



**St. Sylvester R. C. Church**

68 Ohio Avenue, Medford, NY 11763

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

*Behold, I am sending my  
messenger ahead of you;  
he will prepare your way.*



**December 10, 2017**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

## 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, W ~ 9am - 12 & 1 - 8:30pm; Th, Fri ~ 9am - 12 & 1 - 5pm; 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-11:30am

**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](http://www.stsyvesterli.org)**

# We Pray

## **Saturday, December 9, 2017**

5:00pm Sr. Regina Assumpta  
James Bledsoe  
Ralph Frevola  
James Frevola  
Lucy Gordon  
Grace DiMaria  
McCance Family

## **Sunday, December 10, 2017**

7:30am Stanley Taylor  
9:00am Barbara Weir  
11:00am Matteo, Caravana & Lupia Families  
(Living & Deceased)

## **Monday, December 11, 2017**

8:30am For the People of St. Sylvester

## **Tuesday, December 12, 2017**

8:30am Alice Rose Regan

## **Thursday, December 14, 2017**

8:30am Nicholas Bruzzo

## **Friday, December 15, 2017**

8:30am Geraldine Schaedler (Living)

## **Saturday, December 16, 2017**

5:00pm William Hawkins (3rd Anniversary)  
Nicholas & Olga Veneroso  
Pietro Sgroi  
Sean Patrick Dixon  
Michael P. Kelly, Jr.  
Donald Keegan

## **Sunday, December 17, 2017**

7:30am Camille Lepik  
9:00am John Pavacic  
11:00am Brian DePierro

## **READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

12/11:	Is 35:1-10	Ps 85:9-14
	Lk 5:17-26	
12/12:	Zec 2:14-17	Jdt 13:18-19
	Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47	
12/13:	Is 40:25-31	Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10
	Mt 11:28-30	
12/14:	Is 41:13-20	Ps 145:1, 9-13
	Mt 11:11-15	
12/15:	Is 48:17-19	Ps 1:1-4, 6
	Mt 11:16-19	
12/16:	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11	Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19
	Mt 17:9-13	
12/17:	Is 61:1-2, 10-11	Lk 1:46-50, 53-54
	1 Thes 5:16-24	Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

## **Prayer Groups**

### *Adoration*

2nd Friday of the month ~ 8pm  
Worship Room

### *Charismatic Prayer Group*

1st, 3rd & 4th Fridays of the month ~ 8pm  
Worship Room

### *Women's Prayer Group*

3rd Tuesday of the month ~ 7pm ~ East Wing

### *Legion of Mary*

Every Tuesday ~ 1:30pm ~ Room 8

### *Spanish Legion of Mary*

Every Monday ~ 5:30pm ~ Room 4

### *Carmelites*

3rd Friday of the month  
Mass ~ 7pm ~ Worship Room  
Meeting ~ 8pm ~ East Wing

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

*Eva D'Amato, Marguerite Orlowski, Robert Orlowski, Tom Stephens, Melina Grosso Bischoff, Nina Caravana, Martha Lee, Winnie Mulderig, Catherine Hines, Bob Prentiss, Jose Nunez, Jessica Deck, Laurie Saper, Rose Masucci, Baby Bryanna Spencer, Pam Hinton, Pam Filasky, Ken Terry, Brian Podlesny, Diane Rockowitz, Patricia Nochese, Barbara Vattiato, Roger Chin-Sang, Jenna Knoblauch, Sasha Medile, Theresa O'Connor, Baby Charlotte Steele, Robert Uricola, Virginia Guaiana, Olivia Bazirgan, Michael Goode, William F. Swope, Nef Nieves, Genevieve Cannarili, Vito Scaglione, Louis Donisi, Joanne Clarke, Michael Dolan, Richard Gross, Ann Pijko, Christopher Gebrig, Angelina Pagano, Ricky Langhorn, Edward Rafferty, Michelle Clark, Joe Caracciolo, Barbara Bruzzo, Ann Vidal, Kristin Danielski, Laura Mockler, Diane Ruiz*

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

*Sharon E. Hamilton, Debi Farnsworth*

## We Pray

### A Morning Advent Prayer

Dear Lord,

Through the darkness, I look for your wisdom.  
I want my heart to be open to you.  
But sometimes in these days, it seems that  
so many things come between us.

Help me to be awake and aware  
of the radiance you bring to my life.

Help me to be grateful each day  
for the blessings of family and friends.

Let me be a peacemaker  
in my own life, and in the world.  
Let me pray especially for this difficult world  
and those who are so in need of an end to violence.  
My heart longs for this as my Advent prayer today.



### An Evening Advent Prayer

Dear Lord,

In the darkness of these Advent nights  
let me be guided by the light of your word.  
Give me the humility to be led by you  
and the wisdom to learn from you.

I feel your light in my life  
and in the world.  
I am grateful for the Savior who awaits us,  
and eagerly await the time of rejoicing.  
Let me look forward in hope  
and turn to you with great trust,  
knowing you will guide my steps  
along the unknown path of tomorrow.

# Faith Formation

## *Reminder*

- Mass Reflection Forms are due this week for Levels 2 through 7.
- Level 1 Parents and Children will meet next Saturday, December 16 at 9am in the Parish Center. Parents, please sign your child in and out of their classroom (**not in the Parish Center Lower Level as the calendar states**) and then proceed to the East Wing for a presentation. Parents must remain in the building while their child is here! **Please have your child bring their folder, workbook, pencil and completed 2nd Mass Reflection Form.**
- Home Taught children will meet Saturday, December 16 from 10:30am to 12pm in the Parish Center. Parents, please sign your child in & out of their classroom. **Have your child bring their folder, workbook and their completed 2nd Mass Reflection Form.**

## *Adults Seeking Confirmation*



Were you baptized Catholic, received First Holy Communion, but for some reason never celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation? Coming to St. Sylvester on Tuesdays, beginning February 20, 2018, is a process for adults who would like to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation. For details, call Fran McMahon at 475-4506 ext 107.

## **RCIA** is for those who. . .

- Have never been baptized and are interested in becoming Catholic.
- Are baptized non-Catholic but would like to become a member of the Catholic community.
- Are baptized Catholic but never received Communion and/or Confirmation.
- Are struggling with questions about life, death, suffering, hope, forgiveness, love, God . . .
- Are Catholic and would like to be a member of the Team and help by sharing your faith, being a sponsor, or setting up hospitality.

If you would like more information, please speak with Fran at 475-4506 ext 107.

# 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 normally meets first Thursdays at 7pm in Clare House. ALL ARE WELCOME! RSVP.

**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](mailto:jmcmahon@stsylvesterli.org)

### Contact Outreach Ministry:

631-475-4506 x122  
[clarehouse@stsylvesterli.org](mailto:clarehouse@stsylvesterli.org)

### Contact Social Justice Ministry:

631-475-4506 press 5+2  
[jmcmahon@stsylvesterli.org](mailto:jmcmahon@stsylvesterli.org)

## Clare House Market - Wishlist

We have updated our food pantry with the addition of a glass front refrigerator and freezer—acquired through a grant! Our new Clare House Market aims to enhance the dignity of those we serve by empowering them to make choices for themselves, including the food they accept.

We are in need of perishable and non-perishable food donations to stock our Clare House Market. Please continue to bring non-perishable items to church on Sundays. In addition, we are requesting perishable items be brought directly to Clare House on Wednesdays 5:30-7:30pm – please call ahead to ensure our ability to receive your donation 631-475-4506 x122 Thank You for supporting our community!

### PERISHABLE—BRING TO CLARE HOUSE ON WED 5:30-7:30pm

Chicken – fresh or frozen  
Eggs  
Butter

### NON-PERISHABLE—BRING TO CHURCH ON SUNDAY:

Rice  
Mayo  
Coffee  
Juice  
Bath Soap

**LIGHT UP THE HOLIDAYS**

**We raised over \$6000!**

**Thank You to everyone who volunteered, made a contribution, or wrote a letter to support our neighbors in need this holiday season.**

**Its not too late! If you missed our event last weekend you can still participate – please send cash/check and holiday cards/letters to Clare House.**

# Parish Social Ministry

Did you know...

Jesus was born in poverty to a young, unwed mother?



As we prepare for the birth of Jesus Christ in this Advent season, we are reminded of the precious gift of the Holy Family. Many of today's young mothers face some of the same challenges as the Holy Family and are in need of shelter, basic amenities, love and prayer. Their choice for life enables another child of God to be born. Please support these young mother's choice for life.

## WE NEED YOU!

Please support the Maternity Advent Project providing pregnancy care to women and families across L.I.

- (1) *Christmas cards and greetings are welcome!*
- (2) METRO, PHONE, and GIFT CARDS are graciously welcomed.
- (3) Please make your donation online at <http://respectlife.drvc.org/make-a-donation>
- (4) Please make checks payable to "Diocese of Rockville Centre"

Mail to: Respect Life Office 50 North Park Ave.,  
P.O. Box 9023, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-9023

Your generous donation will help maternity homes on Long Island:

Regina Maternity Services  
Mother of Good Counsel Home  
Momma's House  
Bethany house

Please send your donations prior to December 25, 2017  
to ensure timely distribution to our Maternity  
Residences.

Thank you for your support!

Did you know...

Jesus was born in poverty to an immigrant, refugee family?



For Christians around the world, Advent means anticipation. It's when we prepare for the coming of Jesus and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. This year, we celebrate Advent during the SHARE THE JOURNEY campaign led by Pope Francis, which calls the Church around the world to reach out to our immigrant and refugee neighbors. Advent reminds us of the Holy Family's journey to Bethlehem, and what Pope Francis says is our journey to "the horizon of hope." But for the millions of refugees and displaced people around the world, it can be difficult to find the hope in their journey. They need our help along the way.

"A lot of work goes into being ready to respond to this kind of crisis," says Bill O'Keefe, vice president of government relations and advocacy for Catholic Relief Services. "We live in some ways in a state of constant anticipation, in constant preparation for the refugee. We wait for God's people on the move who, like the Holy Family, find themselves forced to flee to a place where there's no room in the inn."

For the Holy Family, the search for a safe place did not end with the birth of Jesus. Just days later, Joseph was warned in a dream to take Jesus and Mary to Egypt because of King Herod's threat to kill the newborn King.

"They were migrants and spent years living in a foreign land. They fled the political and social conditions in their country," says Richard Coll, director of Catholic Home Missions, the division of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops that provides basic pastoral services such as sacraments and baptisms to transient or remote Catholic communities, including migrants. "Jesus himself experienced the same concerns and the same fears that migrants today fear," Coll says. "It's really in our DNA as Catholics to serve these members in very troubled communities."

Every day, families leave their homes in places like Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan, driven by conflict, violence or poverty, and desperately seeking safety. Some spend their life savings or take on massive debt to pay for the journey. Many risk their lives for a new start. Since 2014, more than 15,000 refugees and asylum seekers drowned in the Mediterranean Sea attempting to reach European shores.

"All of us are called by God, by the Holy Father, by our consciences to be that inn, to provide that room, to share that journey, that every day millions of innocent people just like us are forced to take," O'Keefe says. "Refugees know they have a long way to go. They know it's going to be a difficult journey—but at least they know there's someone on their side now."



Catholic Relief Services is an international humanitarian organization working to end poverty and promote the well-being of people around the world – including refugee families forced from their homes by violence and persecution. CRS provides food, shelter, social services—and hope for their journey. CRS joined the global SHARE THE JOURNEY campaign launched by Pope Francis to inspire communities to build relationships with refugees and migrants, and care for their neighbors in the United States and around the world. You can learn more about how to participate at [loveyourneighbor.us](http://loveyourneighbor.us)

20% of the sales of every pair of Share the Journey socks will be donated to Catholic Relief Services' work with refugees and migrants. So, each step you take in these fair trade organic cotton socks is a step toward dignity, safety, and love for refugees and migrants around the world. <https://maggiesorganics.com/organic-cotton-socks-share-the-journey/>

# Stewardship

## *Gifts of Treasure*

*December 3, 2017*

*Regular Contributions ~ \$9,092  
Renovation ~ \$370      Solar ~ \$128*

## 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](http://www.faithdirect.net) and use our Church code NY285.

*Sign-up forms are available in the Parish Office.*

## *Catholic Ministries Appeal 2017*

Designated Goal:	\$65,100.00
Amount Pledged to Date:	\$58,545.00
% of Goal Pledged to Date:	89.9%
Number of Donors to Date:	224

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

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

## *Reflection*

John the Baptist's call to repentance is echoed in the US Bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship: "Christians must beg God for the grace of conversion: the grace to know who they are, to whom they belong, how they are to live—the grace to repent and change and grow, the grace to become good disciples and stewards."

## *Living Stewardship*

We are grateful for all stewards who strive to respond to God's grace through service to our parish and the wider community, especially our Parish Social Ministry.

## **IS PHYSICAL STRENGTH ONE OF YOUR GIFTS?**

Are you the strong family member or friend that is always helping someone move, carrying something heavy down from the attic or setting up tents and tables for a party? If so, would you like to share your gift with us on a regular basis?

Several times a year we have bulk mailings that must be brought to the Medford Post Office, which consist of 14 or so heavy and awkward trays. (Our newsletter gets sent quarterly, our Stewardship Mailings go out twice a year and there are other miscellaneous mailings throughout the year.) These mailings have become a challenge for us and we would appreciate your assistance.

We are also looking for someone to assist the Thrift Shop weekly in lifting large bags of clothes, bringing them in to be sorted and out to the bins or dumpsters as necessary.

If you are able to lend your arms to either one of these ministries, please contact Lori Zito at (631) 475-4506, ext. 115 or email to [Lzito@stsyvesterli.org](mailto:Lzito@stsyvesterli.org).

*Stewardship*  
**Our Way of Life**



# Stewardship

**MICHAEL SUSPENSKI**

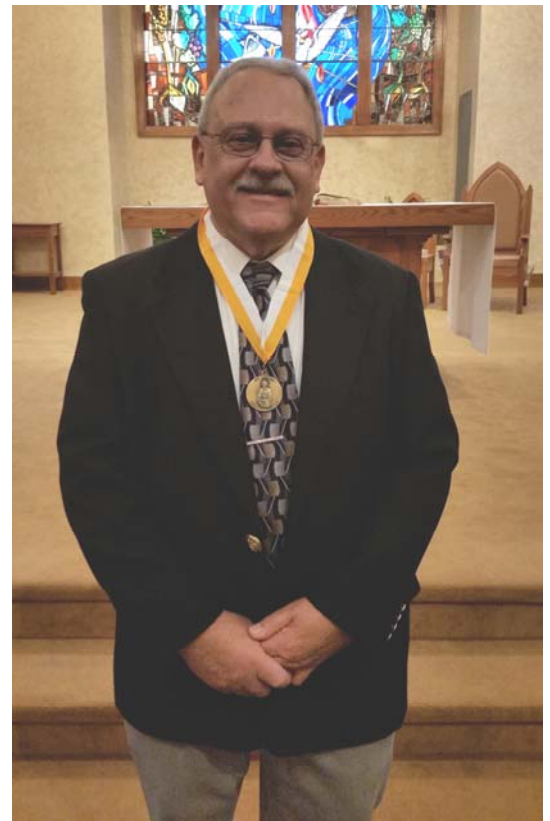
**2017 ST. AGNES MEDAL RECIPIENT**

We are happy to announce that Michael Suspenski is this year's parish recipient of the 2017 St. Agnes Medal of Service. Fr. Tom awarded the medal to Mike here last Sunday at the 11am Masses with many friends, fellow ministers and parishioners in attendance. The award was originally supposed to be given at St. Agnes Cathedral in Rockville Centre, but a severe storm with flooding at the end of October altered those plans, giving our faith community a chance to share in this special event.

Mike, a retired postal worker and baseball fan who has been with the parish for the past four years, came to St. Sylvester and immediately immersed himself in the life of the parish by joining several ministries. A proud father of two married daughters and a devoted grandpa to his grandson, Mike is a "people person" who always finds the time to stop and talk, have a laugh or offer encouragement.

Currently serving as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion at weekend Masses, Mike also brings the Body of Christ to our parish's homebound, those in Medford Multicare Nursing Home and to many in nearby Brookhaven Hospital. He is especially gifted in being present to the critically ill and to the families of the sick and newly deceased, and these gifts also make him a dedicated Lazarus Ministry of Consolation Companion where he assists families in planning the funerals of their loved ones and sometimes officiates at wake services.

In his "free" time, Mike also serves as a Level 4 Catechist, is the President of the Legion of Mary and a key member of the parish's Stewardship Committee. He is also involved with our Bread Ministry at Clare House and the Ministry of Prayer. Mike is *always* there to lend a helping hand, periodically changing the missals in the church or quietly assisting with parish mailings and anything else that needs attention. In short, he is an integral part of so much of what we do here and does it all with a smile — and a great story or two! Please join us in giving Mike our heartfelt thanks and congratulations!



# Music Ministry



In order to make it easier for children to attend, rehearsals will now be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month in the morning, before the 11:00 am Mass, at 9:45am, in the Parish Center Worship Room. The next rehearsal and Mass will be today Sunday, December at 9:45am. **In addition, the children will sing at the 4pm Christmas Eve Mass.**

Questions? Please call Teresa Balducci at [\(516\) 662-2831](tel:5166622831).

For the Month of December

Rehearsal @ 9:45am followed by 11am Mass	4pm Mass
December 10th and December 24th	December 24th

## Parish Life

### *The Week Ahead*

*Sunday, December 10, 2017*

Baptisms ~ 12:30pm ~ Church

*Monday ~ December 11, 2017*

Drawing Class ~ 10am ~ East Wing

*Tuesday ~ December 12, 2017*

Art Class ~ 9am ~ East Wing

Legion of Mary ~ 1:30pm ~ Room 8

*Wednesday ~ December 13, 2017*

Stewardship Meeting ~ 7pm ~ Room 3

RCIA Inquiry ~ 7pm ~ EW

*Thursday ~ December 14, 2017*

Al-Anon ~ 9:45am ~ Room 2

*Friday ~ December 15, 2017*

Carmelite Mass ~ 7pm ~ Worship Room

Carmelite Meeting ~ 8pm ~ East Wing

*Saturday, December 16, 2017*

Level 1 ~ 9am ~ Parish Center

Home Taught ~ 10:30am ~ Parish Center

*Heading towards warmer*

*weather for the next few*

*months?* Please notify the Parish Office so we can stop your envelopes during your time away.



### *Thrift Shop News*

**The Thrift Shop is in need of both girls and boys clothing in sizes 3—6x.**

**Please bring your donations into the Thrift Shop during their regular hours:**

*Tues, Wed & Thurs ~ 10am to 3pm*

*Saturday ~ 10am to 1pm*

**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE DONATIONS OUTSIDE THE BUILDING!**

*“This Advent, prepare to celebrate Jesus' arrival as an infant in the small town of Bethlehem. Born into poverty, he brings us the good news that God loves us - and calls us to give of ourselves to others.”*

Liguori Publications

# Holiday Gift Cards

Fill your Christmas Stocking - we offer over 300 retailer gift cards! *The last order will be placed on Monday morning, December 11th with delivery within a week.*

Please circle the denomination for each card ordered if it has more than one listed.

Apparel & Accessories	Qty
American Eagle \$25	
Dress Barn \$25	
Express \$25	
Famous Footwear \$25	
Finish Line \$25	
Foot Locker \$25	
GAP/Old Navy/Banana \$25	
Journey \$25	
TJ Maxx/Marshall \$25 & \$50	
Under Armour \$25	
Department Stores	
JCPenney \$25 & \$100	
Kmart/Sears \$25 & \$50	
Kohl's \$25	
Macy's \$25 & \$100	
Target \$25 & \$100	
Walmart \$25 & \$100 & \$250	
Dining - Casual	
Applebee's \$25 & \$50	
Bonefish Grill \$25 & \$50	
Buffalo Wild Wings \$10 & \$25	
Cheesecake Factory \$25	
Chili's \$25	
Dave & Busters \$25	
Denny's \$10	
IHOP \$25	
Olive Garden \$25	
On the Border \$25 & \$50	
Outback /Carrabas \$25	
P.F. Chang's \$25	
Red Lobster \$25	
Ruby Tuesday \$25	
TGI Friday's \$25	

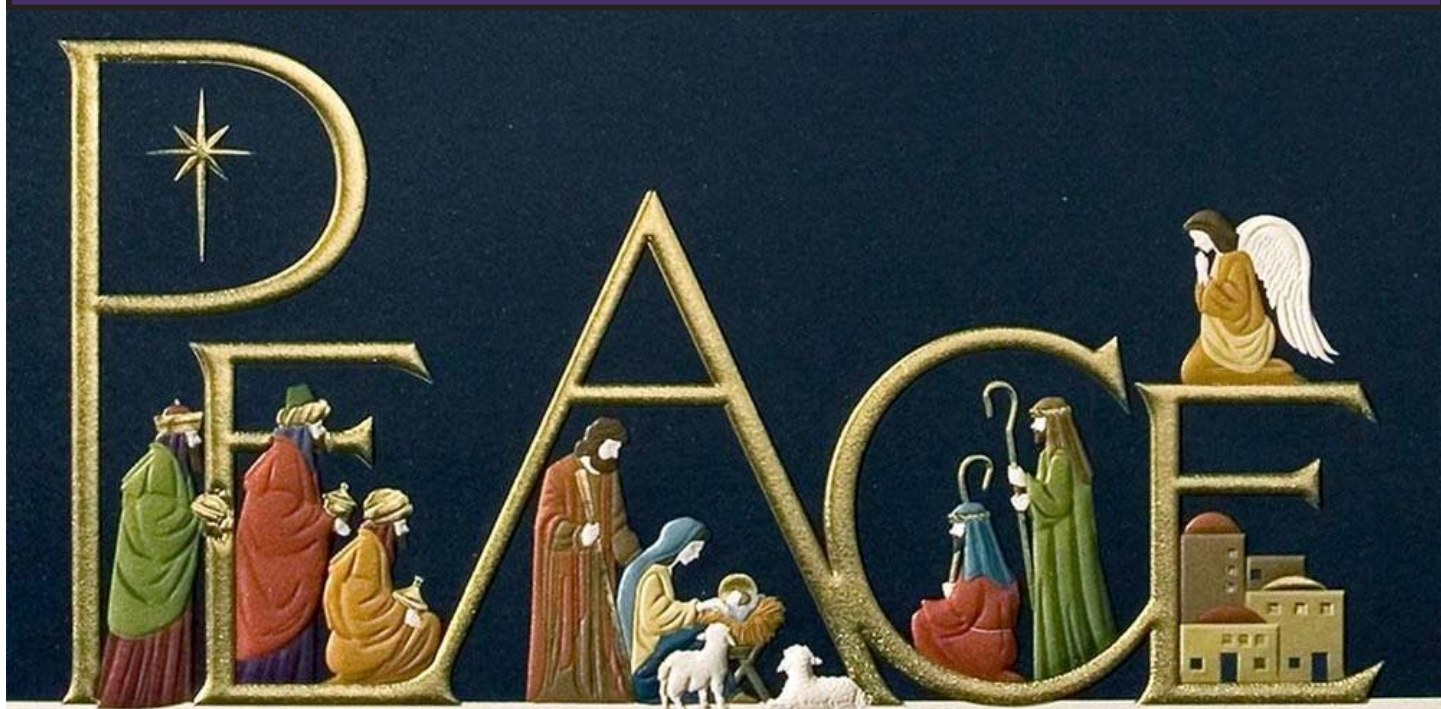
Dining - On the Go	Qty
Boston Market \$10	
Chipolte \$10	
Dunkin Donuts \$10 & \$25	
Panera Bread \$10 & \$25	
Starbucks \$10 & \$25	
Subway \$10	
Taco Bell \$10	
Wendy's \$10	
Entertainment	
AMC Theatres \$25	
Barnes & Noble \$25	
GameStop \$25	
Regal Entertainment \$25	
Home Décor	
A. C. Moore \$25	
Bed Bath & Beyond \$25	
Home Goods \$25 & \$100	
Michaels \$25	
Pier I Imports \$25	
Home Improvement	
Lowe's \$25 & \$100	
Home Depot \$25 & \$100	

Online & Mail Order	Qty
Amazon.com \$25 & \$100	
Groupon.com \$25	
Itunes \$15 & \$25	
Lands' End \$25	
L.L. Bean \$25	
Nook \$10 & \$25	
Specialty Retailer	
Auto Zone \$25	
Bath & Body Works \$10 & \$25	
Best Buy \$25 & \$100	
Christmas Tree Shops \$25	
CVS Pharmacy \$25	
PetSmart \$25	
Sally's Beauty Supply \$25	
Sephora \$25	
Tanger Outlets \$25	
Toys-R-Us \$20	
Ulta \$25	
Walgreens \$25	
Sporting Goods	
Bass Pro Shop \$25	
Dick's Sporting Goods \$25	

Name	
Address	
Phone #	Total amount enclosed:
Order Date	# of Gift Cards Ordered:

**If you have other favorite restaurants or retailers, please call the parish office at 631-475-4506 ext 101 to see if they participate!**

# Christmas Schedule



## *~SACRAMENT OF PENANCE~*

*Saturdays*

12:00 Noon

**(Except Saturday, December 23rd)**

*Monday, December 18th*

12:00 Noon ~ Individual Penance

7:00pm ~ Communal Penance Service

## *~FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT MASSES~*

*Saturday Evening, December 23rd*

5:00pm

*Sunday Morning, December 24th*

9:00am & 11:00am

**(NO 7:30AM MASS)**

## *~CHRISTMAS MASSES~*

*Sunday Evening, December 24th*

4:00pm, 6:00pm and 10:00pm

*Monday Morning, December 25th*

9:00am & 11:00am

# Community News

## The Students of Holy Angels Regional School



Invite You to

### HONOR AN ANGEL

In Your Life



The Students of Holy Angels invite you celebrate Christ's birth by honoring the important people in your life. If you would like to let someone (a family member, teacher, friend, babysitter, etc.) know how special they are to you, or to honor the memory of a deceased loved one, then Honor them as your ANGEL.

Your honoree (or a family member) will receive a card informing them that they are a special Angel in your life. All of the honorees will be lifted up in prayer at a special Mass at

St. Francis de Sales Church in Patchogue on

Tuesday, December 19 at 11 AM.

DONATION: \$5 per ANGEL HONOREE

Please make checks payable to Holy Angels Regional School, 1 Division Street, Patchogue, NY 11772

For more information call (631) 475-0422

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***HONOR AS AN ANGEL IN MY LIFE***

Name of Honoree: \_\_\_\_\_

### **HONOREE CARD SHOULD BE SENT TO:**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

*ADDITIONAL HONOREES CAN BE SENT IN ON A PIECE OF PAPER ATTACHED TO THIS INVITATION.*

## Community News

*Women's Cursillo Weekend* ~ January 25-28, 2018 in Glen Cove. The Cursillo is a structured weekend, consisting of a series of talks and discussions. It offers you the opportunity to work at getting to know yourself, discover your strengths, figure out what place God plays in your life, and get closer to Him. The weekend offers you the guidance to blend your love of God with your environment when you reenter your everyday world. You will be giving yourself a precious gift. For more information call Cathy at 631-617-7971.

*Creative Ministries' Journey, Cross and Crucifixion* ~ Looking for an incredible way to pray throughout the Lenten Season? Are you able to sing, act, dance or play an instrument? We are looking for new troupe members. We would love for you to join us in this ministry. Adults and teens of all ages are welcome! To learn more, call or e-mail Barbara at 631-317-9415 or [journey@cmpac.com](mailto:journey@cmpac.com)

*Cub Scout Fun and Faith Day* ~ Saturday, January 20, 2018. Sacred Heart Church in Merrick from 8:30am—12noon and St. Patrick's Church in Smithtown from 10:30am—3pm. A special day of prayer, handicrafts and games. For information, contact the Catholic Scouting Office: [scouting@drvc.org](mailto:scouting@drvc.org) or call 516-678-5800 ext 245.

*Worldwide Marriage Encounter* ~ help make a good marriage a great marriage! The next weekend is February 9-11, 2018 in Huntington. Call John & Toni at 718-344-3700 or visit: [www.wwmeli.org](http://www.wwmeli.org)

## Christmas Events Here & There

Through the generosity of the Church of St. Joseph in Babylon, the renowned *St. Joseph's Choir* will present a free concert this evening, Sunday, December 10 at 7pm. They will perform selections from Handel's *MESSIAH* and Bach's *MAGNIFICAT* directed by Dr. Marie Drohan and accompanied by soloists and the Sophisticated Strings. The concert will include other beautiful choral selections and will be preceded by a moving candlelight procession. Please arrive early as the church is put in complete darkness promptly at 7pm. A free-will offering is appreciated, with checks payable to **St. Joseph Church**. Proceeds benefit the Mercy INN Soup Kitchen in Wyandanch.

*Lessons and Carols* ~ presented at the Muriel & Virginia Pless Center for Performing Arts on the campus of St. Joseph's College in Patchogue, Monday, December 11th at 6pm.

*Bambinelli Sunday ~ A Blessing of Infant Jesus* ~ December 17th, the Third Sunday of Advent, at Our Lady of the Island Shrine in Manorville, at the 11:30am Mass. Children of all ages are invited to bring their Baby Jesus (Bambinelli) from their family's Nativity Set for a Blessing.

*St. William the Abbot Church* in Seaford will be having their *6th Candlelight Carol Sing* on Wednesday, December 20th at 7:30pm. Participate in singing familiar Christmas favorites and be entertained with the sounds of beautiful music provided by professional musicians, handbells and a wonderful group of singers. Call the music office at 516-781-3253 for more information.

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