

# 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month 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



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2024

## 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the  
gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is  
at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." - Mk 1:14-15

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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St. Vincent de Paul:

Email: bayvillesvdp@gmail.com

Emergency hotline: (516) 490-8793



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 . . .

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>February 17</b>
5:00 pm	Lucile B. Palmaro, Marcel B. Palmaro, and the Sabin & Sobrino families +
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>February 18</b>
7:30 am	Phyllis Collins +
9:30 am	For the parishioners of St. Gertrude
11:30 am	Philip Altadonna +
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>February 19</b>
8:30 am	Natale Tursi +
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>February 20</b>
8:30 am	John L. Schaefer, Jr. +
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>February 21</b>
8:30 am	Ross Scro +
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>February 22</b>
8:30 am	Lucile B. Palmaro, Marcel B. Palmaro, and the Sabin & Sobrino families +
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>February 23</b>
8:30 am	Dominick and Catherine Carbone +
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>February 24</b>
8:30 am	Lucile B. Palmaro, Marcel B. Palmaro, and the Sabin & Sobrino families +
5:00 pm	Lucile B. Palmaro, Marcel B. Palmaro, and the Sabin & Sobrino families +

## First Sunday in Lent Scripture Reflection



When I feel down, I sometimes watch the famous “Double Rainbow” video on YouTube to feel better. It’s hilarious. A young man camping in Yosemite Park sees two rainbows stretching across the sky. He bursts into a kind of ecstasy. “Double rainbow, all the way! Oh my God!” he announces. Then he starts to weep. He cries out, “What does it mean?” Beneath the humor of his glorious overreaction is the deep intuition we all have, I think, when we see the colorful bow in the sky. This Sunday, God sends a rainbow to Noah, and to us. What does it mean?

Long before YouTube had the double rainbow, Dante’s medieval poem *The Divine Comedy* featured one in his image of paradise. Seeing two rainbows, he muses that one is born of the other. The bow is God’s promise of peace. For Dante, it’s even more: nature’s encrypted image of the Trinitarian God. One visible rainbow (God the Son) is begotten of another usually invisible one (God the Father) united by invisible light between them (God the Spirit). Like invisible light, Trinitarian glory surrounds us in every moment – but Jesus has made it visible in his glorious body.

Lenten challenge: This might seem silly, but this Lent I invite you to find a rainbow and meditate on it. You might have to make one yourself, like this current desert-dweller will. Gaze on it. See there a natural gift from the Creator, saying to you, “Here I am! I will love and protect you, surrounding you in My glory.” This Lent let’s embrace that with confidence, rain, or shine.

– *Father John Muir*

©LPi



The Parish Office will be closed on Monday February 19 in recognition of President’s Day

## Today’s Scripture Readings

**First Reading:** God said to Noah and to his sons with him: “See, I am now establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you and with every living creature that was with you.” (Gn 9:8-10)

**Second Reading:** It is not a removal of dirt from the body but an appeal to God for a clear conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. (1 Pt 3:21)

**Gospel:** He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him. (Mk 1:13)

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

Stations of the Cross are held each Friday at 7:30 pm in our church throughout Lent



## Presider’s Schedule: (subject to change)

Saturday, February 24 <sup>th</sup>	5:00pm	– Msgr. Morrissey
Sunday, February 25 <sup>th</sup>	7:30am	– Fr. Joseph
	9:30am	– Msgr. Morrissey
	11:30am	– Fr. Joseph

## The Lenten Nail

**I admit it. I stole the idea.** Bishop Murphy, Bishop Emeritus of Rockville Centre, used to say, “there was only one homily ever written, it just keeps getting stolen and passed around.” Perhaps he is right, but, as a college student I remember a local pastor who thought up the idea of the Lenten nail. He had given out the Lenten nails similar to the one you may have received on Ash Wednesday or I invite you to take from the basket at the rear of the church. We were instructed to carry that nail in our pocket throughout every day of Lent. No one was supposed to know that you were carrying it; it was between you and God. Each time you fished into your pocket for change or for your phone, or into your pocketbook to retrieve whatever it is that women keep in those things; each time you put your hand absentmindedly into your pocket... **there it was: your Lenten nail.** All throughout the 40 days of Lent that nail sits quietly in your pocket and never says a word—that is, until you feel its presence. You are instantly reminded “*It is Lent.*” We need to be reminded of this throughout the entirety of these lengthy 40 days and nights because we are human and we forget. We need to be reminded constantly of what God went through for you/us.



What made the Lenten nail so impressed upon my memory was that one mother had carried her Lenten nail throughout Lent and somewhere toward the end of Lent her son who was a year ahead of me in college was killed in a car crash. It was devastating. But here’s what I remember most: It is customary to return your nail at the end of Lent as a sign that you had completed your Lenten sacrifices and penances. As we will do on Good Friday, that mother so many years ago presented her Lenten nail to the priest on Good Friday, but her pastor would not accept it. Shockingly, the old pastor took that nail and hammered it directly into the base of the Crucifix that stood in the center of that church. He told the mother that she had sacrificed enough. Her nail is still there today, driven into the base of the huge wooden Crucifix below the feet of the Savior. That mother has long since gone to God and back to her son. I’ll never forget that, as I can still see it all these years later.

So, when you get your nail, carry it quietly, proudly, silently, confidently and know that there are countless others carrying their nails in their pockets, faithfully making sacrifices and penances. I would ask you and hope that you return the nail, as per the custom on Good Friday when every individual venerates the large wooden Cross. The tradition is to leave your nail at the foot of the Cross along with all of the other nails carried throughout the Lenten season by countless faithful. It is a sign that Lent has come to completion and that we give our sufferings to Him who died for me. The risen Christ has conquered eternal suffering and eternal death.



And then next Lent, you will receive your penitential nail once again. It will not be a new nail, but a used nail. In fact, the nail you will receive next year will be a nail that some other soul carries in his pocket this Lent. Let’s start a new tradition, the nail you will get this year is new but next year someone else will be carrying your nail from this year. It will be a tangible reminder that we are all on this journey together and that we pray for each other along the way.

Rev. Msgr. Robert Morrissey

### My Lenten Nail Prayer

Jesus, my Savior, You once suffered and died for me nailed to the cross.  
May this Lenten Nail remind me of the pain You endured and of the great love that motivated You.  
May it remind me, too, of the hidden suffering of the people I meet day to day. Help me to reach out to them with love, just as You reached out to me from the cross.  
Jesus, My Savior, let this nail remind me to bear my cross daily and follow You. AMEN

### Lenten Exposition and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament

In addition to the Wednesday Exposition and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, during the Saturdays of Lent we will have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at 3:00 PM.  
Benediction will be held at 4:45 PM.

During this period of adoration, confessions will be heard from 4:00 - 4:45 PM

Please join us for this Lenten prayer before the Lord present in the Blessed Sacrament.



## 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.



Joe Buffa, Nora Caruso, Sean Stalker, Marylou Fusillo, Anthony Altimari

Call the parish office to add a relative to our prayer list. Names will remain for 6 weeks.

## Parish Financial Summary

Sunday collections (including Faith Direct)

February 4, 2024 \$8,169.50

Our weekly collection budget is \$7,500.00.



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



### 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), 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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!*

## Faith Direct

**TEN REASONS TO MAKE YOUR OFFERTORY GIFT THROUGH FAITH DIRECT**

1. No more checks to write or envelopes to find
2. 52 weeks of predictable income for your parish
3. Greater security than cash or checks
4. No cost for you to participate
5. Online control of your offertory giving – including special collections
6. Reduction of envelope and postage expense for St. Gertrude
7. Less work for our parish office staff to post contribution records
8. Offertory cards enable you to witness your gift of treasure
9. Earn credit card points for your offertory gifts

You can sign up online at [faith.direct/NY83](http://faith.direct/NY83), or text ‘enroll’ to 516-494-7947 or call Faith Direct customer service at 866-507-8757 (toll-free).

**Thank you!**

### John Lawrence Herbig



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

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

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

**Preschool News:** This week the Preschoolers celebrated all things LOVE! We also had the opportunity to learn about Ash Wednesday. Miss Anna's Mommy and Me class made handprint salt dough hearts and a Mardi Gras pasta necklace. Miss Carmela's 2's learned about the letter P and made a "P is for Pig" craft. They also made a handprint Valentine flower bouquet. Miss Anna's 3's learned about the letter U. They made Mardi Gras doughnuts, strawberry waffles, and smoothies. They also did a parts of a flower craft. Miss Michelle's 3's made mini Valentine's doughnuts and bird feeders. Miss Michelle's Friday class worked with play doh. Miss Meredith's 4's worked on the letter R. They made Valentine's day-themed hats and wrapped their Valentine's gifts. They also learned about how penguin's feathers repel water and made a penguin and baby chick craft.



**The Preschool will be closed from February 19<sup>th</sup> - February 23<sup>rd</sup> for President's week.** Registration is ongoing for the 2024-25 school year. Please call [\(516\) 628-3710](tel:5166283710) or visit [www.stgertrudesprek.org](http://www.stgertrudesprek.org) for more information.

**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](mailto:stgertprek@stgerts.org).



Have a great winter break!

**Winter Break**

Preschool and Rel Ed Closed Feb 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>

*Join us for a Lenten Mission!*



February 19, 20 & 21  
7:30-8:30 p.m.  
Sonja is a world-renowned speaker with a great sense of humor and a passion for Sacred Scripture.  
Join us at St. Patrick's as we  
*Just Rest!*  
Learn how to receive God's renewing presence in the deserts of your life.  
Day 1 - Rest in Thoughts and Emotions  
Day 2 - Rest in Soul  
Day 3 - Rest in Body



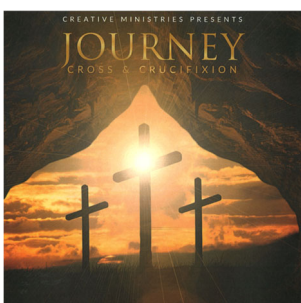
Church of St. Patrick, 400 Main Street, Huntington, NY  
631-385-3311  
All are welcome. Invite a friend!

**WANTED: 2 Dell Laptops For Rel Ed**

Please help us to continue guiding your children in following Jesus's footsteps. We are presently in need of two (2) Dell laptops with windows 10 or 11, DVD capability and the appropriate charger. Does anyone have a laptop they could donate (new or used)?



Please contact Dr. James Sheehan, Director of Religious education by email [faithformation@stgerts.org](mailto:faithformation@stgerts.org) or phone 516 628 1113. *Thank you very much!*



Save the date  
**THE JOURNEY  
CROSS & CRUCIFIXION**  
Wednesday, March 6  
@ 7:30pm  
at St. Gertrude Church



**Our Lady of Mercy Academy  
Honor Roll 2nd Quarter  
2023-24 Academic Year**

Antonia Vitale Principal's List – Gr. 12  
Madalena Peterson Principal's List – Gr. 10



## DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

### WESTERN VICARIATE

42 Dover Street

Williston Park, New York 11596

Phone: 516.744.6850 Fax: 516.746.6900  
westemvicariate@drvc.org

Lent 2024

*...We need our prayer to rise with greater insistence to the Father,  
So that He may hear the voice of those who turn to Him  
on the confidence of being answered... Pope Francis*

**Dear Sisters and Brothers,**

On Sunday, January 21 of this year, Pope Francis inaugurated a Year of Prayer ahead of the 2025 Jubilee Year. The Holy Father is calling on the faithful “to pray more fervently to prepare ourselves to live properly this grace-filled event and to experience the power of hope in God.” This Year of Prayer, the Holy Father explained, is dedicated “to rediscovering the great value and absolute need for prayer, prayer in personal life, in the life of the Church, prayer in the world.”

In response to the Holy Father’s initiative, together with Bishop Barres, all the Bishops and I would like to encourage you, especially during this 2024 Season of Lent in particular, to focus on prayer. Traditionally, during this time all Christians are called to practice fasting, prayer, repentance, and almsgiving as a way of drawing us closer to God and reflecting on the meaning of Jesus' death and resurrection in anticipation of the gift of new life at Easter. All pillars of Lent complement and support each other. Customarily, fasting is a way of disciplining ourselves and expressing our repentance for our sins. By abstaining from certain foods or activities, we show our love for God and our gratitude for His mercy. Fasting also helps us to empathize with those who are less fortunate and to share our resources with them. In fact, prayer binds all these Lenten practices all together, giving them an extra strength and direction. In days to come, as we prepare for the celebration of Easter, let us take this great opportunity to renew ourselves in the life of prayer, making it not just a duty or an obligation but also as a privilege and a joy.

Prayer is a gift from God, connecting us with Him and allowing us to experience His love in our lives. It is a ground for an authentic encounter which God uses to transform us and to make us more like Christ to one another. It is also a power that God grants us to overcome sin and evil and to advance His cause in the world, especially very much needed peace as we reflect these days on the situations in Ukraine, the Holy Land, Syria, Congo, and many other troubled places.

**Personal Prayer.** A classic description says that prayer is “the raising of our mind and heart to God.” We all might have our own experiences of prayer, and we can define prayer in our own and unique ways. However, most important is the fact that during sacred time of the year each of us should make the best effort to make a time for prayer, short or longer, in our daily lives. There are many ways in which we can engage with it during Lent. Many people might continue to follow a lectionary and other materials that provide Scripture readings and reflections for each day of Lent and be led by it to prayer. It is possible use prayer books, journals, apps, or online resources that offer different forms of prayer, such as meditation, contemplation, praise, worship, adoration, thanksgiving, and supplication. In some

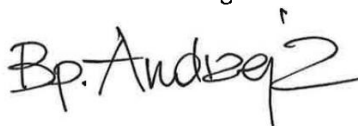
places there are groups of friends, or parishioners, who join prayer meetings, retreats, or online communities that share prayer requests and support each other in prayer. Most people create a prayer space in their home or workplace that helps them to focus on God. We should all look for an opportunity to pray without distractions and practice silence or solitude as a way of listening to God and being attentive to His presence. Whatever method or style of prayer we choose, the important thing is to pray with sincerity of heart, humility, honesty, and openness. During Lent, we should pray especially for the grace of conversion, so we can be inspired to experience the need of repentance and change and be led to encounter Jesus in the Sacrament of Penance. May we all grow in a deep desire to know the Lord more intimately and to love him more fully with the hunger for his grace and a thirst for his Spirit.

**Communal Prayer.** Time spent in prayer is never only personal. We all know that every individual action of one person has an impact on the whole community. Together in prayer, as we walk a synodal way, we grow in a deep sense of awareness that every act of love or time of common worship can profoundly strengthen and sanctify the whole Christian community and the whole human family. We are all connected in a special way as members of the Body of Christ, and we share the same mission and vision by celebrating of the Eucharist. This is the most profound and ultimate way of prayer. At each Mass we engage personally with the Paschal Mystery of the Lord and make it our own to be led by him, through the sacrifice of the cross to the glory of his Resurrection and our life in Him. The mystery of the Cross and the mystery of love Jesus shares with us can be understood in a deeper sense through prayer. Renewing our commitment to attend the Mass every Sunday would be the best step to renew ourselves in the life of prayer.

**Prayers for the World.** Both the celebration of the Eucharist and our personal daily prayer nourishes our faith, strengthens our hope, and increases our charity towards others. During Lent and beyond we are called to share our gifts and resources with the world around us, especially with those who are in need. We are to take care of the poor, the oppressed and the marginalized, and are to join them in their struggle for justice and dignity in the best way we can. Every good deed is always inspired and properly executed with the assistance of our continuing prayers, making us God's instruments of peace, justice, and mercy, which is so much needed in the world today.

Dear Friends, prayer is basically a conversation with God who is waiting for us. It doesn't have to be made up of loads of words as it is all about the conversion of heart. It's not just "saying prayers", it is more about living by them, letting our heart declare our love for God and others. Let this Lent be for all of us a sacred time of our spiritual renewal in prayer so we can all become who we are supposed to be in relationship with God and with each other. Our life prayer is a statement about who we are. The future of the world depends on our prayers and begins in us. Even though our prayers do not give any extra reverence to God, they certainly make us more revered before Him so we walk "humbly with the Lord."

Have a blessed and grace filled Lent,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bp. Andrzej Zglejszewski". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, stylized 'Z' at the end.

**Bishop Andrzej Zglejszewski**  
Episcopal Vicar



# 2024

## CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

*Revitalizing our Faith –  
Renewed by the Eucharist*

**Please consider making a gift to the  
2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal.**



**For more information, to watch our video  
or to make a donation,  
visit [www.catholicministriesappeal.org](http://www.catholicministriesappeal.org)  
or call us at 516-678-5800 ext. 296**





CREATIVE MINISTRIES PRESENTS

# JOURNEY

CROSS & CRUCIFIXION



**Presented at *Saint Gertrude RC Church* in Bayville  
on Wednesday, March 6 at 7:30PM**

for more information, visit [www.CMPAC.com](http://www.CMPAC.com) or call (631) 218 - 2810

**\*Good Will Offering**



# **COFFEE with JESUS**

## **Lenten Series via Zoom**

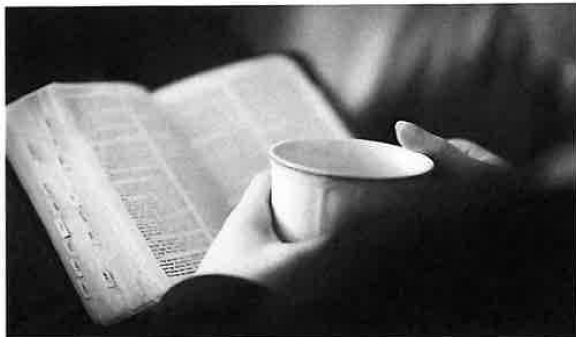
### **Join Bishop Andrzej**

10:00 am on Friday mornings during Lent:

**February 23, March 8 and March 22**

Online Lenten Reflections  
on Scripture Readings,  
with the special emphasis  
on the Last Words of Jesus.

Join this great opportunity to prepare and nourish your mind,  
spirit and heart in preparation for Easter.



To register,  
please call Suzanne 516-744-6850  
or email [westernvicariate@drvc.org](mailto:westernvicariate@drvc.org).

Once you are registered, you will be emailed the  
ZOOM information prior to each session  
of this Lenten series.



Join us for an Elegant Evening with Monsignor James C. Vlaun

## REAL FOOD LIVE

Saturday, March 9, 2024 at 7:00 pm

at St. Brigid/Our Lady of Hope Regional School in Monsignor Code Auditorium  
101 Maple Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590

**\$125.00 per ticket includes dinner**



To purchase tickets, sponsorships, journal ads or raffle tickets ONLINE,  
SCAN THIS QR CODE. To register via phone, contact 516-334-0021



St. Brigid/Our Lady of Hope Regional School is a Catholic elementary school located in Westbury, Long Island NY. We offer outstanding programs for children from 2-years-old through 8th Grade. Our school is one of the top performers on Long Island, based on test results from the Department of Education.

Learn more or schedule a visit through our website, [www.StBOLH.org](http://www.StBOLH.org)

Like us on Facebook:  
St. Brigid/Our Lady of Hope  
Regional School - Westbury



Follow us on Instagram:  
StBOLH



Supervisor **JOSEPH SALADINO** and the Town Board present

★ ★ ★ ★ TOWN OF OYSTER BAY ★ ★ ★ ★

# HOMETOWN HEROES

## MILITARY RECOGNITION PROGRAM



The Town of Oyster Bay HOMETOWN HERO PROGRAM recognizes Veteran and active duty service members both living and deceased with a commemorative full-color banner featuring:

- **Name and Rank**
- **Branch of Service**
- **Military Photo**
- **Years of Service**

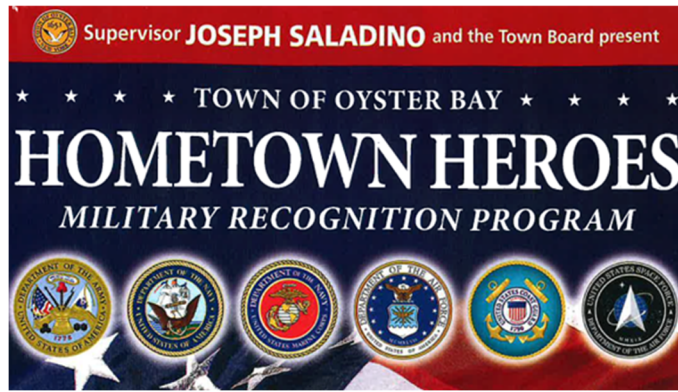
*and will be displayed within selected Town of Oyster Bay Parks!*



### HOMETOWN HEROES MILITARY RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Call 516-797-4121 or see the next page for a sponsorship application and/or more information

**Applications must be received by Friday March 15, 2024**



VSR QVR UVKIS#DSSOIF'DWIR Q#ER UP #

Jeremy T. Flavano

**SPACE IS LIMITED**

# TOWN OF OYSTER BAY HOMETOWN HEROES

## SPONSORSHIP APPLICATION FORM

The Hometown Hero that I am honoring is either a current or past resident of the Town of Oyster Bay and has served in the United States Armed Forces either past or present.

**Military Member's Name** (THIS WILL APPEAR ON BANNER) \_\_\_\_\_

**Branch of Service and Rank** \_\_\_\_\_

**Military Member's Home Town** \_\_\_\_\_

VETERAN     ACTIVE DUTY     DECEASED    SERVED DURING WHAT YEARS: \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSOR'S FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ LAST \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$75.00 made out to **Town of Oyster Bay** Hometown Hero Program, as well as a non-original photo of the *Hometown Hero* I am honoring with their name, branch of service and rank on the reverse. For more information please call 516 797-4121.

**I would like my Hometown Hero banner displayed at the following Town of Oyster Bay Park facility (PLEASE CHECK ONE):**

- Ellsworth W. Allen Park** (Farmingdale)       **Syosset-Woodbury Community Park** (Woodbury)
- John J. Burns Park** (Massapequa)       **Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Park and Beach** (Oyster Bay)
- Abe Levitt Baseball Complex** (Hicksville)       **Plainview-Old Bethpage Community Park** (Plainview-Old Bethpage)

**USE PHOTO & INFO FROM PREVIOUS YEAR**     2021     2022     2023    **BANNERS WILL BE INSTALLED AND DISPLAYED IN SPRING AND RETURNED TO HOMETOWN HEROES BY VETERANS DAY.**

**AGREEMENT AND PHOTO RELEASE:** *I hereby grant the Town of Oyster Bay full permission to use the enclosed photo for display in the Hometown Heroes Program and all promotional activities, whether in print or digital, related thereto. By my signature below I attest that all the information provided on this form is true and accurate and take full responsibility for its content.*

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail or hand deliver: 1) completed application 2) photo 3) proof of residency 4) proof of military service 5) payment to: **Town of Oyster Bay, 977 Hicksville Road, Massapequa, NY 11758**

**MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY MARCH 15, 2024** (For further information please call 516-797-4121)

# Community Outreach for Long Islanders



As a not-for-profit, mission-based organization, Catholic Health is dedicated to providing resources to our local communities. Through our various programs, we offer a variety of services to those without access to primary care.

- Blood drives
- Free health screenings and education
- Wellness seminars
- Support groups
- Vaccinations

Visit [chsli.org/events](http://chsli.org/events) to see where the Community Outreach bus will be and to get a free health screening.

## Find a doctor near you

Connect with one of our Catholic Health Physician Partners for safe, high-quality care close to home. We offer a wide range of scheduling and appointment options at multiple locations across Long Island.

Visit [chsli.org/catholic-health-physician-partners](http://chsli.org/catholic-health-physician-partners) or call (866) MY-LI-DOC or (866) 695-4362 for more information or to set up an appointment.

## Bishop McHugh Health Centers

Bishop McHugh Health Centers deliver health screenings, education, vaccinations and other services to those without access to primary care.

To learn more, please visit [chsli.org/catholic-health-community-health](http://chsli.org/catholic-health-community-health)

### Bishop McHugh Health Center (Nassau)

750 South Broadway  
Hicksville, NY 11801  
(516) 827-2727

### Bishop McHugh Center (Suffolk)

24 East Main St  
Bay Shore, NY 11706  
(631) 376-4025



**Msgr. Jim Vlaun**  
**Executive Producer**  
**www.religionandrock.com**

Dear Friend of “*Religion and Rock*” and our television shows on *Catholic Faith Network*,

Thanks for promoting our shows and for your help in our communication ministry! The weekly themes for “*Religion and Rock*” are below along with a suggestion for weekly publication in your bulletin or website.

We have included a bulletin announcement which includes our affiliate, *Sirius Radio, Channel 159, the Catholic Channel*.

Again, a sincere thanks for your longtime support!

Msgr. Jim Vlaun, Host

---

<b>January 2024</b>	<b>April</b>
7 <b>Being Excited</b>	7 <b>Community</b>
14 <b>Life’s Struggles</b>	14 <b>Spirituality</b>
21 <b>Unity</b>	21 <b>Issues in Life</b>
28 <b>Searching for a Meaning</b>	28 <b>Poverty</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>May</b>
4 <b>Forgiveness</b>	5 <b>Prayer</b>
11 <b>Sacrifice</b>	12 <b>Parenting</b>
18 <b>Leadership</b>	19 <b>Boredom</b>
25 <b>Relationships</b>	26 <b>Remembering</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>June</b>
3 <b>Commitment</b>	2 <b>Relaxing</b>
10 <b>Renewal</b>	9 <b>Moving On</b>
17 <b>Traditions</b>	16 <b>Being Joyful</b>
24 <b>Coping</b>	23 <b>Special Days</b>
31 <b>Easter</b>	30 <b>Nature</b>

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**SUGGESTED COPY FOR WEEKLY PUBLICATION:**

Tune into “*Religion and Rock*” with Msgr. Jim Vlaun on Sunday from 7:00 AM- 8:00 AM on WBAB 102.3 FM or 95.3 FM on Long Island’s East End. Listen on Saturdays at 11:00 PM on *Sirius Radio, Channel 159, the Catholic Channel* and at 11:00 PM on XM Satellite, Channel 117. Next Sunday’s theme is \_\_\_\_\_, don’t miss it! To listen online or receive more information regarding *Religion and Rock* go to [www.ReligionandRock.com](http://www.ReligionandRock.com) or at “*Religion & Rock*” on ITUNES.

Don’t forget to tune into CATHOLIC FAITH NETWORK, Cablevision Channel 29/137 or Verizon FIOS 296 or visit [www.cfntv.org](http://www.cfntv.org) !

To receive this announcement electronically, please email [aayroso@cfntv.org](mailto:aayroso@cfntv.org)

1200 Glenn Curtiss Blvd., Uniondale, New York 11553 Phone (516)538-8704 Fax (516)489-9701



# Our Students are Thriving!

School Tours & Open Houses Happening During Catholic Schools Week in January 2024!



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## ST. IGNATIUS IS GOING TO WOODLOCH PINES

Please join us for a fun filled vacation at Woodloch Pines from **April 8<sup>th</sup> to April 12<sup>th</sup>**.

Woodloch is an award winning resort and for anyone who gets seasick, it is like a cruise but no seasickness. The room accommodations are lovely, the food is fabulous and plentiful. The staff is beyond friendly and all the games and activities are fun.

If you are interested, please call **Pamela Flanagan** at **516-938-9334** for further information.

## Worldwide Marriage Encounter: First Sunday in Lent



1 Peter 3:18: "Beloved: Christ suffered for sins once, the righteous, that he might lead you to God. Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the spirit." Let your marriage be filled with life in the Holy Spirit. Learn the five tools for a more fulfilling marriage by signing up and attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. You will be glad you did! You can find one by looking up WWME.org. Some of the dates to sign up are:  
Some of the dates to sign up are:

**March 15-17, 2024 in Upton, MA**

**April 26-28, 2024 (non-residential weekend) in Connecticut**

**June 21-23, 2024 in Huntington, NY**

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 516-554-3835 or <https://wwmenyli.org/>.

## Volunteers (18 years +) needed for Handicap Encounter with Christ Retreat

Come assist with our HEC #40 retreat taking place April 18-21, 2024, in Centerport, N.Y.

HEC, or Handicapped Encounter Christ, brings together adults with differing abilities for various events throughout the year learning from each other, enjoying the company of one another and establishing many beautiful friendships together as we all get to know our Lord. We are always looking for participants to join this ministry – those who are disabled and those who are not.

Please join our first planning meeting for our spring HEC #40 on Feb. 5 @ 7pm at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 29 Clay Pitts Road, Greenlawn. At the first meeting, there will be a HEC retreat overview and a review of the different jobs that require volunteers. Light refreshments will be served.

*Additional meetings will be Wednesday, March 6 and Monday, April 1.*

All are welcome. Please join us! Any questions, call Bernice 516-582-0302 or Bob 516-241-4122.



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**Thursday evenings 7:00 PM\*(EST)  
February 8, 15, 22, 29, and  
March 7, 14, and 21**

**Via Zoom**

**\*Each Session lasts @ 2—2.5 hours**

**Additional info?**

Call: 646-642-7463

Email: jimmy.bernice.acevedo@wwme.org

Visit: wwme.org



**Bus Trip to Wind Creek Casino, Bethlehem, PA  
Hosted by the Joseph Barry Columbiettes**

**When:** Tuesday, March 19, 2024

**Cost:** \$55 per person, which includes the driver's tip

**Give back:** \$35 slot play.

**Time:** Please arrive at 8:30 am

Return approx. 8:30 pm

**Parking:** # 999 So. Oyster Bay Road (dead end)

**Reservations:** call Barbara at (516) 935-5576

Please make checks payable to "Columbiettes"

**\*\*The first to pay is the first on the bus, etc. \*\***





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### DID YOU KNOW?

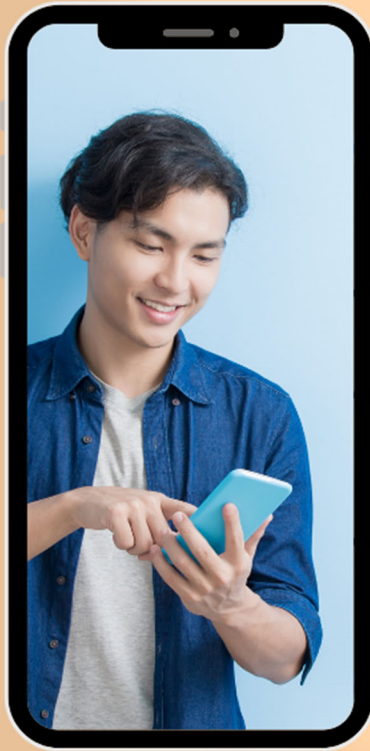
**Planned Gifts of IRAs are not the best assets for family members to inherit?  
WHY? Heirs will pay taxes on these financial instruments.**

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](mailto: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

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[www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.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](http://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](mailto: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***

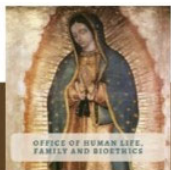
Meeting ID: 856 4708 7922

Passcode: 677757

Call In #: 1 (646) 876-9923

Email [dcrean@drvc.org](mailto:dcrean@drvc.org)

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



[www.drvc.org](http://www.drvc.org)







DRVC VOCATIONS

# Is God calling you?

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[www.drvcvocations.org](http://www.drvcvocations.org)

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## *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!

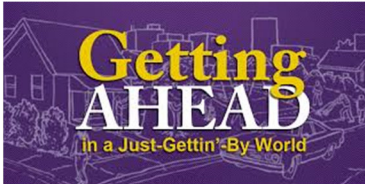
**PLEASE CALL BARBARA KILARJIAN  
AT 516-678-5800 ext. 257 or email her at  
[bkilarjian@drvc.org](mailto:bkilarjian@drvc.org) for more information.**



# 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](mailto:svdpstgertrudes@gmail.com)

## Catholic Health Services' Skilled Nursing Facilities



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**St. Catherine of Siena Nursing & Rehabilitation Care Center**, Smithtown

**Our Lady of Consolation Nursing & Rehabilitative Care Center**, West Islip

CHS sees each individual as a whole, requiring care of the body, mind and spirit. Safe, compassionate care in the Catholic tradition. **Caring isn't just what we do. It's who are.**

## BAYVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Consider getting involved and supporting our Business Community. Our Chamber of Commerce is working very hard to make this coming year our most successful year yet; and we hope you will be a part of it.

P.O. Box 113, Bayville NY 11709

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

[thebayvillechamberofcommerce@gmail.com](mailto:thebayvillechamberofcommerce@gmail.com)

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

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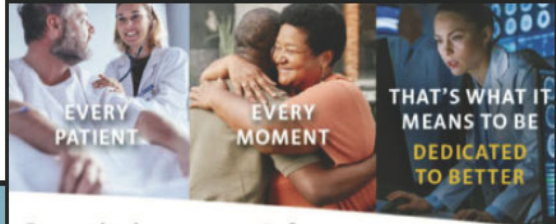
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