



St. Sylvester R. C. Church

68 Ohio Avenue, Medford, NY 11763

A community praying, growing, serving & welcoming in Jesus Christ.



*Peter cried out, "Lord, save me!"
Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught Peter,
and said to him,
"O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"*

August 13, 2017
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We Celebrate!

Eucharist:

Weekends: Sat: 5pm Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am & 11am Holy Days as announced

Weekdays: M, Tu, Th and Fr: Mass in the Parish Center @ 8:30am

Baptisms: Celebrated on pre-determined Sunday afternoons. ***Prior to making plans,*** call the Parish Center for Baptism dates, for preparation class dates, and important information regarding Godparents.

Reconciliation: Saturday at 12 noon or by appointment.

Confirmation: In the Fall for the youth of the parish. Adults and young adults can also be confirmed at Pentecost. Please call the Faith Formation Office.

Marriage: Friday @ 3, 4:30, 6pm, Saturday @ 10:30am & 2:30pm. Arrangements must be made one year prior to the requested date. Please be aware that all the Sacraments of Initiation should have been celebrated prior to the requested wedding date and Pre-Cana preparation is required. No plans should be made prior to meeting with a priest or deacon.

Anointing of the Sick: Every second Friday of the month @ 8:30am Mass for those needing surgery, or serious medical treatment, or seeking spiritual healing.

We are here for you!

Pastoral Leadership Team

Rev. Thomas W. Coby, Pastor

Deacon Joseph Mystkowski

Deacon George Riegger, Retired

Deacon Frank Rivera

Theresa Ellner, Business Manager

Michael Lofaro, Faith Formation Administrator

Frances McMahan, Faith Formation Director

Justin McMahan, Parish Social Ministry Director

Lori Zito, Stewardship Director

Office Information

Parish Office: (631)475-4506 ext 101; Fax (631)475-1057 email: parishoffice@stsyvesterli.org
M, Tu, Th ~ 9am - 12 & 1 - 5pm; Wed ~ 9am - 12 & 1 - 8:30pm; Fr ~ 9am - 12 & 1 - 4pm;
Su ~ 9:30am - 12:30pm

Faith Formation Office: (631)475-4506 ext. 118 email: faithformation@stsyvesterli.org
Please call (631)475-4506 ext. 118 to make an appointment and we will be happy to serve you!

Clare House: (631)475-4506; Fax (631)475-6058

M & W ~ 9:30am-12pm, 1pm-3:30pm Wed Night ~ 5:30pm-7:30pm Fr ~ 9:30am-11:30pm

Thrift Shop: (631)475-4506

Tu, Wed & Th ~ 10am - 3pm; Sat ~ 10am - 1pm

HELP PROTECT OUR CHILDREN

TO REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE involving diocesan personnel, priests, deacons, teachers, employees or volunteers at schools or churches in the Diocese of Rockville Centre, please call our confidential hotline number at 1-516-594-9063 and speak with Mary McMahan, LCSW, Director.

IF YOU SUSPECT a child or vulnerable adult is being—or has been abused, call the New York State Hotline phone number: 1-800-342-3720

If you suspect someone is in immediate danger, call 911.

Visit our website at: www.stsyvesterli.org

We Pray

Saturday, August 12, 2017

5:00pm Marion T. Interrante
 Bruce McAllister
 William Randazzo
 Terry Bissert
 Christopher Michael Schloth

Sunday, August 13, 2017

7:30am Kenneth L. Mahoney
 9:00am Vincent Ferraro
 11:00am Salvatore Russo & Family

Monday, August 14, 2017

8:30am For the People of St. Sylvester
 5:00pm Melissa Gravano

Tuesday, August 15, 2017

8:30am For the People of St. Sylvester
 7:00pm Stanley & Adelaide Kazel

Thursday, August 17, 2017

8:30am Deacon Kenneth Geoghan

Friday, August 18, 2017

8:30am Deacon Phil Paolicelli

Saturday, August 19, 2017

5:00pm Rachele Pugliese
 Matteo, Caravana & LoCascio Families
 John Giaquinto (1st Anniversary)
 Cornelius J. Schloth
 Jason Caldwell
 Terry Bissert

Sunday, August 20, 2017

7:30am Maria & Manuel Fernandes
 9:00am James Hines, Jr.
 James Doucette
 11:00am John Natoli

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

8/14:	Dt 10:12-22 Mt 17:22-27	Ps 147:12-15, 19-20
8/15:	Rv 11:19; 12:1-6, 10 1 Cor 15:20-27	Ps 45:10-12, 16 Lk 1:39-56
8/16:	Dt 34:1-12 Mt 18:15-20	Ps 66:1-3, 5, 8, 16-17
8/17:	Jos 3:7-11, 13-17 Mt 18:21 – 19:1	Ps 114:1-6
8/18:	Jos 24:1-13 Mt 19:3-12	Ps 136:1-3, 16-18, 21-22, 24
8/19:	Jos 24:14-29 Mt 19:13-15	Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 11
8/20:	Is 56:1, 6-7 Rom 11:13-15, 29-32	Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8 Mt 15:21-28

We pray for all who are sick, especially . . .

Eva D'Amato, Marguerite Orłowski, Robert Orłowski, Tom Stephens, Melina Grosso Bischoff, Sean Patrick Dixon, Nina Caravana, Larry Lang, Martha Lee, Winnie Mulderig, Catherine Hines, Roy Fernandes, Bob Prentiss, Jose Nunez, Michael Goode, Jessica Decke, Nathan Morales, William F. Swope, Laurie Saper, Chris Rosado, Rose Masucci, Baby Bryanna Spencer, Ramona Nunez, Pam Hinton, Pam Filasky, Brian Podlesny, Joseph Wagner, Frank & David Avitabile, Diane Rockowitz, Patricia Nochese, Donald Tierney, Sr., Danny Miller, Theresa Golembroski, Barbara Vattiato, Roger Chin-Sang, Jenna Knoblauch, Sasha Medile, Theresa O'Connor, Baby Charlotte Steele, Robert Uricola, Michael Callahan, Fran Pellerito, Virginia Guaiama, Olivia Bazirgan

We pray for all who have died, especially . . .

*Elena Gonzalez, James J. Baylous, Eva Anselmo,
 Ronald J. Stella*

Tuesday, August 15th is the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation. The Masses are:
 Monday, 8/14 ~ 5pm
 Tuesday, 8/15 ~8:30am & 7pm



ALL OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED

The Bread & Wine and Candles

used at this weekend's liturgies



are the gifts of
 The D' Ambrosio Family
 in loving memory of
Vincent Ferraro



"Our faith in Christ, who became poor, and was always close to the poor and the outcast, is the basis of our concern for the integral development of society's most neglected members."

– Pope Francis, [The Church of Mercy](#)

We Pray

Hail Mary: Gentle Woman

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blest is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of death. Amen.

*Gentle woman, quiet light,
morning star, so strong and bright,
gentle Mother, peaceful dove,
teach us wisdom; teach us love.*

*You were chosen by the Father;
you were chosen for the Son.
You were chosen from all women
and for woman shining one.*

*Gentle woman, quiet light,
morning star, so strong and bright,
gentle Mother, peaceful dove,
teach us wisdom; teach us love.*

*Blessed are you among women,
blest in turn all women, too.
Blessed they with peaceful spirits.
Blessed they with gentle hearts.*

*Gentle woman, quiet light,
morning star, so strong and bright,
gentle Mother, peaceful dove,
teach us wisdom; teach us love.*



Stewardship

Gifts of Treasure

August 6, 2017

Regular ~ \$7,978

Renovation ~ \$426 Solar ~ \$127

***Faith Direct August Contributions will
be in next weeks bulletin.***

To learn about or enroll in
Faith Direct,
the automated giving program,
just log onto www.faithdirect.net
and use our Church code NY285.
Also, Faith Direct Forms are available
in the Parish Office.

Reflection

Elijah recognized the voice of God not in the strong and heavy wind, or in the earthquake, and not in the fire either, but rather in a tiny whispering sound. May we find enough quiet in our clamorous world to hear His voice and discern what He is calling us to do and be.

Living Stewardship

We are grateful for all stewards who spend time in faith-filled prayer, compassionate service and generous sharing so that they grow in their understanding and practice of stewardship.

When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left and could say, I used everything you gave me.

— *Erma Bombeck*

Catholic Ministries Appeal 2017

Designated Goal:	\$65,100.00
Amount Pledged to Date:	\$47,685.00
% of Goal Pledged to Date:	73.2%
Number of Donors to Date:	156

We wish to help provide for the mission of the Church by making a gift of:

PLEDGE: \$ _____

Make checks payable to: **Catholic Ministries Appeal**

Please Print:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Place in collection basket or return to the Parish Center. Thank you.

Attention All Local Artists & Crafters:

Believe it or not, the holidays will be here before you know it and the vendor tables for our annual Holiday Fair are beginning to fill! This year's Fair will be held on November 11th and 12th, and we would like to give our parishioners and local community members the opportunity to participate before we are sold out.

This is a wonderful yearly community event and our largest fundraiser of the year. If you are interested in renting a vendor table for this year's Holiday Fair, please contact Marie Broderick at mteachb@optonline.net or call (631) 205-5020.

Parish Social Ministry



The goal of Parish Social Ministry is to engage parishioners in social justice and outreach activities that allow us to live out the Gospel call to serve others and to build the Kingdom of God. Clare House is a community space where we exchange resources, offer assistance, and build relationships.

The Outreach Ministry at Clare House offers direct service to community members facing difficulties of all kinds. We strive to build authentic relationships with every individual who walks through the door and commit to journey in solidarity with them. We offer assistance to alleviate immediate needs. Clients receive access to: food pantry, thrift shop, case management, advocacy, information and referral, and other resources.

The Social Justice Ministry at Clare House works to expand our understanding and application of Catholic Social Justice through the use of praxis. We employ the "See, Judge, Act" Method to examine pressing social problems. By utilizing education, advocacy, and community organizing we put our faith in action to address structural issues and eliminate systemic injustice. We feed the hungry and ask why they are hungry. The Social Justice Committee meets first Thursdays at 7pm in Clare House. ALL ARE WELCOME!

I welcome your calls, emails, and letters to express feedback - positive or negative - on any aspect of our PSM program. Dialogue is essential for clarification of thought. Thank you to those of you who have contacted me. I look forward to continuing the conversation!

Constructive Feedback?

Justin McMahon, Director of Parish Social Ministry
631-475-4506 x121 jmcmahon@stsyvesterli.org

Contact Outreach Ministry:

631-475-4506 press 5+1
clarehouse@stsyvesterli.org

Contact Social Justice Ministry:

631-475-4506 press 5+2
jmcmahon@stsyvesterli.org



Put Your Faith in Action: Volunteer Ministry Opportunity

Do you feel called to serve others in our community? Is Jesus inviting you to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and bring good news to the poor? Are you seeking a deeper way to live out your faith in concrete ways? We are looking for mission-oriented individuals to join our Outreach Ministry at Clare House!

Please go here for more information:

<http://tiny.cc/ClareHouseVolunteer>

Food Pantry Wish List

1. Toothbrushes
2. Canned soup
3. Tuna fish/canned chicken
4. Tomato sauce
5. Mustard/mayo
6. Pancake mix/syrup
7. Shampoo/bodywash
8. Laundry detergent (small bottles)



Back to School Program

THERE'S STILL TIME! We are collecting Target gift cards in the school house near the sanctuary to support our Back to School program. \$25 Target gift cards are available for purchase and donations can be made at the parish center. All donations will be converted to gift cards.



We will NOT be collecting school supplies this year— only cash, check, or gift cards please!

Why, you may ask?

It is fundamental that we strive in all our service activities to empower those on the margins. Gift cards allow clients to make their own decisions about what supplies, bags, shoes, etc. they would like for their family. This enhances their agency in the process and respects their human dignity as individuals. With this in mind, please consider making a donation to support our families in need. Thank you for your generosity!

Parish Social Ministry



An Ignatian Solidarity Network Series

WE WAIT AND WATCH AND WORK; WE DON'T GIVE UP

BY NATALIE TERRY | August 7, 2017

We possess the prophetic message that is altogether reliable. You will do well to be attentive to it, as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. (2 Peter 1:19)

In January, St. Agnes Parish in San Francisco placed a banner above the doors of the church that proclaims: "Immigrants & Refugees Welcome." That week, the church community declared public sanctuary, committing ourselves to stand with people at the margins of society and at this time, with our immigrant and refugee sisters and brothers.

After the banner was hung, neighbors called asking how they could get involved in accompaniment and advocacy work. People started knocking at the door of the rectory to ask for support. One family needed an immigration attorney. Another person asked for a letter of support for their immigration hearing. A family seeking asylum needed a place to stay for a while.



The community came together. We pooled our resources. We called our friends. We found an attorney. We wrote letters. We

set up a makeshift bedroom in one of the church buildings. Mostly, we listened to stories. Stories of heartbreak and suffering. Stories of hope and resurrection. Stories of how, all too often, the systems of our country fail to respect and uphold the human dignity of all people. Mostly, our hearts were and will continue to be transformed.

Declaring sanctuary, in a sense, isn't anything new. It's who we, as Jesus' disciples, are. Our public witness to peace and justice shines a light on the heart of the church and on our truest selves. This is what the Transfiguration of the Lord that we celebrated this Sunday is about. The

disciples see who Jesus is, fully human and fully divine: Jesus' "face shone like the sun" (Matthew 17:2). In turn, Jesus shows us our true identity as children of God, Jesus' beloved ones and as people who "possess the prophetic message that is altogether reliable" (2 Peter 1:19).

This prophetic message is rooted in Jesus' command to love one another and comes with unflinching hope, entrusted to us by the Spirit. As Anne Lamott, author of *Hallelujah Anyway*, says: "*Hope begins in the dark, the stubborn hope that if you just show up and try to do the right thing, the dawn will come. You wait and watch and work; you don't give up.*"

Today and every day, God asks us to listen and respond to the love that God places in our hearts and to let that love lead our lives. And so we *Rise Up*. We wait and watch and work; we don't give up.



From the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston: In solidarity with and remembrance of the migrants who have lost their lives in the last few weeks, including those in the overheated truck in San Antonio, we pray:

Dear Lord,

Our journey through life is long and hard.

We cannot make this trip alone;

We must walk together on the journey.

You promised to send us a helper, your Spirit.

Help us to see your Spirit in those you send to journey with us.

In the refugee family, seeking safety from violence, Let us see your Spirit.

In the migrant worker, bringing food to our tables, Let us see your Spirit.

In the asylum---seeker, seeking justice for himself and his family, Let us see your Spirit.

In the unaccompanied child, traveling in a dangerous world, Let us see your Spirit.

Teach us to recognize that as we walk with each other, You are present.

Teach us to welcome not only the strangers in our midst but the gifts they bring as well:

The invitation to conversion, communion, and solidarity.

This is the help you have sent: we are not alone.

We are together on the journey, and for this we give you thanks.

Amen.

Faith Formation

Registration Information 2017/2018

All children need to be registered each year **including Catholic School and Confirmation Candidates!**
Please note that classes are filled on a first come, first served basis.

***PLEASE CALL THE FAITH FORMATION OFFICE AT
475-4506 EXT 118 TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT***

Please note: A baptismal certificate is required for all first time registrations. So please be sure to bring it with you when you come to register. We will be unable to process your registration without this required certificate. Thank You!

We have a few opportunities available for those who would like to share their gift of faith with the young people of the parish for 2017/2018:

Level 2: Wednesdays @ 4:30pm

Level 3: Tuesdays @ 4:30pm

Level 4 : Mondays @ 5:45pm

Level 5: Tuesdays @ 5:45pm

Level 6: Tuesdays @ 4:30pm and Wednesday @ 5:45pm

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Faith Formation Ministry as a teacher/catechist, please call 475-4506 ext 118 for more information.

Come sow
the seeds of
FAITH.
Matthew 13



Catechists...Please Save The Date!

Level 1 Catechists will meet Saturday, September 9, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the East Wing

Level 2 Catechists will meet Saturday, September 9, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. in the East Wing

Level 3, 4, 5, & 6 and Home Taught Levels 3, 4, & 5 Catechists will meet Saturday, September 16, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the East Wing

Level 7 Catechists will meet Saturday, September 16, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. in the East Wing

More Details To Follow!



Parish Life

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday ~ August 13, 2017

Baptisms ~ 12:3pm ~ Church

Monday ~ August 14, 2017

Drawing Class ~ 10am ~ PDH

Vigil Mass for the Assumption ~ 5pm ~ Church

Tuesday ~ August 15, 2017

Mass for the Assumption ~ 8:3am & 7pm ~ Ch

All Offices Closed

Wednesday ~ August 16, 2017

Women's Prayer Group ~ 7pm ~ East Wing

Dance Band Rehearsal ~ 8pm ~ PDH

Thursday ~ August 17, 2017

Al-Anon ~ 9:45am ~ Room 2

Moving On Support Group ~ 2:3pm ~ EW

Friday ~ August 18, 2017

Carmelite Mass ~ 7pm ~ WR

Carmelite Meeting ~ 8pm ~ EW

Charismatic Prayer Group ~ 8pm ~ WR

Saturday, August 19, 2017

Art Class ~ 9am ~ PDH

Community Dance ~ 7pm ~ PDH

Attention Ministry Leaders!



Please fill out a calendar request form by August 31 to reserve the day(s), time(s) and room(s) that you will need between September 1, 2017 and August 31, 2018. Regardless of whether you meet weekly, monthly, or just occasionally, a calendar request form must be turned in to the Parish Office as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please call Denise at 631-475-4506 ext 101.

"Moving On" Peer Support Group

Losing a lifetime partner can have you feeling lost and without purpose. "Moving On" is a group of widows and widowers who come together once a month to help each other find that purpose. Through discussion and prayerful contemplation, we support one another in our attempts to get on with our lives in a meaningful way. Our next meeting is Thursday, August 17 at 2:30 p.m. Please join us then.

Eileen & Martha ~ Coordinators

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7pm to 10pm

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www.goodolddanceband.com
or call Mike at 730-3333.



Women's Prayer Group

The next gathering of our *Spiritual Book Club* will be **Wednesday**, August 16, 2017 at 7pm in the East Wing. Please join us as we delve into Sr. Joyce Rupp's Book: *Fly While You Still Have Wings*. Sister's books have been used in the past and they are filled with a wonderful, gentle guidance that deepens our relationship with the Lord.

This is open to all women. *Please join us!*

Community News

Medford Concert Series, sponsored by County Legislator Rob Calarco and the Medford Chamber of Commerce continues at Medford Memorial Park on Wednesday, August 23 at 7pm. Bring a chair and a friend and listen to *Get Dancin'*, featuring singer Cookie. Please bring a non-perishable food item to support Long Island Cares.

Farmingville Residents Association is sponsoring *Flea Markets* on the following Sundays: 8/27 and 9/24 from 10am to 4pm. Rain dates the following Sunday. Antiques, collectibles, handbags, jewelry, handcrafted items and more. Call 631-880-7996 for more information.

St. Mary's Parish in East Islip is offering a free 8 week support group for adults who are coping with the death of a loved one. Registration is required for this group which begins on Wednesday, September 6 from 7pm—9pm. Refreshments will be served. In order to participate in this group, the death must have occurred prior to June 6th. For information and or registration, please call the rectory at 631-581-4266 ext 100.

Grammy Award Winner and Christian Music Pioneer John Michael Talbot in Concert ~ Sunday, September 17, 7pm, at St. James RC Church in Setauket. Tickets are \$30 for general seating or \$50 VIP package which includes preferred seating, present at sound check and autographed CD. Call the Rectory Office at 631-941-4141 or visit www.JohnMichaelTalbot.com to order tickets.

Are you a Catholic adult seeking to engage more fully in the life of the Catholic Church. Are you looking to deepen your faith, renew your prayer life and develop a self awareness as a missionary disciple? Then come Tuesday, August 8, 7pm to St. Margaret of Scotland in Selden to learn about the *DRVC School of Missionary Disciples*.

Mommy & Me at Holy Angels Regional School in Patchogue. Dates are Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 28 and Dec 5. Register for individual classes or all 10! \$10 a class. 0-18 months is 10:15am—11am and 18—48 months 11:15am—12pm. Topics for each class can be found at <http://holyangelsmommyandmefall2017.brownpapertickets.com/> or by calling Mrs. Jamie Stidd at 631-839-9203 or e-mail jstidd@holyangelsregional.org

The Town of Brookhaven Women's Services Division will present the second session of "Career Edge" at Town Hall on September 13th 9:30am—1pm. This program is designed to help unemployed and under-employed women gain professional skills, accelerate their job search and build confidence through weekly training sessions, one-on-one career coaching and networking in a supportive environment. For more information and to see if you qualify for this beneficial program, Call 631-451-9127.

Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue or have you stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? For confidential information about the *Retrouvaille* program, or to register for the upcoming weekend that begins Friday, September 8th, call 1-800-470-2230.

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