

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 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

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.



*What man among you having a hundred sheep
and losing one of them would not leave the
ninety-nine in the desert and go after the lost
one until he finds it?*

~ Luke 15

September 15, 2019
24th 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

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, September 14, 2019

5:00pm Maria Beslanovics
Living & Deceased Members of the
Matteo, Caravana & Confessore Families
Thomas Boffardi
Anatoly Kolbun
Andrea Komorowski
Dean Foster

Sunday, September 15, 2019

7:30am Louis & Antoinette Coppolecchia
9:00am Catherine T. Hines (*1st Anniversary*)
11:00am Donald Tierney

Monday, September 16, 2019

8:30am The People of St. Sylvester

Tuesday, September 17, 2019

8:30am Anthony Sikorski (*4th Anniversary*)

Thursday, September 19, 2019

8:30am Sally Sprick

Friday, September 20, 2019

8:30am Pasquale & Margherita Giaquinto

Saturday, September 21, 2019

5:00pm Robert Edwards
David Kirk
John Summers
Leroy "Scotty" Girard
Carmela "Milly" Russo

Sunday, September 22, 2019

7:30am John Enterlin
9:00am Thomas Clark
11:00am Robert Edwards (*1st Anniversary*)

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, Elizabeth Pagano, Anne Ripi, Bill Berger, Bill Valentin, Evelyn Valentin, Brian Mullins, Chong Skladel, Marie Robbins, Edgar Ugaz, Barbara Eustace, Josephine Chebat, and Caleigh Clarke.

We pray for all those who have died, especially:
Guido Belluzzi, George J. Smith and Rosalba Sullivan.



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.

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



Pastor's Column
SS Medford
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

CHARITY EMPLOYED

September 15, 2019

Friends, we are allowed over the coming weeks to offer material charity to various causes here at Saint Sylvester. This week we will have a second collection for those affected by Hurricane Dorian. Next week we will be offered the opportunity to support our Senior Priests (like Fr. Ed Kealey) at Saint Pius X Residence in Amityville.

We all witnessed in some way the devastation of Hurricane Dorian, especially in the Bahamas. The Hurricane remained near the Islands for several days destroying scores of houses, buildings, and lives. At least 50 are dead, and the number is feared to reach in the hundreds as so many are missing. One hundred percent (100%) of our collected funds will go directly to Hurricane Dorian relief efforts in the Bahamas.

The Saint Pius X Residence has been a warm home for dozens of priests for decades now. It only can operate with the help of our generosity.

I visited Fr. Ed over the summer and he welcomed me into his small apartment. There he, and many other good priests who have served our Diocese well for decades, are looked after with care.

And finally, while I am on the subject of financial assistance, I wonder if we could consider being more generous in our regular collection every week? One of the things that I have noticed in my time as a priest is

that the weekly collection works out to about \$10 per person in most parishes. This amount seems lacking if we consider typical daily costs. For instance, what it costs to park your car in a public garage, stop in at your favorite coffee or ice cream store, or take the family for some simple, fast food.

Additionally, I have been looking back at our bulletins from just a decade or so ago. Then our weekly collection was double of what we see today.

I would not be writing if this was not a concern. We have minimal reserves, and if there were any substantial emergency, they could be exhausted. We also have difficulty from time to time paying our regular bills without reaching into our reserves.

Please consider increasing your regular contribution, and if your means allow, doing so substantially.

These weeks allow us to respond to our Gospel call to love God and our neighbor. Let us prayerfully consider doing so materially to the best that our means allow.

Yours in Christ,

Father Suglia



The Office of FAITH FORMATION DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

September 2019 through March 2020

Register Online WWW.DRVC-FAITH.ORG

Divorce & Beyond Support Group

Notre Dame, New Hyde Park

Wednesdays, September 18, 25, October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30,
November 6, 13, and 20, 2019
From 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Training Of Volunteers in The Ministry To The Sick Part B EM Training

St. James Church, Setauket

Saturdays, September 21 and 28, 2019
from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

And

St. Charles Hospital, Port Jefferson

Saturday, October 5, 2019
from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Marriage the Primordial Sacrament

Our Lady of Lourdes, West Islip

Saturday, September 21, 2019
from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Ministry of Consolation Course Offering Level I

Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Hicksville

Thursday, September 26, October 3, 17, and 24, 2019
from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Bereavement Facilitator Training Level II

Our Lady of Victory, Floral Park

Mondays, September 30, October 7, 21, and 28, 2019
from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

St. Mary's Parish, East Islip

Saturdays, September 28 and October 5, 2019
from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

St. Rosalie Parish, Hampton Bays

Saturdays, October 19 and 26, 2019
from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

RCIA Level II / RICA NIVEL II

St. Boniface, Elmont

Saturday, October 5 and 12, 2019
Sábados 5 y 12 de octubre de 2019
9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

RCIA Level I

Thursdays, October 17, 24, 31, and November 14, 2019

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Patchogue

10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

OR

St. Martin of Tours, Bethpage

7:00 p.m. - 9:30 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

St. Frances de Chantal, Wantagh

Saturday, March 21, 2020
8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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



With the arrival of autumn, I'd like to invite you to join Faith Direct, our parish's electronic giving program.

Our to-do lists can get lengthy during this season, but Faith Direct's eGiving program will give you one less thing to remember each week--no more envelopes to find before you go to Mass.

You can either go online to faith.direct/NY285 or text the word ENROLL to (631-201-5922)

Thank you for your prayerful support of St. Sylvester.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Suglia

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. Simply click a date on their Daily Readings Calendar to bring up the readings for that particular day.



This Fall, couples who have been married 50 years will be honored at a special Mass on Sunday, November 3, 2019 at Maria Regina Roman Catholic Church in Seaford. Mass will begin at 2:00 pm, with Bishop Andrzej Zglejszewski presiding. Please contact the Parish Office to register. Space is limited, and registration will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. Registration forms can also be found on the diocesan website www.drvc-faith.org. If you have any questions you may call 516-678-5800, ext. 223.



Baptism is the door to life
and to the Kingdom of
God.

Let us welcome the newly baptized into
our community of Faith during the
month of August 2019.

Connor Patrick Broggy

Liliana Rose Cabo

Luca Domínick Cabo

Arya Rose Carney

Mikael Keith Citrangola

Adam Joseph Ferremí

Hailee Sara Jordan

Zachary Andrew James Hammer

Edward Patrick Peterson

Michael Joseph Viscardi, Jr.



Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

We wish to extend a great big thank you for all those who participated in the TD Affinity Program this past year. Because of your participation, St. Sylvester just received a check from TD Bank for \$1,526.64.

For those of you not familiar with this fundraiser, the TD Bank Affinity Membership Program provides nonprofit organizations an easy way to raise money at **no cost to our parishioners**. If you have an account with TD Bank or wish to open one, just ask to join the Affinity Membership Program and specify St. Sylvester as your designated charity. That's all there is to do! TD Bank then makes an annual contribution based on all the TD Bank Af-

Remembering and Caring for our Senior Priests

Do you ever think about a favorite Pastor or Parish Priest and wonder how they are and where they may be living?

Well, for our Senior Priests who are living at St. Pius X Enriched Living Facility in Amityville, life is good and sometimes very busy.

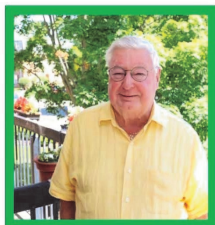


"We are very happy that more and more of our Priests are taking advantage of this wonderful facility. We thank you for your support, we depend on it, especially now with the increasing costs we are experiencing. We couldn't do it without you!"

- Rev. Msgr. Thomas Costa,
Vicar for Senior Priests

"Since I arrived at St. Pius X, I have found living here like being at home. I have found much happiness with my fellow priests and in the entire community, and I especially appreciate the support I receive. Thank you for helping to make this home possible."

- Rev. Msgr. T Peter Ryan



Even in retirement our senior priests retain roles as our shepherds, and St. Pius X enables these dedicated men who live there to be fully engaged members of the community. "Still on duty," they serve as our teachers, counselors, and spiritual leaders.

The special collection for retired priests living at St. Pius X Enriched Living Facility will take place next weekend. Please be as generous as possible! Thank You!

www.drvc.org/stpiusx



**Parents
Guardians!!**

***Please accompany your
child to the restroom if
needed during Mass!***

***Thank you for your
cooperation.***



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!

FALL FLOWER SALE

Hosted by the Garden Club Ministry

Saturday, October 5th ~ 10am—6:00pm

Sunday, October 6th ~ 8am—12:00pm



Mums
Montauk Daisies
Asters
Kale

Don't miss our beautiful selection of pots and hanging baskets
from Forge River Nursery in Mastic!
(Same growers, new location)!



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!

Thanks to everyone who came out to our two service events and helped to sort supplies and assemble wash kits! We made almost 800!

We are ALWAYS 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.



On behalf of our neighbors, who we serve, thank you to everyone who supported our back to school program by making a donation!

We raised over \$4000 to support our neighbors in need!

Faith Formation

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

Please go to 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

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.

LEVEL 8

Level 8 Confirmation classes continue every Wednesday through October 2nd at 6:50PM beginning in the Church.

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 *September 1, 2019*

Regular ~ \$8,397.54

Renovation ~ \$305

Solar ~ \$ 195

Reflection

In today's Gospel, we hear the parable of the Prodigal Son. Jesus tells us this story to teach us about God's great mercy.

Living Stewardship...Prayer

God is always waiting for us to come back to Him. Try to make a point to go to confession this week, even if it has been a long time since your last one! Priests are always willing to help you out with the prayers and God is always waiting for you with open arms.

Catholic Ministries Appeal 2019

Designated Goal: \$65,800.00

Amount Pledged to Date: \$41,280

% of Goal Pledged to Date: 62%

Number of Donors to Date: 143

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.

CHRISTMAS ALREADY?



Believe it or not, we are already planning for this year's Holiday Fair on November 16th & 17th!

Our Crafters are already meeting to create items to sell at our Fair and we welcome handcrafted donations from parishioners.

We are also looking for those 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@stsylvesterli.org.

P.S. ~ Gently used items for **Granny's Attic** will be accepted from **November 8th through 14th ONLY**. No TV's please.

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

Art Class

Saturdays 9am to 12pm Patricia Desmond Hall



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

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

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