

# 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: 4:00-4:45 pm & 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, APRIL 28, 2024

## 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes  
away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone  
that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit.” - Jn 15:1-2

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

GLP



**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>April 27</b>
5:00 pm	Kevin Breslin +
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>April 28</b>
7:30 am	For the parishioners of St. Gertrude
9:30 am	Nicolina Lo Castro + Louis and Alice Savinetti + Joseph DiGennaro + Anthony Altimari (L)
11:30 am	Thomas Martin +
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>April 29</b>
8:30 am	Nita DeCesare +
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>April 30</b>
8:30 am	Lucile B. Palmaro, Marcel B. Palmaro, and the Sabin & Sobrino families +
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>May 1</b>
8:30 am	Special intention and in thanksgiving
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>May 2</b>
8:30 am	Mario Dammacco + Joseph Francis DiGennaro +
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>May 3</b>
8:30 am	Aurelia Estevez deArzeno +
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>May 4</b>
8:30 am	Joseph DiGennaro +
5:00 pm	Ronald, Linda and Kevin Lamb +

## Fifth Sunday of Easter Reflection

My friend and fellow pastor, Father Paul, noticed unsightly, overgrown trees near his parish church. He asked the maintenance crew to cut back the growth, which they happily did, telling him the trees would be much healthier and even fuller after a good pruning. A few days later, Father Paul received a letter from an irate man in the neighborhood who wrote, "Jesus would never prune trees like that. He loves trees, unlike you."

I suspect that the neighbor was not familiar with this week's Gospel in which Jesus says of his Father, "He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit" (John 15:2) I don't mean to pick too much on that fellow. He was perhaps ignorant of arboriculture. But I'd wager his main confusion was the pruning and removing quality of God's love. That confusion afflicts us all to some degree, doesn't it? It is just so darn easy to react negatively when God cuts something out of our lives and assume it's not his work at all. In the moment, all we see is the loss, and not the loving desire for future flourishing.

The cross is the great pruning of Christ's body. Jesus' rising is the brand-new growth. It is God's promise to us that all the painful pruning in life is leading us somewhere beautiful. What has been cut back or out in your life? A friend, an opportunity, a sense of certainty, a job, health, a relationship? This week, offer those dry branches to the one who lovingly prunes us in order to make our lives burst with verdant growth.

— *Father John Muir*

©LPi

## Fifth Sunday of Easter Scripture Readings April 28, 2024

**First Reading:** Then Barnabas took charge of him and brought him to the apostles, and he reported to them how he had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken to him. (Acts 9:27)

**Psalm:** I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people. (Ps 22)

**Second Reading:** And his commandment is this: we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us. (1 Jn 3:23)

**Gospel:** "I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing." (Jn 15:5)

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

## BLOOD DRIVE

**TODAY** — Sunday, April 28

8 am - 2 pm, Parish Center

Stop by for a **Free Pancake Breakfast**  
Hosted by the **Knights of Columbus**

**Presider's Schedule:** (subject to change)

Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> 5:00 pm — Fr. Joseph

Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> 7:30 am — Msgr. Morrissey

9:30 am — Fr. Joseph

11:30 am — Msgr. Morrissey



## 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

LT Mary Grace Colluci

2nd LT Glenn Harvey

LT Colonel Nicholas Lo Russo

Pfc. Duncan Moskowitz

PFC Matthew A. Passero

Hosp. Medic Matthew D. Perez

Capt. Thomas E. Rojek

ENS Patrick Hesse USN

LT Colonel Terrance Thorgramson

LCpl Brian Allen

Major Janet R. Erazo

1st LT Dylan Wall

Sgt. 5 Jose Marin

Major James Nicholson

LT William Hegarty

LT Sean Riordan

Spc. Chase Tucker

Ens. James Figari

Capt. James Andrew Baker

Pfc. Mark Chuisano

1st LT William Trotta, Jr.

Capt. Alexander Van Patten USAF

Airman Bryan Mollitor

LT Col. Sean Patak

Sfc. Sean P. Schenck

Cpl. Jason Roland

Major Chad Lennon

US Army Sgt. Richard F. Charon

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, Anthony Altimari, Jack McKie, Francesca Lattuga, Carmen Mongiello

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)

April 21, 2024 N/A

Our second collection next week (May4-5) is for Catholic Elementary Schools



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, pasta, cereal, Parmalat milk, sugar, coffee (decaf & regular), tea, mayonnaise, rice (1 lb. bags), toothpaste, paper towels, and 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

Christ is risen!

As His disciples, we are called to go forth and spread the good news of Christ's Resurrection. The fruitful ministries at our parish are examples of how many of you have answered, and continue to answer, that call. To ensure such work can continue requires not only gifts of time, but also of financial help. I ask you to prayerfully consider supporting our parish with electronic donations through Faith Direct.

You can sign up online at [faith.direct/NY83](http://faith.direct/NY83) or call Faith Direct customer service at 866-507-8757.

You'll provide us with consistent support that helps us always be at the ready with programs, services, and ministries for our church families and for those in need throughout the community.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.

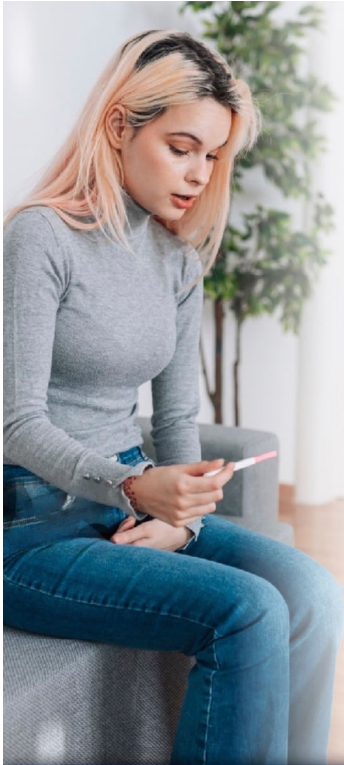


**Frank Kazis**

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.

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



Facing a difficult pregnancy?

Say “Yes” with

**FIAT**

*Let it be done*

**Pregnancy  
Support**



**Hope is here.**

If you or someone you know needs assistance with an unexpected or difficult pregnancy, help is available:

**Call 631-476-LOVE (5683) any day, any time (24/7).**

*All conversations are safe and confidential.*



POWERED BY OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS • DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE



“It is with great joy,” says Bishop John O. Barres, “that I announce the FIAT Pregnancy Support Program at Catholic Health. This program, in partnership with the Diocese of Rockville Centre, comprises a dedicated help line designed to assist women access the counsel, resources, and encouragement needed to choose life when facing a pregnancy with unexpected or difficult circumstances. The Pregnancy Support Team is available 24x7, 365 days of the year to assist callers in accessing the services needed to help them see that every new life is a blessing, even when there are challenges.”

### **FIAT’s Mission**

The Catholic Health FIAT Pregnancy Support Program is available to any pregnant woman who is in need, regardless of age, religious belief or affiliation, marital status or immigration status. We offer non-judgmental support by a team of trained professionals who can guide a mother in accessing community resources to:

- assist in continuing the pregnancy (such as identifying local agencies that provide food, shelter and clothing)
- provide care for both mother and baby during and after pregnancy
- help with healing after pregnancy loss

For further details see our web page, [www.stgerts.com](http://www.stgerts.com), click on Resources and scroll down or see [fiat.drvc.life.org](http://fiat.drvc.life)

SPONSORED BY DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE, OFFICE OF HUMAN LIFE, FAMILY AND BIOETHICS



**THE ROSARY GUILD OF SAINT GERTRUDE**  
**ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY FLOWER SALE**  
**SATURDAY MAY 11TH IN THE PARISH CENTER**  
**9:00 am - 3:00 pm**

The Rosary Guild will be hosting the Annual Mother's Day Flower Sale on Saturday, May 11th in the Parish Center from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. We are happy to report that the absolutely beautiful flowers from White Post Farms will be available to you at great prices again this year. A variety of flats, pots, and hanging baskets will be offered. *Arrive early for the best selection.* We had a great turnout last year and look forward to a successful sale again this year!



***Do you need to fulfill your Marriage Prep Requirement?***

Engaged Encounter is an effective PreCana program designed to provide you with the tools for a successful marriage.

Our next 2-day weekend will be held at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington on June 8&9, 2024.

Visit [longisland.engagedencounter.com](http://longisland.engagedencounter.com) for information and registration.



**Pro Life Cause  
In Honor of  
Mother's Day**

Baby bassinet will be located in rear of the church through the month of May to accept your donations of new baby items for The Life Center of Long Island-Hempstead

For information contact  
Paula Kenny 516-946-1359

**Preschool News:** The Preschool was closed for Spring Break last week.

Please join us on May 8th to support the Preschool at our Trivia Night Fundraiser! It will be a fun filled night with a 50/50, raffle baskets, and light refreshments. All proceeds will go directly toward our students and programming. We are also accepting any donations from local businesses who would like to offer their support via goods or services. Thank you!

Registration is ongoing for our 2024 Summer Camp and 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.



## The Growing Danger of Physician-assisted Suicide in New York State

A Pastoral Statement to the People of God of Rockville Centre has been prepared by the Most Reverend John O. Barres, Bishop of Rockville Centre

In the letter, Bishop Barres relays information regarding important pending legislation in Albany that “seeks to upend the doctor-patient relationship at its most vulnerable moment via physician-assisted suicide.”

He also references “a groundbreaking new Vatican document approved in April by Pope Francis, titled – appropriately – *Dignitas Infinita* (Infinite Dignity), [which] specifically singles out euthanasia and assisted suicide as grave assaults on human dignity [that] utilize ‘a mistaken understanding of human dignity to turn the concept of dignity against itself.’”

For the full statement, please see our web site [stgerts.com](http://stgerts.com) under Resources, Physician-assisted Suicide



## Invest in the Future of Our Church!

Support Catholic education on Long Island!

100% of your donation supports Catholic school students. Half goes directly to your local Catholic school, and half supports scholarships for students throughout Long Island attending our Catholic schools.



Give to the Second Collection during Mass:  
Saturday, May 4th | Sunday, May 5th

 **New York** Blood Center

# URGENT NEED BLOOD DRIVE

**St. Gertrude, Parish Center**

28 School Street, Bayville

**Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 8am – 2pm**

with **FREE PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

hosted by the Knights of Columbus

For more information, or to make an appointment:

[https://donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/313265](https://donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/313265)

or contact Ed Willie at  
C 516-776-0743 or  
[EJWillie@gmail.com](mailto:EJWillie@gmail.com)

or Scan  
the QR  
code



*Appointments are preferred however walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits.  
Please remember to eat, drink and bring your donor ID card or ID with name and photo.  
Masks are optional for donors and staff.*

16 year olds must have parental permission. Age 76 and over need a doctor's note.



800.933.BLOOD · [nybc.org](http://nybc.org) [#nybloodcenter](https://twitter.com/nybloodcenter)

St. Gertrude's  
Preschool  
Presents

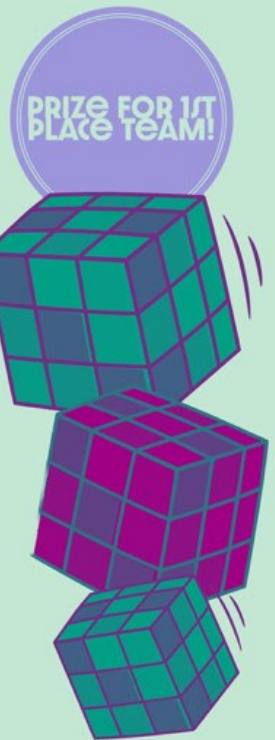
# TRIVIA QUIZ NIGHT

MAY 8TH 7-9PM

Beer, Wine and  
Cheese  
50/50  
Raffle Baskets

Tickets \$50 in advance/\$55  
at the door

For more information  
call (516) 640-8939 or  
visit [www.stgertrudesprek.org](http://www.stgertrudesprek.org)



## Rosary Guild News



The Rosary Guild trip to see the movie Cabrini was well attended. The beautiful story of Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini's ministry serving the Italian immigrant population in NYC around the turn of the 20th century was inspiring. Mother Cabrini tackled many obstacles and challenges to achieve her goals. Mother Cabrini's ministry provided a vast network of orphanages and hospitals throughout the USA, Europe and eventually Asia. The movie inspired us all to reach out to those in need within our communities. Thank you, Mother Cabrini!

### Mark your calendars

**May Meeting is May 2nd at 7pm in the Parish Center.** Please join us for guest speaker Rev. Leonard Mozie of St. Rocco's Parish. We are excited to hear what Fr. Mozie will be sharing with us. The new slate of officers for 2024-25 will be presented at this meeting as well.



**May 11th. Our PLANT SALE will be held in the Parish Center from 9 am to 3 pm. VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED.** Please let Annemarie or Vicki know if you are available to work the sale.

\*\*\* Please see the parish website [www.stgerts.org](http://www.stgerts.org) to find the complete Rosary Guild newsletter along with information about membership and events. Simply click on the Rosary Guild link on the drop down menu under Ministries.



*"By being with Jesus, we discover that his pastoral heart always beats for the person who is confused, lost, far away, "*

- Pope Francis

**Your donation to the Catholic Ministries Appeal helps Catholic Charities and Parish Outreach provide love, care, and spiritual nourishment to those in need.**

When Amanda's mom passed away in 2019, her mom's ex-husband left, leaving her three stepsisters alone with the threat that they would be put in foster care. Without any hesitation she took the children in to care for them. *"It's been a hard battle. We were homeless and in bad situations, but I know that God will not give you something you can't handle. You must keep the faith and push forward. With the help of the Parish Social Ministry program at St. John the Evangelist, Center Moriches, I was able to get through this hardship. In addition to food, the PSM has helped me to renew my lapsed insurance license and assisted in paying bills. If I need to talk to anyone, I can call or email to make an appointment. They have been there for me through everything. I really appreciate all they do for me and for everyone else. It is a blessing. They are angels on earth."*



- Amanda, Client of St. John the Evangelist's Parish Outreach

The Director of the Parish Outreach, Katie Spellman, shared how her work allows her to grow in her faith. *"Working in Parish Social Ministry has taken my faith outside of the Church. It's an opportunity for me to dig deeper into faith and think of the humble servant. It's a gift for me to work here – it feeds my soul."*

Please make check payable to the **Catholic Ministries Appeal**

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

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

City, State and Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**To make a donation, you can also visit <https://www.drvc.org/CMA/> or call us at 516-678-5800 ext. 296.**

THANK YOU



DIocese of Rockville Centre  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Our goal this year remains \$55,500. Total pledged to date: 21,520 by 37 donors (39%). Total payments thus far are \$17,189. Thank you for your generous support.



# Spring Musicale

CANTABILE: MELODY IN VOICE AND INSTRUMENT

Sunday  
April 28  
2024



5pm  
Borromeo  
Hall

Join us for an early evening of beautiful music!  
A program of Operatic Arias and Piano Selections  
presented by Tim Carl, Music Director, St. Dominic, Oyster Bay.  
Performances by Jennifer Russo, Soprano, and Tim Carl, Pianist

Meet & Greet Reception



\$70 Member of Friends

\$75 Non-Member of Friends

Sponsored by The Friends of the Seminary

Reservations/Information:

(631)423-0483 x 102

[bmalone@icseminary.edu](mailto:bmalone@icseminary.edu)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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

TEL [\_\_\_\_\_] \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

NO. GUESTS \_\_\_\_ @ \$75 EACH \$ \_\_\_\_\_ NO. GUESTS \_\_\_\_ @ \$70 EACH \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD:  VISA  AMEX  M/C  DISCOVER 4% fee will be added to credit card charge

NAME ON CARD \_\_\_\_\_ AMT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CARD No. \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Retreat & Conference Center of the Immaculate Conception

440 West Neck Road ♦ Huntington, NY 11743

[www.icseminary.edu/events](http://www.icseminary.edu/events)



**St. Pius X Residence for  
Retired Priests**

*Caring for those who cared for us*



*Embracing the Legacy of Service*

**Please join us for a Mass and Brunch Fundraiser  
In support and celebration of our Senior Priests living at St. Pius X Residence**

*The Celebrant for the Mass will be the  
Most Reverend John O. Barres, Bishop of Rockville Centre*

**April 27, 2024  
11:00 AM Mass  
12:00 Noon — 2:00 pm Brunch  
St. Agnes Cathedral**

To register or donate see [stpiusresidence.org](http://stpiusresidence.org)  
For more info, contact Barbara Kilarjian, (516) 678-5800, [bkilarjian@drvc.org](mailto:bkilarjian@drvc.org)



### **Worldwide Marriage Encounter: Fifth Sunday of Easter**

John 15:1-8 "Jesus said, I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. Remain in me, as I remain in you. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you." Check out a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience today. It will help your relationship and teach you tools to transform your Marriage. You can find one by looking up [WWME.org](http://WWME.org). Some of the dates to sign up are:

**June 7-June 9, 2024 in Upton,, MA  
June 21-23, 2024 in Huntington, NY  
August 2-4, 2024 in Portland, CT**

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/>.



# 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**



# Diaper Drive



## Helping babies one diaper at a time

Help local families in need by donating diapers and wipes.

Your generosity and support is greatly appreciated.

**April 15–May 3, 2024**

Drop off locations at Mercy Hospital:

- Main lobby by security.
- Nursing administration office by Mary McNair.



[chsli.org/mercy-hospital](https://chsli.org/mercy-hospital)

If you have any questions, please email [elizabeth.schwind@chsli.org](mailto:elizabeth.schwind@chsli.org)

# Oh, Baby!

## Baby shower for moms-to-be

**Free event**

**Saturday, May 11, 2024**

**12:00 – 2:00 pm**

Employee Cafeteria (lower level)



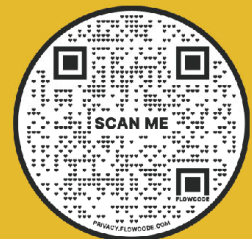
### What to expect:

- Raffles.
- Giveaways for mom and baby.
- Meet and greets with physicians, lactation specialist, mother/baby nurses, games and more!

**This event is for moms, only. Spouses and children will not be accommodated.**



To register, scan the QR code or  
email [Elizabeth.Schwind@chsli.org](mailto:Elizabeth.Schwind@chsli.org)



[chsli.org/mercy-hospital](https://chsli.org/mercy-hospital)

# 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

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

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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) !

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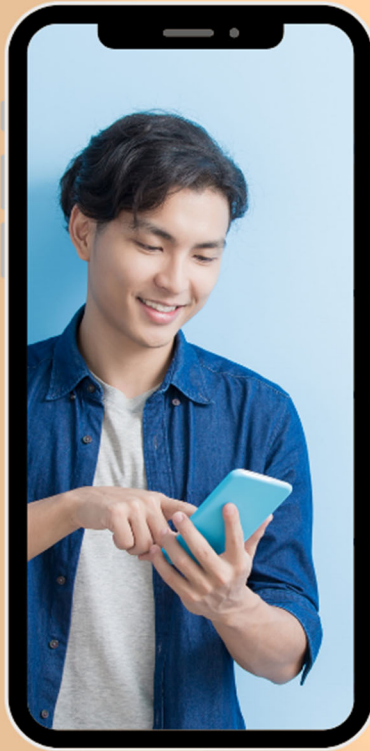
**Planned Gifts of IRAs are not the best assets for family members to inherit?  
WHY? Heirs will pay taxes on these financial instruments.**

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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**~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**

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sacredness of every human life."

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



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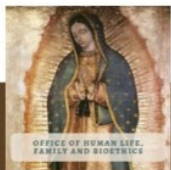
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## BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT



Celebrate Spring with light entertainment! Sunday, April 28, 2024, 5 to 7 pm - Cantabile: Melody in Voice & Instrument. A program of operatic arias and piano selections presented by Timothy Carl, pianist, and Jennifer Russo, soprano, including some works from "The American Songbook." Reception will follow. Reservations required - \$75 per guest, \$70 Member of the Friends of the Seminary. For information: Development Office, (631)423-0483 x 102; [bmalone@icseminary.edu](mailto:bmalone@icseminary.edu).



## *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!

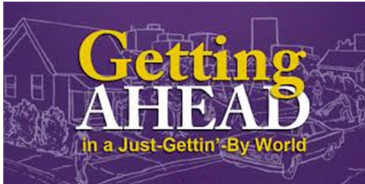
**PLEASE CALL BARBARA KILARJIAN  
AT 516-678-5800 ext. 257 or email her at  
[bkilarjian@drvc.org](mailto:bkilarjian@drvc.org) for more information.**



# 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)

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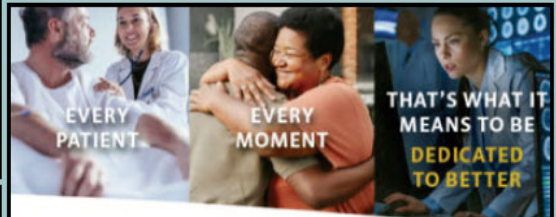


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