

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. GERTRUDE

28 School Street, Bayville, N.Y. 11709

CLERGY OF THE PARISH

Rev. Msgr. Robert O. Morrissey, Pastor
Rev. Joseph Gaspar, Assoc. Pastor

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

Dr. James Sheehan, Director of Pastoral Formation/
Pastoral Associate
Phone: (516) 628-2432
Email: faithformation@stgerts.org

PRESCHOOL:

Meredith Brosnan, Director
Phone: (516) 628-3710
Email: stgertprek@stgerts.org, www.stgertrudesprek.org

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Masses

Saturday: 8:30am & 5:00pm

Sunday: 7:30am, 9:30am (Family Mass), 11:30am

Weekdays: 8:30am

Holy Days: See bulletin/announcements for schedule

Rosary every morning after 8:30am Mass

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and
Benediction 1:00pm to 3:00pm Wednesdays
except holidays

Reconciliation/Confession:

Saturdays: 4:00-5:00pm & by appointment

SACRAMENTS

Anointing of the Sick: Available upon request.

Baptism: Third Sunday each month at 1:00pm. Prior
parent and sponsor interviews with a baptismal
coordinator required.

Marriage: Arrangements must be made in person with
priest at least 6 months in advance & prior to reception
arrangements.

Adult Christian Initiation. If you are interested in
exploring the Catholic faith or completing your
initiation into the Church, please call the Parish office.

Outreach—Pantry Hours:

St. Gertrude: Friday 8:30am-9:30am

United Methodist Church Outreach. Food pantry
opened every OTHER Saturday 9-12. Please call Ann
Albro @ 516-647-5943 for any questions.

PARISH OFFICE: Phone: (516) 628-1113

Michele Drago, Office Manager

Email: parishoffice@stgerts.org

Donna Rogers, Secretary/Bulletin Editor

Email: bulletin@stgerts.org

Fran Conte, Business Manager

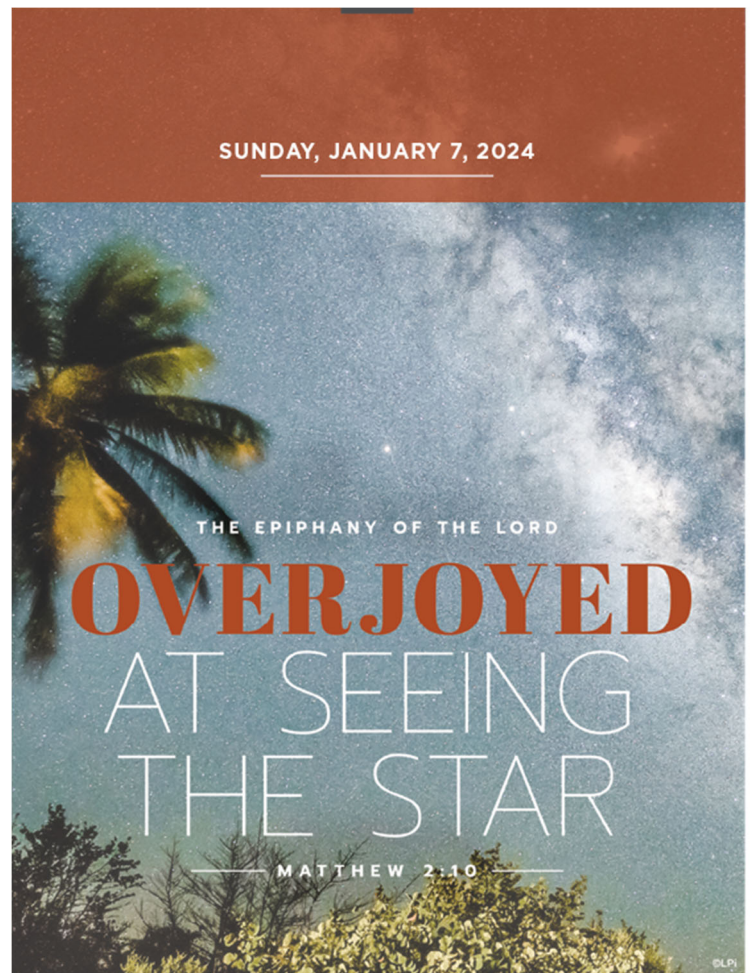
Email: businessoffice@stgerts.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Thursday: 9:00am—4:00pm
(or by appointment)

Fax: (516) 628-9032

Website: www.stgerts.com



St. Vincent de Paul:

Email: svdpstgerts@gmail.com

Furniture: (516) 746-8250



New to our Parish? We welcome you
and ask that you please call or stop
into our Parish office to register.

*The Lord told Israel to reach out to newcomers and
welcome them (Leviticus 19:36).*

Remembering. . .

SATURDAY	January 6
5:00 pm	Gerard Canadeo +
SUNDAY	January 7
7:30 am	Rosary Guild—Living & Deceased
9:30 am	For the parishioners of St. Gertrude +
11:30 am	Kay Creighton +
MONDAY	January 8
8:30 am	Lucile B. Palmaro, Marcel B. Palmaro, and the Sabin & Sobrino families +
TUESDAY	January 9
8:30 am	William Dannebaum + Caterina Primeggia +
WEDNESDAY	January 10
8:30 am	Lucile B. Palmaro, Marcel B. Palmaro, and the Sabin & Sobrino families +
THURSDAY	January 11
8:30 am	DeCesare family +
FRIDAY	January 12
8:30 am	Amy Davern +
SATURDAY	January 13
8:30 am	Lucile B. Palmaro, Marcel B. Palmaro, and the Sabin & Sobrino families +
5:00 pm	Nicolina LoCastro +

The Epiphany of the Lord

A stranger in a foreign land, I was exhausted and homesick as my summer Spanish immersion ended in Guatemala. The rusty minivan arriving outside my small residence filled me with joyful hope. I was flying home to the U.S. and would be, at long last, completely happy. Or so I thought. After about half an hour of being home, I thought to myself, “This place is boring. I want to go somewhere.” So, I hopped in my car and left to see my friends. As I drove, I wistfully wondered, “Where am I truly at home?”

The feast of Epiphany has a lot to do with our notion of home. Where is our origin? Where are we going? When is our wandering done? Saint Matthew tells us of the Magi, “They were overjoyed at seeing the star.” This star will bring them home, to a place where their questing will end, and they will be satisfied. Their real home is neither in the East nor in the earthly Jerusalem. Somehow, their home is wherever this boy and his parents are.

If you’re a teenager or older, you probably know by now that every physical home we have is temporary. So, we look up at the countless stars in our proverbial skies: things which bedazzle and beckon us to follow toward peace. The Gospel invites us to behold that — at long last — God has sent us a star to follow home, one that whispers, “Follow me! I will take you home!” Perhaps that star is your spouse. A friend. An opportunity. A cause. An intuition about a new direction. A prayer group. What is it for you? How will you know? It will lead you to Mary and Joseph and their son, and you will be home.

Father John Muir

©LPi

The Epiphany of the Lord

First Reading: Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (Is 60:1)

Psalm: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. (Ps 72)

Second Reading: It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. (Eph 3:5-6)

Gospel: “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.” (Mt 2:2)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. ©LPi

In the name of our entire parish staff

may we extend to all of our parishioners our heartfelt **thanks** for the many kindnesses, gifts and donations so generously offered to us and to our parish this Christmas.

Through the intercession of our Mother Mary, may Christ our Savior bless you and your loved ones with health and peace in 2024.

Sincerely yours in our Savior,
Monsignor Morrissey



Presider's Schedule: (subject to change)

Saturday January 13th 5:00pm — Msgr. Morrissey

Sunday, January 14th 7:30am — Fr. Joseph

9:30am — Msgr. Morrissey

11:30am — Fr. Joseph



Those serving in our military:

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen”

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| LT Cmdr. Melissa Buffa | LCpl Brian Allen | Pfc. Mark Chuisano |
| LT Mary Grace Colluci | Major Janet R. Erazo | 1st LT William Trotta, Jr. |
| 2nd LT Glenn Harvey | 1st LT Dylan Wall | Capt. Alexander Van Patten USAF |
| LT Colonel Nicholas Lo Russo | Sgt. 5 Jose Marin | Airman Bryan Mollitor |
| Pfc. Duncan Moskowitz | Major James Nicholson | LT Col. Sean Patak |
| PFC Matthew A. Passero | LT William Hegarty | Sfc. Sean P. Schenck |
| Hosp. Medic Matthew D. Perez | LT Sean Riordan | Cpl. Jason Roland |
| Capt. Thomas E. Rojek | Spc. Chase Tucker | Major Chad Lennon |
| ENS Patrick Hesse USN | Ens. James Figari | US Army Sgt. Richard F. Charon |
| LT Colonel Terrance Thorgramson | Capt. James Andrew Baker | Lt. Kevin Valsecchi |

If you would like to inform us of any family member or friend who has been called to active service or for a name to be removed, please call our Parish office. We cannot update this list without your help.



Mary Connelly, Joe Buffa
Nora Caruso

Call the parish office to add a relative to our prayer list.

Names will remain for 6 weeks.



St. Gertrude Parish Pantry Needs:

Supplies are either desperately low or out of the following items: Jar tomato sauce, cereal, Parmalat milk, flour, sugar, coffee (decaf & regular), tea, mayonnaise, toothpaste, shampoo & conditioner, paper towels, deodorant.

Donations to be placed in back of church under choir loft.

Pantry hours are every Friday from 8:30am–9:30am in the lower Church.

United Methodist Church Outreach. Food pantry opened every OTHER Saturday 9-12. Please call Ann Albro @ 516-647-5943 for any questions.

Just a friendly reminder to please be aware of food expiration dates. Thank you!

Frances Schoenegan



The Parish of St. Gertrude extends its prayerful condolences to her family & friends.

Check out our website for other information that our printed bulletin cannot accommodate.

[Www.stgerts.com](http://www.stgerts.com)

Parish Financial Summary

Sunday collections (including Faith Direct)

December 24, 2023: \$ NA

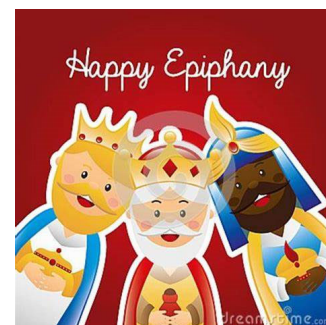
Our weekly collection budget is \$7,500.00.



Thank you for your prayerful and generous support of our parish family.

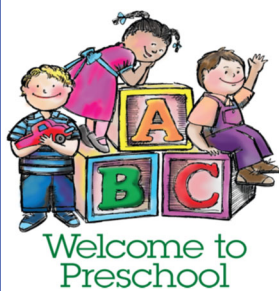
Our 2023 CMA goal remains at \$55,000 and we have received \$36,968.00 to date from 76 donors (66.61%). Thank you!!!

Religious Ed Classes
Resume on
Monday, January 8.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Do you know of anyone who is thinking of becoming a Catholic? Have you or someone you know wanted to complete the sacraments of Holy Communion or Confirmation? Invite them to join a community of adults who are discerning God's call through prayer and discussion as they learn more about the Catholic Faith. For more information contact Dr. Sheehan in our Religious Education office at 516-628-2432 or faithformation@stgerts.org.

Preschool News: All of us at St. Gertrude's Preschool would like to wish you and your families a safe and Happy New Year!



Teacher's Assistant Wanted for our preschool for the 2023-2024 school year. We are searching for a patient, charismatic and caring individual to join our staff. Hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9:15-12.

Responsibilities include assisting the head teacher in all school functions and activities, and working collaboratively with staff. High school diploma or equivalent required. Experience working with young children in an early childhood setting preferred. Please email resume to Ms. Meredith Brosnan, Director at

stgertprek@stgerts.org.



NEW Virtus Session

At St. Gertrude's, January 13 & 20, 2024

ATTENTION ALL VOLUNTEERS:

Any person wishing to volunteer in the Parish must complete these three requirements:

1. Attend Protecting God's Children (Virtus)
2. Sign the Code of Conduct
3. Complete a background screening application

St. Gertrude's will host a Virtus Session here on Saturday, January 13th & 20th at 10:00am in Room 2 of the Parish Center.

To register for the class visit: www.Virtus.org.

The name of the organization is Rockville Centre-Safe-Environment. Follow directions on the next screens. Please acknowledge the Codes of Conduct. Then select class on January 13th OR 20th, and then you will be instructed to complete the background screening application.

Pre-Registration is Required.

For more information contact the Religious education Office at 516-628-2432 or faithformation@stgerts.org



EPIPHANY

The Epiphany of the Lord

In today's Gospel we hear about the Magi offering gifts to the Newborn King.

This week be sure to see Jesus in everyone you come across. As the Magi gave gifts to Jesus may we give love and compassion to our neighbors.



PARISH MASS BOOK

The 2024 Mass book is open. Masses remain at \$20 each and wine & hosts for the week remain at \$50. Cash or check only.

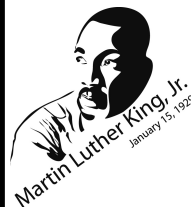


Rosary Guild News

The Rosary Guild has a new link on the parish website (under Ministries)

See: www.stgerts.org.

Please note: Newsletters will no longer be mailed. Find them on the website, or if you'd like a newsletter emailed directly to your inbox, kindly send an email to stgertruderosaryguild@gmail.com. Thank you!



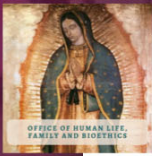
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

The rectory, Religious Ed and the Preschool will be closed on Monday, Jan. 15 in observance of the holiday.



*With Every Woman,
For Every Child.*

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
See how DRVC will March for Life at:



www.drvc.org/march-for-life



The theme and artwork are copyright of the March for Life Education and Defense Fund, used with permission, all rights reserved.
The Diocese of Rockville Centre is not an affiliate or legal division of March for Life Education and Defense Fund, which you can learn more about at marchforlife.org.



 DRVC VOCATIONS

Is God
calling
you?

Take the next step.

www.drvcvocations.org

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2023

**CATHOLIC
MINISTRIES
APPEAL**

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

*One Family - Journeying together in
Communion, Participation and Mission*



**Thank you for your generous support of the
2023 Catholic Ministries Appeal.**

Completing your 2023 pledge ensures that our Parish
will benefit by receiving our full rebate.

To give securely online, please go to:
<https://www.drvc.org/donate/cma/>

***Please remember that all 2023 pledges must be paid
in full by January 31, 2024.***

Thank You 



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Isaiah 61:1: "The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me."
Let the Lord transform your marriage.

Give your spouse a gift by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. You can find one by looking up WWME.org. Some of the dates to sign up are:
January 21-23, 2024 in Huntington, NY (Immaculate Conception Seminary)
February 9-11, 2024 in Huntington, NY

March 15-17, 2024 in Upton, MA

Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call Kevin & Regina Hickson at 631-486-8607 or <https://wwmenyli.org/>.



FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2024
7:00 PM
ST. DOMINIC SCHOOL GYM
Tickets On Sale!

<https://harlemwizards.com/schedule-tickets/>

*This is not a drop-off event, K-6 students must be accompanied by an adult.

We will be selling concessions and Wizards Souvenirs (cash or cc) to help raise money

Tickets

General Admission - \$30 in advance (\$35 @ door)
 (children 3 and under do not need a ticket)

Reserved Student- \$50
 Special reserved seating close to the court and free team poster.

Reserved Adult- \$50
 Special reserved seating close to the court and \$5 souvenir gift certificate. (200 max seating)

Courtside Plus Student - \$80 (limited quantity)
Courtside reserved seating, pregame meet & greet with players, souvenir lanyard, a color team photo that is perfect for autographs and a \$5 discount on Wizards replica jersey.

Courtside Plus Adult - \$80 (limited quantity)
Courtside reserved seating, pregame meet & greet with players, souvenir lanyard, and a \$10 souvenir gift certificate for adults.

Courtside Player (Students K-8) - \$155 (10 tickets available)

Courtside reserved seating, pregame meet & greet with players, jersey (picked up at game) souvenir lanyard, color team photo for kids that is perfect for autographs AND the opportunity to play in a 3-minute game with the Harlem Wizards during half-time.



2023

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

*One Family - Journeying together in
Communion, Participation and Mission*



“Advent, then, is a time for overturning our perspectives ... for letting ourselves be surprised by the greatness of God’s mercy,”

-Pope Francis

Pause and Reflect this Advent Season

During the Advent Season we are called to slow down during the frenetic season of shopping, visiting friends and family, baking, wrapping gifts and perhaps even studying for finals.

Are you still struggling to get a unique present for someone special? Consider a gift for all seasons – a donation to the Catholic Ministries Appeal. It’s a special gift that touches the lives of over 600,000 people by supporting programs that allow us to build of community of faith, hope and love in our diocese and beyond.

How does the **Catholic Ministries Appeal Care for God’s People**? It supports programs that help to feed people in our community each year through Catholic Charities and our Parish Outreach programs, providing food and nutrition to more than 15,000 people.



Have you tried **Text-to-Give** to make a donation?
It’s fast and secure.

Go to the following link to find your parish’s keyword:
bit.ly/3VFrMCE

TEXT your parish’s Keyword To:
(516) 271-3338

Please consider donating to the Appeal and making a difference in someone’s life. Thank you!

Make checks payable to: Catholic Ministries Appeal

Parish _____

Pledge: \$ _____

Name _____

Down payment: \$ _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

To make a donation, you can also visit **CatholicMinistriesAppeal.org**
or call us at **516-678-5800 ext. 296**

Thank You!



Because no marriage is beyond hope...

- Is your marriage tearing you apart?
- Do you feel hurt and angry?
- Does talking make it worse?
- Thought of leaving or divorce?
- Is your marriage heading in the wrong direction?

Retrouvaille can help.

**Our Next Weekend is
January 19-21, 2024
at The Immaculate Conception Seminary,
Huntington**

**To register or for more information:
1-800-470-2230
HelpOurMarriage.org**

Retrouvaille is a practical program for married couples facing difficult challenges. It is not a marriage retreat, or counseling. You will not be asked to share the personal details of your story.

Retrouvaille is different; it's a way to improve your communication, help you reconnect, and build a healthy, happier, stronger marriage.

Catholic in origin, couples of all faiths, or no faith background, are welcome to attend. We are a Christian Peer Ministry offering tens of thousands of marriages hope in over 160 communities world-wide.





Watch
live & on
demand.



www.cfntv.org


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CHAMINADE HIGH SCHOOL

COME VISIT US!

Tours are offered weekdays during
and after school. Scan the QR code or visit
www.chaminade-hs.org/admissions to sign up!



DID YOU KNOW?

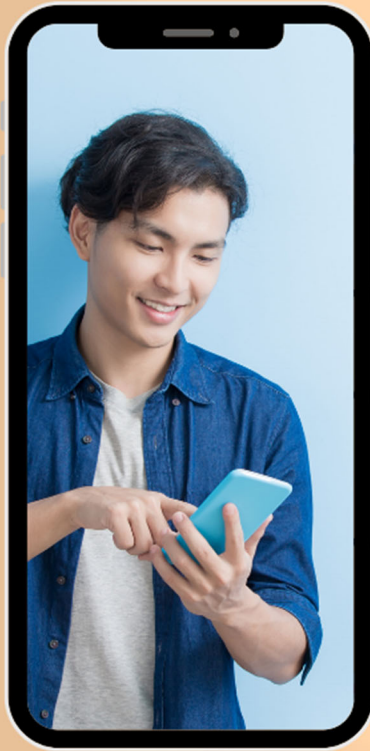
**Planned Gifts of IRAs are not the best assets for family members to inherit?
WHY? Heirs will pay taxes on these financial instruments.**

On the other hand, IRAs are good assets to give to the Church or other charity when doing your estate planning since they will not pay a tax on retirement assets they inherit.

Making a planned gift of a retirement asset reduces the tax burden on a family. In addition, making a planned gift of an IRA is easy and affordable. All it takes is to update a beneficiary designation with a donor's bank or investment company.

For more information on tax-wise planned gifts, contact Barbara Kilarjian at 516-678-5800 ext. 257 or email her at bkilarjian@drvc.org This information is not intended and should not be construed as legal, tax or investment advice. For such advice, please consult an attorney, tax advisor or investment professional.

5 STEPS SAFE ADULTS CAN TAKE TO PROTECT YOUTH ONLINE



1

Maintain open and ongoing communication about social media and online interactions

2

Monitor technology use (trust but verify)

3

Set and enforce boundaries for utilization of social media and tech

4

Educate yourself on the latest trends and potential risks

5

Inform children and youth they can always tell you if someone makes them feel scared, uncomfortable or unsafe online

 **VIRTUS**[®]
Excellence
Builds
Trust

www.virtus.org

D • I • S • C • O • V • E • R

SAINT MARY'S

for the Education of a Lifetime



We look forward to welcoming you for a tour to learn more about our Catholic faith community, academic, athletic, and extracurricular offerings!



Saint Mary's Elementary School

Providing excellence in Catholic education since 1926.

1340 NORTHERN BOULEVARD, MANHASSET, NEW YORK 11030
SAINTMARYSES.ORG | 516 627 0184 | #STMARYSES



FOR MORE INFO, PLEASE CONTACT MRS. NORMA STAFFORD, DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS AT EXT. 1084 OR NSTAFFORD@SAINTMARYSMANHASSET.ORG

~A NOTE FROM THE OFFICE FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE~

During a review of the Virtus report for St. Gertrude's, it was noted many Virtus accounts require updating. If you receive an e-mail from Virtus instructing you to log into your Virtus account, IT IS LEGITIMATE - THIS IS NOT A SCAM!!!

If you remain active in ministry **and** it has been five years (or more) since your prior background screening was performed; it is time to be rescreened. Please log into your Virtus account: www.virtus.org If you forgot your user ID and password, Virtus will provide instructions.

After logging into your account, you will be prompted to electronically acknowledge the Diocesan Codes of Conduct and complete the background screening application. Please follow all the instructions on the application and hit the submit button when completed.

During the pandemic shutdown, the Diocese established the on-line background screening process to facilitate remote screening. The company providing the screening is Sterling Solutions. During the application process, you will be creating an account with Sterling and will have access to your screening report when completed. The Diocese does not screen your financial information-the Fair Credit Reporting Act is the name of the legislation protecting your rights as a consumer. Unfortunately, this is poor choice for the title of the legislation, as many believe we have access to your financial information-we do not!.

Finally, if you are active in a ministry with children/youth: Catechist, Coach, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Youth Ministry; you are required to participate in on-going Virtus training. To facilitate this, the Diocese has made available monthly articles you are required to read. These bulletins/articles are attached to your Virtus account, you will receive a monthly email reminder to log into your account and complete the article. When completed, please answer the question and hit submit. Your account will be credited with completion of this requirement. Each article contains useful information pertinent to today's children and youth.

If you have any questions, please send me an email: mmcmahon@druc.org

Thank you.

Mary McMahon, LSCW

Why Catholic Education?

We nourish the mind and spirit of every child. A creative academic program and powerful spiritual guidance are the heart of every day at Long Island Catholic Schools. Our commitment to strong, individualized instruction, enhanced by advanced learning technologies, ensures that all children receive the personalized attention that builds knowledge and self-esteem in addition to the skills and study habits that prepare them for the academic challenges ahead. Daily teachings of faith bring spiritual values to life and foster in children an active and humane concern for others.

Early Childhood Program—Nursery (age 3) and Pre-K (age 4)

We guide children on the path to more fulfilling lives. Our academic rigor, emphasis on spiritual values, along with our commitment to extracurricular growth opportunities, all combine to give children the knowledge, skills, and confidence to go farther. The result? Higher performance in the classroom and on recognized standardized tests and an exceptionally high rate of college admissions. More important, our students become well-rounded individuals who go on to lead successful personal and professional lives and who become active, caring members of the community.

Catholic Elementary School Education

An elementary education at a Catholic school engages children at an important formative time in their lives. They are learning information, but it is much more than that. They are learning about themselves, about their place and purpose in the world, and about their obligations to others. Catholic school stands out as a place that addresses all of the relevant aspects of a young person's life. A Catholic school's broad charter allows us to 'educate the whole person', in mind, in body and in spirit. It is a difference that creates an advantage for their entire life.

Catholic Middle School Education

Grades 6,7, and 8 can be difficult but rewarding years for students. Through our schools, we encourage authentic growth: leadership, academics, faith, contributing to their parish, and exploring sports and extracurricular activities. Taking the reins of leadership! The move from elementary school to middle school marks the beginning of a new set of expectations and a new world of opportunities. Challenging academic curriculum, inspired Catholic teachings, and an array of new after-school activities give each student the intellectual, spiritual and social preparation needed for greater achievement in high school, college and beyond.

Catholic High Schools of Long Island

It's the education of a lifetime. Nine Catholic high schools on Long Island present their own unique opportunity for students to explore a faith-based education that challenges, inspires, and prepares them for college, careers, and life. The total experience makes the difference in a Catholic education. Families are strongly encouraged to attend Open House programs held at each Long Island Catholic school to learn first-hand about programs, facilities, faculties, activities, and the character of each institution. If you cannot attend an Open House, please contact a school directly. All of the high schools located on Long Island use the Catholic High Schools Entrance Examination for admission into 9th grade. Rigorous academic learning is reinforced at each of Long Island's Catholic high schools with engaging extra-curricular activities and a strong foundation in faith. These high schools offer a wide range of exciting choices for families considering a Catholic education. Guided by talented and dedicated religious and lay teachers, a Catholic education helps each student to test abilities, add skills, build confidence, and develop his or her understanding of faith. Start your journey now!

To find out more, go to: <https://drvcschools.org> or on our website: *Choosing a Catholic School* brochure.

DRVC Department of Education

128 Cherry Lane
Hicksville, NY 11801
516-678-5800 x800



"We pledge to persevere in prayer,
fasting and witnessing to the
sacredness of every human life."

- Bishop Barres' statement regarding the
U.S. Supreme Court Decision in
Dobbs v. Jackson, June 24, 2022



Rosary for Life



JOIN the OFFICE of HUMAN LIFE, FAMILY and BIOETHICS in PRAYER

Every Friday - 3:00 PM

Via Zoom

Click here for link

Meeting ID: 856 4708 7922

Passcode: 677757

Call In #: 1 (646) 876-9923

Email dcrean@drvc.org

if you would like the link
sent to you each month.



www.drvc.org



As You Plan Your Future, Please Consider a Legacy Gift to Our Parish

The principle of Stewardship is frequently discussed in Catholic circles, both among the laity and Church leadership. Stewardship is based in scripture and in Church traditions. Stewardship flows from our gratitude to God for the gifts, with which we have been blessed. We show our gratitude by being generous in our response with our time, talent, and treasure.

We would like to encourage you to consider ways that you can leave a lasting legacy by making a planned gift to our parish or other Catholic Ministry.

You may be asking yourself what a planned gift is as it can be a confusing term and it is often misunderstood. Very simply, planned giving describes a donor's commitment to transfer capital assets to a qualified religious organization or other charity. More often than not, a planned gift is made by means of a formal agreement or contract.

Planned gifts are normally made from the donor's accumulated wealth as part of an overall estate plan. The most common form of a planned gift is a bequest provision in a Will.

Many Catholics find the idea of making a planned gift to their parish appealing. Parishioners often wonder how to go about making a planned gift and they have other questions about doing this.

Faithful parishioners have found that naming the parish in their Wills or Trusts to be a very fulfilling way to show their appreciation for what the Church has meant to them. Some parishioners have left planned gifts in memory of a loved one or close friend. Others have made a bequest to support a particular parish ministry, or outreach.

Individuals who make planned gifts often enjoy significant tax advantages from their giving. Still others find that once their surviving family receives a reasonable inheritance, leaving a bequest to the parish is a fulfilling way to show their gratitude for God's blessings and leave a spiritual legacy.

Please give thought to remembering your parish in your estate plan. It is a beautiful thing to do for future generations!

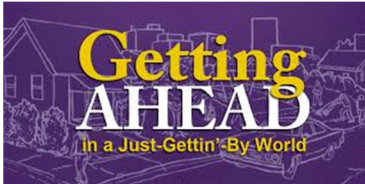
**PLEASE CALL BARBARA KILARJIAN
AT 516-678-5800 ext. 257 or email her at
bkilarjian@drvc.org for more information.**



Resources Available

FAMILY, MARRIAGE AND INDIVIDUAL THERAPY

Family, marriage and individual therapy, provided by New York State licensed therapists including therapists who specialize in Depression, Divorce Mediation and Domestic Violence, are available to our parishioners at 147 other parishes. This program, under the direction of Dr. George Giuliani, has been conducted in the diocese for the past 41 years for the convenience of parishioners. It is provided by the Catholic Counseling Center, which is independent of and not controlled or supervised by the parish or diocese. Most insurance policies, including Medicare, are honored. We are currently looking for licensed therapists in Nassau, Suffolk and Queens. For confidential information and appointments, please call Dr. Giuliani at the Catholic Counseling Center at (631) 243-2503 or go to our website at: <http://www.thecatholiccounselingcenter.com>.



“Getting Ahead in a Just-Getting By World”

An Invitation to Serve, in the District Council of Nassau North
We all know how the Society of St. Vincent de Paul regularly provides charitable assistance to neighbors in need. Beginning with the home visit, Vincentians perform numerous good deeds, many of which involve financial assistance (rent & utility bills), immediate needs assistance (food, furniture, etc.) and also counseling.

However, the challenges facing those in poverty are ever more acute today. The “Getting AHEAD” program, offered by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul across the country, is one approach to help these neighbors rise above the “tyranny of the moment” or crisis mode in which they are too often bound. It also answers the questions raised by many Vincentians: “What more can I do for my neighbor beyond the traditional home visit?” and “Is there a structured process I can become involved with that would make a difference?” If you are interested in joining, please email: svdpstgertrudes@gmail.com

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Please see their website or email them for their 2023 membership/”Friends of the Chamber” associate membership application.

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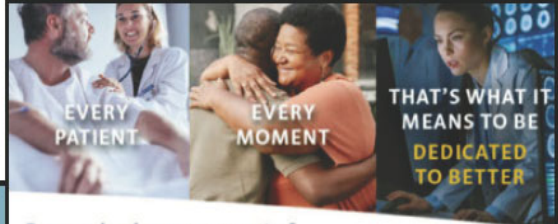


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