St. Sylvester R. C. Church 68 Ohio Avenue, Medford, NY 11763

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

A sower went out to sow.

The seed that fell on the path, rocky ground or thorns, all died.



But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.

> July 16, 2017 15th 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 McMahon, Faith Formation Director Justin McMahon, Parish Social Ministry Director Lori Zito, Stewardship Director

Office Information

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

Faith Formation Office: (631)475-4506 ext. 118 email: faithformation@stsylvesterli.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 ~ 10 am - 3pm; Sat ~ 10 am - 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 McMahon, 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.

We Pray

Saturday, July 15, 2017

5:00pm Cesarino Family

Sharon O'Connor Patty Jensen Antonio Cesarino

Vanessa and Joseph Fleming

Sunday, July 16, 2017

7:30am Felicita Vale 9:00am James Hines, Jr. James Doucette

11:00am Peter Hawkins

Monday, July 17, 2016

8:30am For the People of St. Sylvester

Tuesday, July 18, 2017

8:30am Gordon Flannery

Thursday, July 20, 2017 8:30am William Lown

Friday, July 21, 2017

8:30am Mary Elizabeth Lampe

James Lampe

Saturday, July 22, 2017

5:00pm Matteo, Caravana & Confessore Families

(Living & Deceased)

Rocco & Ernestine Mangino

Rose Tardiff Carol Weber John Lalli

Lorraine McGarty

Sunday, July 23, 2017

7:30am Martin J. Helbig 9:00am Kenneth Dubin 11:00am Peter Ripi

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

Marion J. Maltese, Emerson B. Vidal, Anna Bastone, Ronald DuKarp, John A. Pindulic

READINGS FOR THE WEEK				
7/17:	Ex 1:8-14, 22	Ps 124:1-8		
	Mt 10:34-11:1			
7/18:	Ex 2:1-15	Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34		
	Mt 11:20-24			
7/19:	Ex 3:1-6, 9-12	Ps 103:1-4, 6-7		
	Mt 11:25-27			
7/20:	Ex 3:13-20	Ps 105:1, 5, 8-9, 24-27		
	Mt 11:28-30			
7/21:	Ex 11:10 -12:14	Ps 116:12-13, 15-18		
	Mt 12:1-8			
7/22:	Ex 12:37-42	Ps 63:2-6, 8-9		
	Jn 20:1-2, 11-18			
7/23:	Wis 12:13, 16-19	Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16		
	Rom 8:26-27	Mt 13:24-23		

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

Eva D'Amato, Marguerite Orlowski, Robert Orlowski, 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, Beverly Noble, Ed Rafferty, Donald Tierney, Sr., Danny Miller, Theresa Golembroski, Barbara Vattiato, Roger Chin-Sang, Jenna Knoblauch, Sasha Medile, Theresa O'Connor, Baby Charlotte Steele

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 Wednesday of the month~ 7pm ~ East Wing

Legion of Mary ~ Every Tuesday ~ 1:30pm ~ Room 8

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

Stewardship

Gifts of Treasure July 9, 2017

Faith Direct July Contributions

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

May our stewardship of time, talent and treasure show us to be among those who have heard the message of Christ and taken it in, yielding a hundred—or sixty—fold!

Living Stewardship

We are grateful for all stewards who practice corporal works of mercy in their everyday lives, such as feeding the hungry by contributing to our Parish Social Ministry's Food Pantry.

Catholic Ministries Appeal 2017

Designated Goal: \$65,100.00 Amount Pledged to Date: \$47,585.00 % of Goal Pledged to Date: 73.1% Number of Donors to Date: 155

Gift Cards

An everyday fundraiser here at St. Sylvester is our Scrip program, where **gift cards** can be purchased for grocery and retail stores as well as restaurants. Every time you purchase a gift card, our parish receives a percentage of the sale, at no extra cost to you! Gift cards can be given as a present or can be used by you! Please consider purchasing gift cards after Mass or during the week in the Parish Office to:

Applebee's ~ \$25
Cheesecake Factory ~ \$25
Chili's ~ \$25
Dunkin Donuts ~ \$10
King Kullen ~ \$25 & \$50
Kohl's ~ \$25
Meat Farms ~ \$20
Outback/Carrabas ~ \$25
Panera ~ \$25
ShopRite ~ \$25 & \$100
Starbucks ~ \$10
Stop & Shop ~ \$25, \$50 & \$100

Catholic Ministries Appeal

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

PLEDGE: \$	
Make checks payable to: Catholic Ministries A Please Print:	Appeal
Name:	
Address:	
Phone:	
Place in collection backet or return to the Dr	arich

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

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.



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 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



SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY

This month the Social Justice Committee will meet on the 2nd Thursday - July 13th - at 7pm in Clare House.





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. Mustard/ketchup/mayo
- 2. Shampoo
- 3. Pancake syrup
- 4. Boxed potatoes
- 5. Peas/carrots
- 6. Mixed veggies
- 7. Tuna fish



July: Back to School Program

During the month of July we will be 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



Last week, the Senate decided to hold off on voting on their repeal of the Affordable Care Act, Better Care Reconciliation Act of 2017 (BCRA) until after the break.

Catholic Charities rejected the Senate health care bill because the drastic cuts to Medicaid would leave millions of poor and vulnerable Americans stranded without health care coverage. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that 22 million Americans would lose health care, including 15 million people next year alone under BCRA. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has also called the Senate draft "unacceptable."

BCRA reduces coverage for those least able to afford it. By eliminating the Medicaid expansion which provides access to health care coverage to over 10 million individuals and changing traditional Medicaid from an entitlement to a block grant, millions of low-income individuals and families will lose access to affordable health care coverage.

CCUSA's work is rooted in the Church's moral and social teaching, which holds in accordance with human dignity, that health care is a basic human right. Across the country, Catholic Charities agencies provided health care-related services to more than 860,000 individuals. These agencies see firsthand the devastating consequences of inadequate health care. They see the consequences of untreated mental illness, they work to respond to the growing opioid epidemic and they support families who are struggling between the decision whether to pay a health care bills or their rent.

Urge Congress instead to work for a health care bill which truly expands coverage, reduces costs and respects human life and dignity.

When Congress returns, they will have a busy month debating and possibility making historic decisions on the future of our country's health care system and

programs which help the poor and vulnerable. Now is the time to let them know that the poor and vulnerable must be protected.

Here are some ways you can help make a difference:

- 1. Call or email your Senator about their health care bill: Now is the time to tell your Senator that you stand with Catholic Charities USA and that they should reject their health care bill. Take action today and email your Senator.
- 2. Connect with your local office: You don't have to be in Washington to have your voice heard. Call or go to your local congressional office and remind them of why health care is important and why they should adopt a budget which prioritizes the poor and vulnerable in our communities.
- 3. Invite your Member: If you volunteer or work for a local Catholic Charities program, invite your member of congress to see your program or meet the people you serve so they can learn more about the challenges the poor and vulnerable face in their communities. Pope Francis consistently reminds us of the powerful importance that can take place when people truly encounter their brothers and sisters in need.
- 4. Pray: Pray that our nation's leaders are guided each day by the need to work for a more just society. That the ideals of our Nation's founding give rise to a nation and community that truly recognizes that all people have inherent dignity and worth. Remember also in your prayers those who still live a life of insecurity and fear.

CCUSA: Protect the Poor!

Speak Out Against the Senate Health Care Bill!

http://tiny.cc/speakoutBCRA

Parish Life

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday ~ July 16, 2017

Blood Drive ~ 8am ~ Patricia Desmond Hall

Monday ~ July 17, 2017

Drawing Class ~ 10am ~ PDH

Tuesday ~ July 18, 2017

Art Class ~ 9am ~ PDH

Legion of Mary ~ 1:30pm ~ Room 8

Wednesday ~ July 19, 2017

Women's Prayer Group ~ 7pm ~ EW

Dance Band Rehearsal ~ 8pm ~ PDH

Thursday ~ July 20, 2017

Al-Anon ~ 9:45am ~ Room 2

Moving On Support Group ~ 2:30pm ~ EW

Friday ~ July 21, 2017

Carmelite Mass ~ 7pm ~ WR

Carmelite Meeting ~ 8pm ~ EW

Charismatic Prayer Group ~ 8pm ~ WR

Saturday, July 22, 2017

Art Class ~ 9am ~ PDH

VIRTUS Training ~ 9am ~ East Wing

Elvis Night ~ 8pm ~ PDH

St. Sylvester Knights of Columbus #6844 presents their 3rd annual

"A Touch of Elvis"

with Long Island's own Steve Mitchell done with full respect to the King of Rock & Roll!

Saturday, July 22, 8pm – 10pm Doors open at 7pm.

Admission is \$20 Includes show, cheese & crackers and beverage.

Tickets can be purchased in the Parish Office or by calling: Rich Neubauer @ 631-220-5302 Dave Rollo @ 631-289-2493

"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, July 20 at 2:30 p.m. Please join us then. *Eileen & Martha ~ Coordinators*

Women's Prayer Group

The next gathering of our *Spiritual Book Club* will be **Wednesday**, July 19, 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!*



VIRTUS

"Protecting God's Children"



All who serve as volunteers/ministers are required to attend Virtus in order to begin serving in a parish in the Diocese of Rockville Centre. A Virtus Training Session will be held Saturday, July 22, 2017 at 9am in the East Wing. Please go to *www.virtusonline.org* to register.

In the Community

Sr. Pat Duffy's Porch Chats are back!! Thursdays from 7pm—8pm on July 20 & 27 at Mary Immaculate Church in Bellport. Bring your lawn chair and a friend! An additional 'off site' Porch Chats will take place at Holy Cross in Nesconset on Monday, July 17 from 7pm—8pm.

Medford Concert Series, sponsored by County Legislator Rob Calarco and the Medford Chamber of Commerce continues at Medford Memorial Park on Wednesday, July 26 at 7pm. Bring a chair and a friend and listen to *Seven Turns*, an Allman Brothers Tribute Band. Please bring a non-perishable food item to support Long Island Cares.

Huge Yard Sale to support Medford Veterans Post 2937, July 22 & 23, 9am—4pm. We are looking for good, clean items to sell, and 100% of all money collected will go to Rescue VFW Post 2937 in Medford. This will help in making much needed repairs so the post may continue to help support local veterans that are in need of help. Donated items may be dropped off at 87 Robinson Avenue (4 houses west of the church), Monday, July 17—Wednesday, July 19th. Please call Helen Hart at 631-758-8302 before dropping off the items. Thank you!

Women's Cursillo~ Calling all women ages 25—100+! 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. The Cursillo takes place July 20-23 at Montfort Renewal Center in Bayshore. Call Cathy Klimar at 475-7875 or 617-7971 for more information.

The Long Island Ducks and Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone are proud to honor Veterans. 2 Veterans will be honored per home game with each Veteran receiving 10 complimentary tickets to the game for their family and friends. Contact Suffolk County Veterans Service Officer Melissa Pandolf at 631-853-VETS for more information.

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.

Villa Immaculata House of Prayer in Riverhead is offering *Evening Prayer on the Sound*, Wednesday, July 20 and 26, 7pm until sunset. Be refreshed and renewed in God's love in praise and worship through music, psalms, and prayer. Call 631-727-5122 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.

In the Community

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.

Dominican Commercial High School in Jamaica, Class of 1967, is having their 50th Reunion at the Milleridge Inn, 585 N. Broadway, Jericho on Saturday, September 16 from 12 noon to 3pm. For more information, please call 516-318-6945.

Dominican Village, a not-for-profit retirement community in Amityville, provides both independent living and assisted living apartments for senior citizens. Sponsored by the Sisters of St. Dominic. Our beautiful 13 acre campus provides modern apartments, restaurant style dining, many services and amenities, as well as activities. Residents live in a supportive environment in which the sacredness of life and the dignity of each person are held in the highest regard. There will be an Open House July 27, August 10 and August 24 from 1pm—3pm. For more information or to arrange for a tour, call 631-842-6091.

In the age of high cost health insurance, *Hope House Ministries* in Port Jefferson offers free individual, couple, family and group counseling services by licensed professionals and interns. We also offer psychiatric evaluations for medications. In addition, Sr. Mary Ann Bazata, S.S.N.D offers free spiritual direction. If interested, please call 631-928-2377.

Our Holy Redeemer Thrift Shop in Freeport is looking for an experienced cashier to work 18 hours per week. For more information, please call Mrs. Joan Flaherty at 516-378-0665.

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.



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