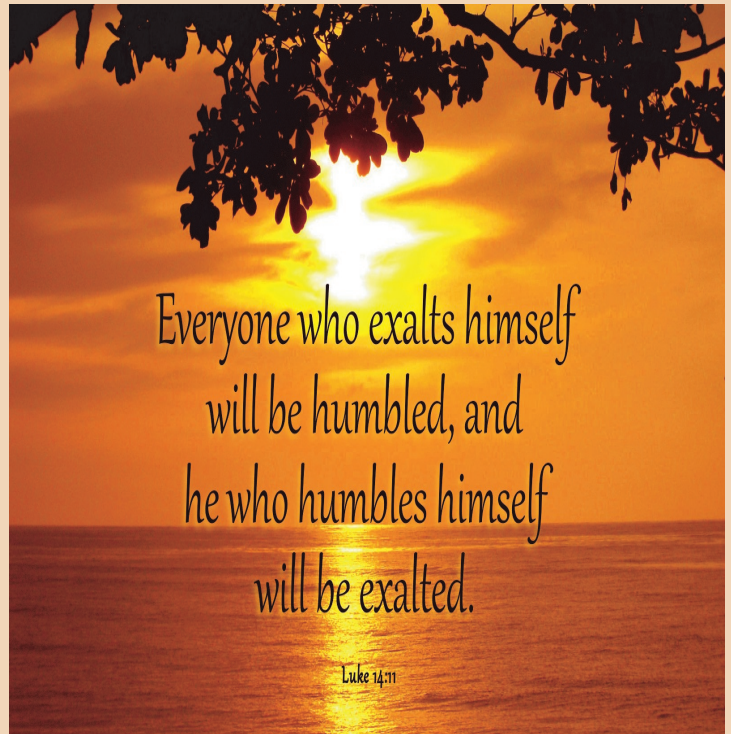
In the Fall for the youth of the parish. Adults  
and young adults can also be confirmed at  
Pentecost. Please call the Faith Formation  
Office 631-475-4506, Ext. 118.

## ***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. Every second Friday of the month  
@ 8:30am Mass, or call the Rectory at  
631-475-0418 any time.



**September 1, 2019**  
**22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

## **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

## Please note summer hours for the Parish Office!

**Parish Office:** (631) 475-4506 ext 101; Fax (631) 475-1057; email: parishoffice@stsylvesterli.org  
Mon. Tues. Thurs. 9am-12pm & 1-5pm; Wed. 9am-12 & 1-8:30pm; Fri. 9am-12pm & 1-3pm;  
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, August 31, 2019*

5:00pm Neil Storan  
Sean McGreevy  
Susan Mantyla  
Christine Carpentieri  
Pasquale Giaquinto  
Barbara J. Chin-Sang

### *Sunday, September 1, 2019*

7:30am Manuel Esteves  
9:00am Josephine Sferrazza  
11:00am Doris Faithfull

### *Tuesday, September 3, 2019*

8:30am The People of St. Sylvester

### *Thursday, September 5, 2019*

8:30am Brian M. Hopper

### *Friday, September 6, 2019*

8:30am Lucille Mango

### *Saturday, September 7, 2019*

5:00pm Michael McGinley  
Martha Nicastro  
Christine Carpentieri  
Arthur Rupp  
James O'Connell  
Marie & Luigi Russo

### *Sunday, September 8, 2019*

7:30am Thomas Clark  
9:00am Nancy & Lenny Rich  
11:00am Daryl Farnsworth

**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 . . .*

*Agnes Cantarelli, Andy Magyar, Baby Emma Connolly, Lucy Jimenez Garzon, Frank Cayea,, Joan McGrattan and Elizabeth Pagano.*

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

*Lorraine Lupo, Christiopher Silvestro, Mario Rodriguez, Guido Belluzzi, George J. Smith.*

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

*are the gifts of  
The Pasquarella Family*

*in loving memory of  
Pasquale Giaquinto*



### 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](http://www.stsylvesterli.org)**



**Pastor's Column**  
**SS Medford**  
**22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Virtue, Continued**

September 1, 2019

In the past weeks, we spoke of the first two of the Cardinal Virtues: Prudence and Temperance. Prudence is to think before we act and Temperance is to conduct ourselves moderately (not "overdoing" it).

This week we will cover the last two Cardinal Virtues: Justice and Fortitude.

Why is virtue so important? Because goodness is something that has to be desired so that we can grow in grace and holiness.

The four Cardinal Virtues progress from one to the other as necessary building blocks. We must be prudent to be temperate; we must be prudent and temperate to live justly.

Justice goes beyond our simplest definition and mirrors the supernatural. For example, "Gandhi went on a hunger strike to fight the injustice of India's colonial oppressors." Justice is supernatural in that it is what we want for all: peace, a living wage, an adequate supply of food, and the ability to be educated. This is not an exhaustive list, but some of the qualities of the virtue of Justice.

Fortitude, building upon Prudence, Temperance, and Justice can also be called supernatural. Fortitude is seen in the examples of the "witness" of martyrdom. The patroness of our Diocese, Saint Agnes, was a 3rd Century martyr. She would have been forced to renounce Christianity by accepting marriage to a rich man of noble descent who was a Pagan. Rather than abandon her faith and our belief that Jesus indeed rose from the dead, she chose death.

Tertullian, a second-century Roman lawyer who also wrote and spoke as a theologian, gives us a high expression about early Christianity and martyrdom. He said, "The blood of the martyrs is the seed of Christianity."

We would not be here except for the martyrs' sacrifice, which inspired by the Holy Spirit, guarantees divine vocation to Christianity. That is, our being persons for others, with our sights set on sainthood and eternity.

From Luke's Gospel this week:

*"Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."*

Is there any better way to express virtue than to take care of the poor materially? I am not just talking about dropping money in the poor box, which is virtuous in itself. Instead, we should ensure their needs are met by going the extra mile.

I think that is what Jesus is challenging us to in our Gospel. Yes, it can be a daunting challenge. However, when we are people of virtue, it becomes more transparent and less intimidating.

Yours in Christ,

Father Suglia



## The Catholic University of America Collection

The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

Now, more than ever, the University is strategically positioned to pave the way forward and help the laity play a significant role in healing.

Through hosting a conference series focused on laity response, and in creating an Institute for Diocesan Excellence in Administration (IDEA) where lay scholars and professionals can support clergy by providing expertise and accountability, Catholic University will serve as a springboard in renewing and strengthening Catholicism in our country.

Your support of the National Collection will help us solve issues within the Church and educate graduates who will leave campus ready to impact the Church, the nation, and the world. We appreciate your generosity.

## Colecta para La Universidad Católica de América

La Universidad Católica de América en Washington, DC

Ahora, más que nunca, la Universidad está estratégicamente posicionada para allanar el camino y ayudar a los laicos a desempeñar un papel importante en curación.

Al organizar una serie de conferencias centradas en la respuesta de los laicos, y al crear un Instituto para la Excelencia Diocesana en Administración (IDEA) donde académicos y profesionales laicos pueden apoyar al clero proporcionando experiencia y responsabilidad, la Universidad Católica servirá como un trampolín para renovar y fortalecer el catolicismo en nuestro país.

Su apoyo a la Colección Nacional nos ayudará a resolver problemas dentro de la Iglesia y educar a los graduados que dejarán la escuela listos para impactar a la Iglesia, la nación y el

## The Office of FAITH FORMATION DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

# CATECHETICAL CONGRESS<sup>2019</sup>



## Stay With Us

**Saturday, September 14, 2019**

St. John the Baptist High School, West Islip

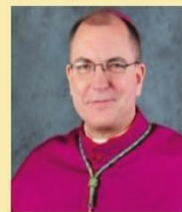
Doors open at 8:00 a.m. for registration.

Blessing and Commissioning at 2:30 p.m.

Featuring Keynote Speakers



Dr. Mary Healy



Bishop John O. Barres

For more information and to register online,  
please visit [drvc-faith.org](http://drvc-faith.org)

The **Readings for the Week** can be found on our parish website home page by clicking on the "Daily Readings" button. You may also access the readings for the month directly from the USCCB website, [www.USCCB.org](http://www.USCCB.org). Simply click a date on their Daily Readings Calendar to bring up the readings for that particular day.

## *We are happy to announce that the 2020 Mass Book will Open this Wednesday, September 4, 2019!*

Please feel free to come into the Parish Office during regular business hours to request a Mass Intention. So that all will have the opportunity to have a Mass said for their loved ones, we ask you to limit the number of Mass requests to six (6), at this time. Beginning October 2019 you are welcome to request additional Mass Intentions. Please know that we will do our best to accommodate your requests.

Please note: There are no Masses on Wednesdays and all the Intentions for Easter and Christmas Masses are for the People of St. Sylvester Parish.

*Thank you in advance for your cooperation and patience!*



# 2019 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Supporting *Dramatic Missionary Growth* in Our Community



Witnessing Forgiving Loving Helping Teaching Igniting Evangelizing  
Teaching Igniting Evangelizing Forgiving Loving Helping Witnessing

Labor Day is an opportunity to take stock of the ways workers are honored and respected. As Pope Francis pointed out, *"Work is fundamental to the dignity of a person. . . . It gives one the ability to maintain oneself, one's family, to contribute to the growth of one's own nation."*



For many people, especially for the poor, who may be unemployed or under-employed, the struggle to support their families is a daily battle. Please consider supporting the Catholic Ministries Appeal which supports the programs and services that assist families and individuals struggling in our communities.

**PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A GIFT TO THE 2019 Catholic Ministries Appeal! Every Gift Makes a Difference in the Lives of Others.**

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Down Payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Balance \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Checks can be made payable to:  
Catholic Ministries Appeal*

Catholic Ministries Appeal, Diocese of Rockville Centre, P.O. Box 4000, Rockville Centre, New York 11571

***Thank You!***



Are you being called to lead the community in sung prayer?

Do you like to sing...play an instrument...

or just like to praise God in song?

Come join the 5:00 p.m. Mass Choir

No commitment needed...just try it out!

We regularly practice at 4:00 p.m. right before Mass on Saturdays.

If you are not sure or have questions,

feel free to stop by after the 5 p.m. Mass and speak with Greg Wilson.



# Backpack Blessing

Sunday September 15, 2019 at the

11:00 a.m. Mass

Fr. Suglia will be blessing backpacks!

All children are welcome!

Please bring your backpack with you!





# CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LONG ISLAND NIGHT

COME OUT TO SUPPORT THE DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE –  
THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LONG ISLAND

**FRI. SEPT 13 • 7:10PM •**  **VS** 

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There are 133 parishes in 115 towns. There are 45 Catholic elementary schools, 9 high schools and one Catholic college in the diocese. There are 75,727 children in parish Faith Formation programs taught by 10,000 volunteer catechists.



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## 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!

## Faith Formation

### *On-Line Registration Has Been Extended Until September 30, 2019!*

Please go to [www.stsylvesterli.org](http://www.stsylvesterli.org) and click on Faith Formation and then Registration.

**If you are interested in serving as a  
Teacher/Catechist,  
please call 631-475-4506 X 118  
or email  
[faithformation@stsylvesterli.org](mailto:faithformation@stsylvesterli.org)**

**In the fall, we will have the  
following opportunities for Teachers/Catechists:**

**Level 4 ~ Mondays 5:45 to 6:45 p.m.**

**Level 5 ~ Tuesday 5:45 to 6:45 p.m.**

**Level 6 ~ Tuesday 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.  
Wednesday 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.

# Stewardship

## One Family in Mission

Called to Evangelize

Formation

Hospitality

Prayer

Service



### *Gifts of Treasure*

*August 25, 2019*

Regular ~ \$7,473.20

Renovation ~ \$81.00

Solar ~ \$ 50.00

### *Reflection*

In today's readings, we learn a lesson about being humble. Being a humble steward for God pleases Him. "My child, conduct your affairs with humility, and you will be loved more than a giver of gifts."

### *Living Stewardship...Hospitality*

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us to give without expecting a return. Many times when we do things for others, we want to be congratulated for it and recognized. However, we should not worry about that, but do good for others knowing that God sees it all.

### *Greeters Sought for Funeral Masses*

**Do you have the gifts of welcoming and compassion?** Are you usually available on weekday mornings? If so, our parish would like you to consider using your gifts in serving as a Lazarus Greeter at our Funeral Masses.

As a Greeter, you would welcome the family and friends of the deceased to the parish at the time of the funeral, hand out funeral booklets, light the incense used during the Mass and assist with any other special needs that may arise.

If you feel called to serve others in this way, please contact Lori Zito in the Parish Ministry & Events Office, 631-475-4506, ext. 115 or email to [lzito@stsyvesterli.org](mailto:lzito@stsyvesterli.org).

## CHRISTMAS ALREADY?



Believe it or not, we are already planning for this year's Holiday Fair!!

Our Holiday Fair Crafters will meet twice a month at 1pm beginning this Wednesday, September 4th to plan and create items for our November 16th & 17th Fair.

We are also looking for parishioners who are interested in helping out at this year's Holiday Fair with our Raffle Tables, Christmas Café and Granny's Attic areas. If you are looking for a fun way to get involved here in the parish, this is it!

Interested in being one of our volunteer elves this November? Please contact Lori Zito in the Parish Ministry & Events Office by calling 631-475-4506, ext. 115 or by emailing to [lzito@stsyvesterli.org](mailto:lzito@stsyvesterli.org).

**We have also now begun accepting donations of new items, event & movie tickets, gift cards, etc. for our popular Holiday Fair raffle baskets.**

**Thank you for your generosity!**



# What's Happening?

## ***Get Involved!***

### ***Drawing Class***

Mondays 10am to 12pm East Wing

### ***Art Class***

Tuesdays 9am to 12pm Patricia Desmond Hall

### ***Prayer Shawl Ministry***

First Wednesday of the Month 10:30am to 12pm in the East Wing

### ***Art Class***

Saturdays 9am to 12pm Patricia Desmond Hall

### ***Senior Circle of Friends***

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

## ***Hail Mary!***



Father Suglia has said that since the Novena leading up to the Assumption of Our Lady was so well received, he has decided to continue saying the rosary beginning at 8:15am before the daily Mass for the foreseeable future.

Please continue to join fellow parishioners in saying the rosary at 8:15am in the Parish Center Worship Room before daily Mass.

## ***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

### **Over-Eaters Anonymous**

Will return in the fall.

### **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

### ***Third Order of Carmelites***

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

### ***First Saturday Devotion***

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



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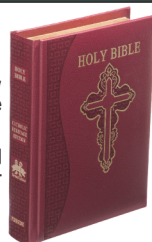
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