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

Rev. Gabriel Miah, retired Rev. Erwin Blasa, visiting priest

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Thursday: 9:00am-4:00pm

(or by appointment).

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.

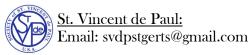
Marriage: Arrangements must be made in person with priest at least 6 months in advance & prior to reception arrangements.

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

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



SVDP store locations:

- 1.) 1425 New York Avenue, Huntington Station
- 2.) 2160 Jericho Twp., Garden City Park
- 3.) 249 Broadway, Bethpage

PARISH OFFICE: Phone: (516) 628-1113

Marie Levchuck, Parish Secretary Email: parishoffice@stgerts.org Michele Drago, Bulletin Editor Email: bulletin@stgerts.org

Fax: (516) 628-9032

Website: www.stgerts.com

PARISH CENTER

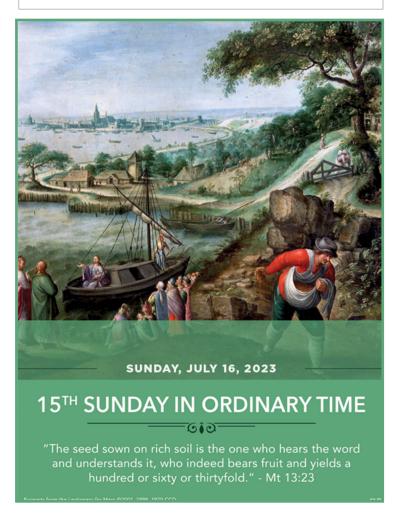
Preschool:

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

Religious Education:

Dr. James Sheehan, Director, Phone: (516) 628-2432

Email: faithformation@stgerts.org



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

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

Remembering...

SATURDAY July 15

5:00pm For the parishioners of St. Gertrude

SUNDAY July 16

7:30am Gloria Finelli +

John Perno +

Claudio D'Chiutiis + Mrs. Gilda Bianco

Frank Vitale

9:30am Mary, Iggy & Paul Perrone +

11:30am Lorrie & Ralph Longo +

MONDAY July 17

8:30am Lucile B. Palmaro, Marcel B. Palmaro

Sabin & Sobrino families +

TUESDAY July 18

8:30am Altimari & Galazzo families +

WEDNESDAY July 19

8:30am Thomas Carbone +

THURSDAY July 20

8:30am Edward Burgie +

FRIDAY July 21

8:30am Mr. & Mrs. Leonardo Franz

SATURDAY July 22

8:30am Mr. Sergio Franz

Richard Lombardi +

5:00pm Mary, Iggy & Paul Perrone +

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time / July 16, 2023

First Reading:

The rain and snow come down and do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful. (Is 55:10).

Second Reading:

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God. (Rom 8:18-19).

Gospel:

And he spoke to them at length in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. (Mt 13:3).

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

The Word's Return: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Jesus is portrayed in today's Gospel as a new and greater Moses.

Moses, the meekest man on earth (see <u>Numbers</u> 12:3), was God's friend (see <u>Exodus 34:12</u>, 17). Only he knew God "face to face" (see <u>Deuteronomy 34:10</u>). And Moses gave Israel the yoke of the Law, through which God first revealed Himself and how we are to live (see Jeremiah 2:20; 5:5).

Jesus, too, is meek and humble. But He is more than God's friend. He is the Son who alone knows the Father. He is more also than a law-giver, presenting Himself today as the yoke of a new Law and as the revealed Wisdom of God.

As Wisdom, Jesus was present before creation as the firstborn of God, the Father and Lord of heaven and earth (see <u>Proverbs 8:22</u>; <u>Wisdom 9:9</u>). And He gives knowledge of the holy things of the kingdom of God (see <u>Wisdom 10:10</u>).

In the gracious will of the Father, Jesus reveals these things only to the "childlike"—those who humble themselves before Him as little children (see <u>Sirach 2:17</u>). These alone can recognize and receive Jesus as the just savior and meek king promised to daughter Zion, Israel, in today's First Reading.

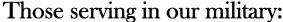
We, too, are called to childlike faith in the Father's goodness as sons and daughters of the new kingdom, the Church.

We are to live by the Spirit we received in Baptism (see <u>Galatians 5:16</u>), putting to death our old ways of thinking and acting, as Paul exhorts in today's Epistle. Our "yoke" is to be His new law of love (see <u>John 13:34</u>), by which we enter into the "rest" of His kingdom.

As we sing in today's Psalm, we joyously await the day when we will praise His name forever in the kingdom that lasts for all ages. This is the sabbath rest promised by Jesus—the rest first anticipated by Moses (see Exodus 20:8-11), but which still awaits the people of God (see Hebrews 4:9).

Presider's Schedule: (subject to change)
Saturday, July 22nd: 5:00pm—Fr. Gabriel
7:30am—Fr. Erwin

9:30am — Fr. Joseph 11:30am — Fr. Joseph





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 LT Alexander Van Patten USAF Major Nicholas Lorusso 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. Iason Roland Capt. Thomas E. Rojek Spc. Chase Tucker Major Chad Lennon

ENS Patrick Hesse USN Ens. James Figari US Army E-1 Richard F. Charon

LT Colonel Terrance Thorgramson 2nd LT James Andrew Baker

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.



Rebecca Browning, Sean Burnett, Michael Coddington.

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



St. Gertrude Parish Pantry Needs: UPDATED!!!!!

Supplies are either desperately low or out of the following items: Canned black

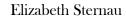
beans, mayonnaise, bar and hand soap, shampoo & conditioner, paper towels.

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

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

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

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





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

Parish Financial Summary

Sunday collections (including Faith Direct)

July 2, 2023: \$7,944.00

Peter's Pence: \$1,667.00; Summer collection: \$616.00

July 9, 2023: \$ 8,330.00

Our weekly collection budget is \$7,500.00.



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

As summer is here, we recognize Faith Direct that many families in our parish will be traveling for vacations and

other reasons. During this time, we encourage you to consider eGiving to ensure your support for our parish remains consistent even when you're away. By setting up eGiving through our parish's online platform, Faith Direct, you can make a meaningful impact on the ministries you care about most, even while you're away. Your recurring gifts will not only sustain our parish throughout the summer months, but you will help our staff steward God's resources well by reducing our costs for envelopes and paper and spending less staff time processing cash and checks, allowing more time for missions and ministries.

Getting started with eGiving is easy. Here are the ways to sign up:

- Visit faith.direct/NY83
- Call Faith Direct Customer Service at 866-507-8757
- Text "Enroll" to 516-494-7947

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

July 16, 2023–15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

It's not uncommon to hear people complain that we Catholics often fail in communicating our faith. Fair enough. We can and should improve there. But it's interesting to notice that Jesus himself was implicitly accused by his disciples of a similar failure. This week in Matthew's gospel they are perplexed that he speaks to the crowds in ambiguous parables. The Lord's riddles leave many people more confused than before. He responds by pointing out that his parables have an intentional dual purpose: to hide (for some) and to reveal (for others) his Gospel: "Because knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven has been granted to you, but to them it has not been granted" (Matthew 13:11). Is Jesus being unnecessarily difficult, obscurantist, or, worse, elitist?

No. We have to remember that all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge lie hidden in him (c.f., Col. 2:3). He is the word of God from heaven to be planted in the earth of our humanity to bear great fruit. However, like a lover delicately pursuing his beloved, we're dealing with a relationship, not new data. When we aren't willing to personally accept Jesus into our lives, the "info" of the Gospel will simply not make sense to us. It'll seem bizarre, esoteric, or like incoherent religious-speak. But when we are willing to accept Jesus into our lives, everything else starts to make sense. When others don't understand the Church or the Lord, let's be patient. Love is patient. Sometimes it has to hide before it is revealed.

- Father John Muir ©LPi



Welcome Our Newly Baptized

Mae Grace Beardslee
Gwenyth Eve Ciana
Nora Debono
Luna Beilah Mejia
Patrick Anthony Montemarano



Religious Education is seeking catechists and hall monitors for the 2023-2024 school year. If you feel a call to share your faith with the young people of our Parish, call Dr. Sheehan at the Office of Religious Education at 516-628-2432 or email at faithformation@stgerts.org.



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



Please look for the book cart located in the side vestibule of the church near the new restrooms.

READ AND RETURN!

Please stop by, take a look and borrow a book to READ and just RETURN when you are finished.



Our Lady of Mercy-academic excellence for

the Fourth Quarter of the 2022-2023

academic year

Emily Costello Principal's list - 12th grade

Mollie Murray Principal's list - 12th grade

Madalena Peterson Principal's list - 9th grade

Antonia Vitale Principal's list - 11th grade

July 29, 2023

St. Anthony's High School

Registration at 9:15 am

For Students currently enrolled in 8th-12th grade (this school year)

Spiritual Talks
Mass
Adoration
Lunch
Sports

For more info/register: https://www.campquovadis.com







One Family-Journeying together in Communion Participation and Mission



Dear Friends,

Our Church is in the midst of a National Eucharistic Revival to restore an understanding of and fidelity to the great mystery of Jesus really and truly present in the Most Holy Eucharist. Every time the Church celebrates the Eucharist, she is impelled toward mission: "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life." One way that the mission of Christ and his Church is accomplished in the world today is through the important works of the Catholic Ministries Appeal.

Gifts to the Catholic Ministries Appeal assist thousands of individuals on Long Island each year. In helping young mothers receive the assistance they need through Catholic Charities, in aiding local families in receiving food, clothing, and support through parish outreach programs, in accompanying veterans, disabled, and elderly in receiving care and housing, and in supporting seminarians through their discernment and formation, your gift to the Catholic Ministries Appeal helps to spread the light of Christ further than you can imagine.

Fr. Christopher Heller, who was ordained a priest last June, noted: "Every single day of my time in the seminary for five years, the Catholic Ministries Appeal had a part of my life; because without the generosity of people supporting the Catholic Ministries Appeal, I would not have been in the seminary. So, I can say that the fact that I finally was ordained is all due to the work of the Catholic Ministries Appeal. I think that supporting the Catholic Ministries Appeal is important because it is saying that you are on the side of the renewal that Christ is working in the Church on Long Island."

Your gifts to the Catholic Ministries Appeal are integral to the mission of the Church on Long Island. If you have not done so already, I ask you to consider making a gift to the 2023 Catholic Ministries Appeal. For convenience's sake, your contribution to the Catholic Ministries Appeal can now be made monthly over the course of the year. Please inquire with the Appeal Office if this is an option that you would prefer to take advantage of.

If you have already contributed to the 2023 Catholic Ministries Appeal, please know how truly grateful I am. It is only through your generous support, that we are able to serve the entire People of God in the Diocese of Rockville Centre.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend John O. Barres Bishop of Rockville Centre

CHECK OUT OUR
WEB SITE!

Check out our website for other information that our printed bulletin cannot accommodate. **Www.stgerts.com**

Further information on:

- Rosary for Life every Friday 3:00pm via zoom
- Importance of a Catholic education



Our 2023 CMA goal remains at \$55,000 and we have received \$25,660,00 to date

from 63 donors.



SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF THE ISLAND

(Mass will be indoors)

258 Eastport Manor Rd, Manorville, NY

About Raynham Hall Museum and The Culper Spy Ring

Raynham Hall Museum is a historic house museum located in **Oyster Bay**. It was owned by the Townsend family whose son, Robert, was a central member of General George Washington's Culper Spy Ring. The spy ring, conceived and operated by Washington, was an indispensable part of winning the war against the better financed and more numerous British forces. Robert Townsend was code named "Samuel Culper, Jr." and posed as a Loyalist in Manhattan while gathering information on British troop movements. The Culper Spy Ring is cited as a forerunner of today's Central Intelligence Agency.

Tiny Worlds, Grand Narratives: "History in Miniature" Exhibit Opens July 4th at Raynham Hall Museum

Miniatures have captivated people for thousands of years. History in Miniature examines dioramas and miniatures, investigating our fascination with small-scale creations. The exhibit explores the artistic process and skills involved in creating miniatures and the emotional responses they inspire. Visitors will take a journey across time and place from ancient civilizations to modern eras.

The exhibit is drawn from the collection of Richard Schuster, treasurer of the Board of Raynham Hall Museum. Schuster has collected, researched, and painted historical miniatures for over 60 years, and has amassed a collection of over 30,000 figures and scenics.

The exhibit features an opportunity for hands-on engagement with miniatures. Follow Raynham Hall Museum on Facebook and Instagram, check the website at www.raynhamhallmuseum.org, or call 516-922-6808 for more information and related programs.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 2023 AT 10 AM - 11 AM

Workshop: The Practical Herb Gardener—Raynham Hall Museum

20 W Main Street, Oyster Bay, NY 11771

Nothing beats the flavor of herbs plucked fresh from a garden and used in your cooking! Join educator Mike Goudket for a one-hour walk through the Raynham Hall Museum herb garden and get a historic perspective on herb cultivation on Long Island. This guided tour will look at the use of herbs in historic and simple contemporary cooking, seed starting, and how to grow herbs successfully in challenging suburban environments. Goudket designed the Raynham Hall herb garden based on his work at Old Bethpage Village Restoration and has maintained a home herb garden for over 25 years. Limited to 8 participants. Wear gardening clothes and bring gloves, and a pencil and paper to take notes. All materials will be supplied for seed starting. Cost: \$30 general public / \$25 museum members. For tickets, visit: https://raynhamhallmuseum.org/upcoming-events/

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time- Parable of a sower planting seeds

Matt 13:3-9: Jesus said, "A sower went out to sow. Some seed fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil, so it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirty fold. Whoever has ears ought to hear. Plant seeds in your relationship on rich soil and produce fruit. Come expxerience a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience where the seeds are planted on rich good soil. The dates are:

August 11-13, 2023 in Storrs, CT

August 25-27, 2023 in Vermont

September 22-24, 2023 in Huntington, NY

October 20-22, 2023 in Vermont

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 Chuck & Maria Reiss at 631-486-8607 or https://wwmenyli.org/.



TEST DATE SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH

- Course dates: Saturdays 9/16, 9/23, 9/30, 10/21, 10/28
- Time: 9:00 11:30 a.m.
- Location: St. Dominic High School, Marian Hall
- Taught by St. Dominic High School Faculty
- Textbook included

REGISTER ONLINE AT HS.STDOMS.ORG (UNDER LATEST NEWS)

Students accepted on a first come - first serve basis. There will be no refunds once the course begins.





Saint Mary's Elementary School Providing excellence in Catholic education since 1926.

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





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SAINT MARY'S

for the Education of a Lifetime



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



Saint Mary's Elementary School

Providing excellence in Catholic education since 1926.

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





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

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

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

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

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

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

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

If you have any questions, please send me an email: mmcmahon@drvc.org
Thank you.
Mary McMahon, LSCW

DID YOU KNOW?

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



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

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

For more information on tax-wise planned gifts, contact Barbara Kilarjian at 516-678-5800 ext. 257 or email her at bkilarjian@drvc.org

This information is not intended and should not be construed as legal, tax or investment advice. For such advice, please consult an attorney, tax advisor or investment professional.

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!

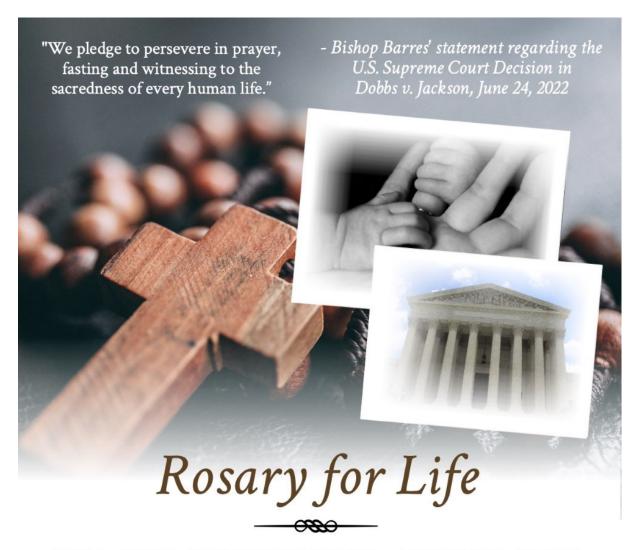
To find out more, go to: https://drvcschools.org or on our website: Choosing a Catholic School brochure.



DRVC Department of Education

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





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

Every Friday - 3:00 PM

Via Zoom Click here for link

Meeting ID: 856 4708 7922 Passcode: 677757 Call In #: 1 (646) 876-9923 Email dcrean@drvc.org

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



www.drvclife.org



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

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

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

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

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

Many Catholics find the idea of making a planned gift to their parish appealing. Parishioners often wonder how to go about making a planned gift and they have other questions about doing this. Faithful parishioners have found that naming the parish in their Wills or Trusts to be a very fulfilling way to show their appreciation for what the Church has meant to them. Some parishioners have left planned gifts in memory of a loved one or close friend. Others have made a bequest to support a particular parish ministry, or outreach.

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

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

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



Resources Available

FAMILY, MARRIAGE AND INDIVIDUAL THERAPY

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



"Getting Ahead in a Just-Getting By World"

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

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

Catholic Health Services' Skilled Nursing Facilities



Recognized for Excellence. CHS offers three highly recognized skilled nursing facilities, providing both short- and long-term care for patients and residents.

Good Samaritan Nursing & Rehabilitation Care Center, Sayville

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

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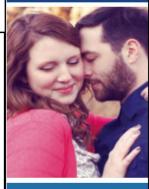
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