



St. Sylvester R. C. Church

68 Ohio Avenue, Medford, NY 11763

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



*From the cloud came a voice that said,
“This is my beloved Son,
with whom I am well pleased;
Listen to him.”*

August 6, 2017

The Transfiguration of the Lord

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 5, 2017

5:00pm Constantino Pugliese
James Donaghy (6th Anniversary)
Roy Hull
Vittorio Benny DiGiorgio
John W. Lupski
Matthew Allback

Sunday, August 6, 2017

7:30am Sal, Carmela & Robert Toscano
9:00am Gary Feord
11:00am James H. O'Grady (39th Anniversary)

Monday, August 7, 2017

8:30am For the People of St. Sylvester

Tuesday, August 8, 2017

8:30am Mary Giannone

Thursday, August 10, 2017

8:30am Natale Pensabene

Friday, August 11, 2017

8:30am For the People of St. Sylvester

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

8/7: Nm 11:4-15 Ps 81:12-17
Mt 14:13-21
8/8: Nm 12:1-13 Ps 51:3-7, 12-13
Mt 14:22-36
8/9: Nm 13:1-2, 25—14:1, 26-29, 34-35
Ps 106:6-7, 13-14, 21-23 Mt 15:21-28
8/10: 2 Cor 9:6-10 Ps 112:1-2, 5-9
Jn 12:24-26
8/11: Dt 4:32-40 Ps 77:12-16, 21
Mt 16:24-28
8/12: Dt 6:4-13 Ps 18:2-4, 47, 51
Mt 17:14-20
8/13: 1 Kgs 19:9, 1-13 Ps 85:9-14
Rom 9:1-5 Mt 14:22-33

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, Joanna Fernandes, Larry Lang, Martha Lee, Winnie Mulderig, Catherine Hines, Roy Fernandes, Bob Prentiss, Jose Nunez, Michael Goode, Jessica Deck, 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 Guariana

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

Marilyn Ergottino, Ernest J. Ergottino, Jr., Elizabeth C. Einuis, Elena Gonzalez, James J. Baylous



The Legion of Mary invites you to take part in their Fatima Home Visitation Program. There they teach interested family members how to pray the rosary in English or Spanish. They also provide rosaries at no cost to all those who want them. Our Lady's statue remains in the home for one week.

For information call the Office at 475-4506 ext. 101 and a Legion of Mary member will contact you.

Holy Hour



**O, SACRAMENT MOST HOLY!
O, SACRAMENT DIVINE!
ALL PRAISE
AND
ALL THANKSGIVING
BE EVERY MOMENT THINE!**

Please join us this Friday, August 11th from 8pm—9pm in the Worship Room.

"I Am With You Always"

We Pray

St. Clare's Second Letter to Agnes

What you hold, may you always hold.

What you do, may you always do
and never abandon.

But with swift pace, light step,
and unswerving feet,

so that even your steps stir up no dust,
go forward

securely, joyfully, swiftly,

on the path of prudent happiness,

believing nothing which would

dissuade you from this resolution

or which would place a stumbling block

for you on the way,

so that you may offer your vows

to the Most High

in the pursuit of that perfection

to which the Spirit of the Lord has called you.



*St. Clare is the Patron Saint of our Parish Outreach, and the patroness
of the blind, embroiderers, glaziers, and glass painters.*

Her feast day is August 11th.

Stewardship

Gifts of Treasure

July 30, 2017

Regular ~ \$9,023

Renovation ~ \$252 Solar ~ \$45

Reflection

Seeing Jesus transfigured made Peter want to *do* something to mark the event. But the Voice from the cloud said clearly that the first task of those who recognize Jesus as Lord is to *listen* to Jesus—and then *act!*

Living Stewardship

We are grateful for all stewards who “transfigure” their spiritual lives with a new way of thinking and acting—be still, listen to Jesus and act on His direction.

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.

Faith Direct

It's Easy

It's Safe

It's the Way to Give!

To learn about or enroll in this automated giving program, just log onto www.faithdirect.net and use our Church code **NY285**.

Also, sign-up forms are available in the Parish Office.

Enjoying those Summer Barbecues?

Don't forget to purchase SCRIP before planning your next barbecue!



Gift Cards are available in the Parish Center and after Masses for:

King Kullen, Meat Farms, ShopRite, Stop & Shop and Target.

Looking for a one-size-fits-all gift?

We also have Gift Cards for:

***Applebee's,
Cheesecake Factory,
Dunkin Donuts,
Kohl's,
Outback/Carrabas,
Panera Bread & Starbucks***

Using SCRIP is the best way to shop!
AT NO COST TO YOU,
the parish gains
5% of the amount you purchase!

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@stsylvesterli.org

Contact Outreach Ministry:

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

Contact Social Justice Ministry:

631-475-4506 press 5+2
jmcmahon@stsylvesterli.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. Boxed potatoes
2. Canned soup
3. Tuna fish/canned chicken
4. Tomato sauce
5. Mustard/ketchup/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



July 31st The Feast of the First Jesuit: St. Ignatius Loyola

Born in 1491, Ignatius was a different kind of saint. As the noted Jesuit historian Fr. John O'Malley, SJ, observed, "Ignatius redefined the traditional basis of saintliness," which usually involved a degree of

unworldliness. In contrast, Fr. O'Malley refers to Ignatius as a "worldly saint." Ignatius made sure that the early Jesuits were spending most of their time in relatively secular spaces such as classrooms — teaching less directly about the Bible and Church doctrine than about literature and the ancient classics. He sent letters to his missionaries asking that they write back not just about their ministries, but also about the local customs, the plants and wild life — "anything that seems extraordinary." Ignatius was a Spanish soldier and aristocrat who discerned his calling after suffering nearly fatal wounds on the battlefield. He established the Society of Jesus in 1540, instructing the early Jesuits to go out and "find God in all things." That is the signature spirituality of the Jesuits.

Ignatian spirituality is grounded in the conviction that God is active in our world. As the great Jesuit paleontologist Pierre Teilhard de Chardin wrote: "God is not remote from us. He is at the point of my pen, my pick, my paintbrush, my needle — and my heart and my thoughts." The spiritual path laid out by Ignatius is a way of discerning God's presence in our everyday lives and doing something about it.

The Jesuits have a handbook for this search. It is The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola, composed by the saint before he was even a priest. Often described as Ignatius' greatest gift to the world, these exercises unfold a dynamic process of prayer, meditation, and self-awareness. The basic thrust is to make us more attentive to God's activity in our world, more responsive to what God is calling us to do. Ignatian spiritual directors accompany or guide people through the exercises in retreat houses, parishes, and other settings.

Ignatian spirituality is not merely an inward journey, much less a self-absorbed one. It aims to bring people closer to God and more deeply into the world — with gratitude, passion, and humility — not away from it. Ignatius called on the Jesuits to be "contemplatives in action." Today, Jesuits and their lay collaborators work with people in many walks of life, such as education and business. They help nurture "men and women for others."



Sister Simone Campbell Relieved at Defeat of ACA Repeal

WASHINGTON, D.C.

In response to the defeat of "skinny repeal" amending the AHCA, Sister Simone Campbell, SSS, Executive Director of NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice said:

"The Catholic Sisters and activists of NETWORK stand with our nation's most vulnerable people, and I am grateful that last night, 51 members of the Senate chose the same path. For the sake of all the people I know who were terrified that their healthcare would be taken away, I am relieved. In the midst of partisan posturing, in the end, dedication to the common good prevailed.

"The road ahead is not likely to be straight or easy, but we must work together to improve healthcare for our people. What we learned last night is that it is impossible to legislate for the common good if a bill is created by one party in the shadows and only public for a few hours.

"NETWORK activists are committed to living out our faith mandate to protect healthcare as a right, not a privilege. We did it when we advocated in support of the Affordable Care Act seven years ago, and have done it ceaselessly ever since. I am proud and humbled that 7,150 of my Sisters joined with me this week to speak out in our Nuns' Letter and that our faith community united in opposition to the plan to destroy healthcare.

"I am especially grateful to the leadership of Senators Murkowski and Collins throughout this fight. It is clear to me that they were moved and motivated by the stories of their constituents who would be hurt by this legislation. They were not intimidated by the offer of partisan buyouts. I particularly appreciate their commitment to dialogue that seemingly shaped Senator McCain's views on the Senate floor last night.

"Moving forward, I pray that the Senate will focus on bipartisan fixes to the ACA. I urge Senators to put aside the hyper-partisanship and work for a better solution for our nation. For the faithful way forward, I suggest they review NETWORK's Ten Commandments of Affordable Healthcare."

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 6, 2017

Monday ~ August 7, 2017

Drawing Class ~ 10am ~ PDH

Baptism Class ~ 7pm ~ East Wing

Tuesday ~ August 8, 2017

Art Class ~ 9am ~ PDH

Legion of Mary ~ 1:30pm ~ Room 8

Wednesday ~ August 9, 2017

RCIA Inquiry ~ 7pm ~ East Wing

Dance Band Rehearsal ~ 8pm ~ PDH

Thursday ~ August 10, 2017

Al-Anon ~ 9:45am ~ Room 2

Friday ~ August 11, 2017

Compassionate Friends ~ 7:30pm ~ PDH

Holy Hour ~ 8pm ~ WR

Saturday, August 12, 2017

Art Class ~ 9am ~ 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.

BAPTISM

Let us welcome the newly baptized into our community of Faith during the Month of July 2017

Benjamin Charles Burghard

Keira Mackenzie Cable

Dani Vivian Carey

Angelina Noelle Mastroddi

Benjamin Michael Sievers

Skylar Rose Weinstein



Anointing of the Sick

The Rite of Anointing tells us there is no need to wait until a person is at the point of death to receive the Sacrament.

A careful judgment about the serious nature of the illness is sufficient.



When the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is given, the hoped-for effect is that, if it be God's will, the person be physically healed of illness. But even if there is no physical healing, the primary effect of the Sacrament is a spiritual healing by which the sick person receives the Holy Spirit's gift of peace and courage to deal with the difficulties that accompany serious illness or the frailty of old age.

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

The Sacrament of the Anointing is celebrated at St. Sylvester on the second Friday of the month immediately following the 8:30am Mass in the Worship Room of the Parish Center. The next Anointing is this Friday, August 11.

Community News

Medford Concert Series, sponsored by County Legislator Rob Calarco and the Medford Chamber of Commerce continues at Medford Memorial Park this Wednesday, August 9th at 7pm. Bring a chair and a friend and listen to *Glass Houses*, featuring Henry Said and the music of Billy Joel. Please bring a non-perishable food item to support Long Island Cares.

The Town of Brookhaven Youth Bureau Sanctuary Program is offering free and confidential counseling services by New York State Licensed Clinical Social Workers. Services include: individual and/or family counseling, support and educational groups, crisis intervention, housing referrals, case management and independent living skills, and intervention with runaway & homeless youth. Call 631-451-8011 for more information.

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.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul Friends of the Poor 5K Walk will take place Saturday, September 30 (rain or shine) at Bethpage Community Park, 1001 Stewart Ave., Bethpage. Registration & check-in begin at 9am. Walk with us & help end poverty on Long Island. Call 516-822-3132 for information, or visit www.fopwalk.org. Donations can be mailed to Society of St. Vincent de Paul, 249 Broadway, Bethpage, NY 11714.

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*.

The Life Center of Long Island is looking for volunteers to assist in our ground floor center in Riverhead on Main Street. Come work side by side with our staff for a morning or afternoon or more! We could help you learn and train on how to interact with moms in crisis, assist in fulfilling their needs, assist a well trained staff in fielding calls, donations, fund raising and networking with local resources. Bi-lingual volunteers are also needed. Please call Lisa or Franci at 631-591-9017 Monday-Friday, 10am to 4pm.