

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. GERTRUDE

28 School Street, Bayville, N.Y. 11709

CLERGY OF THE PARISH

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

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

PRESCHOOL:

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

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Masses

Saturday: 8:30am & 5:00pm

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

Weekdays: 8:30am

Holy Days: See bulletin/announcements for schedule

Rosary every morning after 8:30am Mass

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

Reconciliation/Confession:

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

SACRAMENTS

Anointing of the Sick: Available upon request.

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

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

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

Outreach—Pantry Hours:

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

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

PARISH OFFICE: Phone: (516) 628-1113

Michele Drago, Office Manager

Email: parishoffice@stgerts.org

Donna Rogers, Secretary/Bulletin Editor

Email: bulletin@stgerts.org

Fran Conte, Business Manager

Email: businessoffice@stgerts.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

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

Fax: (516) 628-9032

Website: www.stgerts.com



St. Vincent de Paul:

Email: svdpstgerts@gmail.com

Furniture: (516) 746-8250



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

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

Remembering. . .

SATURDAY	December 9
5:00 pm	Linda Firriello +
SUNDAY	December 10
7:30 am	For the parishioners of St. Gertrude
9:30 am	Alfred Carfora + Ralph Manzi +
11:30 am	Altimari and Galazzo Families +
MONDAY	December 11
8:30 am	Zachary McLaughlin +
TUESDAY	December 12
8:30 am	Rosemary Clarke +
WEDNESDAY	December 13
8:30 am	Nita DeCesare +
THURSDAY	December 14
8:30 am	Doris W. Eagan +
FRIDAY	December 15
8:30 am	Ignatius Notaro +
SATURDAY	December 16
8:30 am	Juliette McMahon +
5:00 pm	For the parishioners of St. Gertrude

Second Sunday of Advent Scripture Reflection



We like to think we are totally free, but the bitter truth is we simply are not. Or better put, our freedom is limited on every side — by governments, corporate giants, physical and mental frailties, genetic shortcomings, and even the boundaries of time and space, and above all, the burden of our sins and pending deaths. In our day, we are perhaps particularly aware that we are not free to disconnect from the technocratic rulers of the air. If you doubt me, try not paying your internet bill and see what happens. We are not totally free.

It's nothing new, of course. In Jesus' day, everyone felt the crushing weight of the Roman Empire. You can say you're free all you want. But try not paying your taxes to Rome and see what happens.

Once we feel this burden in our own lives — however it comes — we are ready to hear the stunning announcement that commences Mark's gospel, "The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God." It's not a simple perfunctory introduction, but a dramatic announcement of new freedom. The word "gospel" was a political, even military, term. It meant: a great victory has been won and a new king is in charge. This Jesus — not the Roman emperor — is God's son, and he has defeated all that crushes human freedom. It's time to follow him and be truly free. This week let's refuse to submit our freedom to false rulers — especially that of sin. And let's rejoice that Christ is coming to make us perfectly free from all our oppressors.

— *Father John Muir* ©LPi



Second Sunday
of Advent

Prepare the way of the Lord!

Second Sunday Of Advent Scripture Readings

First Reading:

A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD!
Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! (Is 40:3)

Psalm:

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.
(Ps 85)

Second Reading:

We await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. (1 Pt 1:13)

Gospel:

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. (Mk 16:4)

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

Rosary Guild News



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

See: www.stgerts.org.

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

Presider's Schedule: (subject to change)

Saturday, December 16th: 5:00pm — Msgr. Morrissey
Sunday, December 17th 7:30am — Fr. Joseph
9:30am — Msgr. Morrissey
11:30am — Fr. Joseph



Those serving in our military:

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

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

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



Sean Burnett, Michael Coddington, Francesca Lattuga, David Long, Sean Stalker, Mary Lou Fusillo, Anthony Varrichio, Mary Connelly, Joe Buffa.

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



St. Gertrude Parish Pantry Needs:

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

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

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

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

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

Gail Daniello



The Parish of St. Gertrude extends its prayerful condolences to her families and friends.

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

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

Parish Financial Summary

Sunday collections (including Faith Direct)

November 26, 2023: \$8,600.25

Thanksgiving Collection: \$930

Our second collection this weekend is for Religious Retirement

Our weekly collection budget is \$7,500.00.

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



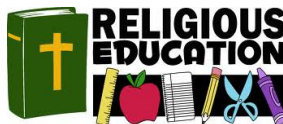
St. Anthony's High School
Honor Roll First Quarter

Lucia Connolly
Anthony Kartelias
Paloma Macchia



Kellenberg Memorial High School
National Honor Society 2023-24

Natalie Meehan
Stella Viscovich



Do you know of anyone who is thinking of becoming a Catholic? Have you or someone you know wanted to complete the sacraments of Holy Communion or Confirmation?

Invite them to join a community of adults who are discerning God's call through prayer and discussion as they learn more about the Catholic Faith. For more information contact Dr. Sheehan in our Religious Education office at 516-628-2432 or faithformation@stgerts.org.

ANGELS FOR CHRISTMAS — OUR GIVING TREE



Caring and sharing is a joyful part of Christmas where we continue our St. Gertrude's tradition of overwhelming generosity of our parish family. Through the years, parishioners have provided generous donations of new clothing, new toys, etc. for our needy children here — through the St. Gertrude Outreach Program.



The Giving Tree is set up in the back of the Church with angels identifying the children by age, gender, and size. Please take an angel and return it with a gift for the child.

IMPORTANT: DO NOT WRAP THE GIFTS, bring them in a holiday bag or if you can send wrapping paper with the gift, that would be great.

IMPORTANT: THE ANGEL MUST BE AFFIXED TO THE GIFT This will ensure the right gift goes to the right child.

The gifts must be placed under the tree
NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 14, 2023



Thank you so much and have a Blessed Christmas!

For further information, please email: Cyndyergen@gmail.com



The Absurdity of an Apathetic Christmas

(Charles Dickens, the background of *A Christmas Carol* and the power of forgiveness)

A reflection given during Eucharistic Adoration
on Saturday, December 16, 7 PM
Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church in Valley Stream

Call 516 825 1450 for details or questions



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



See our website for further info that cannot be printed in our bulletin at: www.stgerts.com.



North Shore Theatre Group's

A Christmas Carol



A solo performance of Charles Dickens' classic, holiday tale.
One actor. One hour!

Presented by the Friends of the Bayville Library
Saturday, December 16th at 7:00pm

St. Gertrude's Parish Center
28 School Street, Bayville, NY

Tickets: \$25/adult; \$15/children 10-12 years old

**For Tickets call: Pat Farnell: 516-801-3356
Louise Pecorino: 516-802-7860**

Preschool News: This week the Preschool classes continued to get into the Christmas spirit. Miss Anna's Mommy and Me class sang Christmas songs, made rain sensory bottles, and created salt dough ornaments. Miss Carmela's 2's made a handprint reindeer Christmas ornament, and a letter H collage. They also made a handprint snowflake to attach to a poem. Miss Anna's 3's made a puffy paint polar bear and a reindeer name ornament. They also made a thumbprint Christmas lights craft. Miss Michelle's 3's made a beaded candy cane craft, and a star to decorate their class Christmas tree. They also used shells to make a Christmas gift and worked on a "K is for Kings" craft. Miss Meredith's 4's worked on writing the letter K. They created a baby Jesus in a manger craft and made a card for their families. They also made a Santa themed ornament and worked on a Christmas number puzzle.



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.

Our 2023 CMA goal remains at \$55,000 and we have received \$34,431.00 to date from 73 donors (62.04%). Thank you!!!



The Annual St. Gertrude's Parish CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Is Back!

2023 PAGEANT: Friday, December 22ST at 6 pm

WANTED: Children grades 1-6 to act as:



*Angels
Shepherds
Innkeepers
Wise Men
Narrators and
more!*

Rehearsals: Mondays

12/12 @ 6:00 pm (1st - 6th graders)
12/18 @ 6:00 pm (1st - 6th graders)

******NOTE New Time ******

Pageant: Friday 12/22 @ 6:00pm

Please contact Dr. Sheehan to participate or help in the production at:

faithformation@stgerts.org or (516) 628-2432

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2023

CONFESSIONS

Wednesday, December 13
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 19
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve
Sunday, December 24
4:00 and 6:00 p.m.
Midnight
(Carols begin at 11:30 p.m.)

Christmas Day

Monday, December 25
7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE

CONFESSIONS

Saturday, December 30
4:00 - 4:45 p.m.

NEW YEAR'S MASSES

New Year's Eve (Solemnity of Mary)
Sunday, December 31
5:00 p.m.

New Year's Day (Solemnity of Mary)
Monday, January 1
8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

2023

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

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



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

Pause and Reflect this Advent Season

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

Make checks payable to: Catholic Ministries Appeal

Parish _____

Pledge: \$ _____

Name _____

Down payment: \$ _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

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

Thank You!

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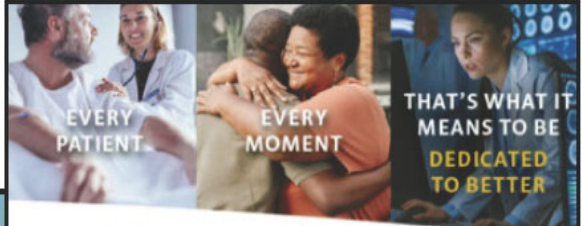
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- Does talking make it worse?
- Thought of leaving or divorce?
- Is your marriage heading in the wrong direction?

Retrouvaille can help.

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

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

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

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

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



COFFEE with JESUS

Advent Zoom Webinars



Join Bishop Andrzej

10:00 am on Friday mornings in December:

December 1, 8, 15, 22

Online Advent Reflections

on Scripture Readings

with the special emphasis
on Mary, Joseph and Jesus.

Great opportunity to prepare and nourish your mind and heart,
in preparation for Christmas.

To register,
please call Suzanne 516-744-6850
or email westernvicariate@drvc.org.

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



Save the Date!

*St. Kilian Christmas
Organ Concert*

**In Honor of the 35th Ordination Anniversary
of Bishop John Dunne as Auxiliary Bishop of the
Diocese of Rockville Centre**

**St. Kilian Parish welcomes back Dr. Joseph Woo,
Dean of the Suffolk County American Guild of Organists,
for an afternoon of musical offerings of the
Christmas Season!**

Sunday, December 10th at 4:30pm
St. Kilian Church

*Our Christmas Tree Lighting will follow the concert
outside on the Church Lawn!*



Worldwide Marriage Encounter



Second Sunday of Advent: Prepare the Way of the Lord, make straight his paths.

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11: "Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. A voice cries out in the desert prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God." Give your spouse a gift. Be transformed. Love your spouse always.

Give your spouse a gift by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. You can find one by looking up WWME.org. Some of the dates to sign up are:
January 21-23, 2024 in Huntington, NY (Immaculate Conception Seminary)
February 9-11, 2024 in Huntington, NY
March 15-17, 2024 in Upton, MA

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



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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



www.virtus.org



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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thank you.

Mary McMahon, LSCW

Why Catholic Education?

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

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

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

Catholic Elementary School Education

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

Catholic Middle School Education

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

Catholic High Schools of Long Island

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

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

DRVC Department of Education

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



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

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



Rosary for Life



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

Every Friday - 3:00 PM

Via Zoom

Click here for link

Meeting ID: 856 4708 7922

Passcode: 677757

Call In #: 1 (646) 876-9923

Email dcrean@drvc.org

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



www.drvc.org



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

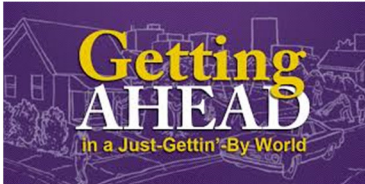
**PLEASE CALL BARBARA KILARJIAN
AT 516-678-5800 ext. 257 or email her at
bkilarjian@drvc.org for more information.**



Resources Available

FAMILY, MARRIAGE AND INDIVIDUAL THERAPY

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



“Getting Ahead in a Just-Getting By World”

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

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

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

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

Your Bridge To Business Success

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

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