St. Sylvester R. C. Church

68 Ohio Avenue, Medford, NY 11763

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



They brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it and he sat on it.

Many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they
cut from the fields. Those preceding him cried out,

Hosanna!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest!

March 25, 2018 Palm Sunday of the Passion 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 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, W \sim 9am - 12 & 1 - 8:30pm; Th, Fri \sim 9am - 12 & 1 - 5pm; 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-11:30am

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.

Visit our website at: www.stsylvesterli.org

We Pray

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 24, 2018

5:00pm Frank Mazzeo, Sr. (6th Anniversary)

Luigi Russo & Family Cesarino & Toscano Families Rocco & Ernestine Mangino

Catherine King

Matthew Reed (4th Anniversary)

Luella Wachter

Palm Sunday, March 25, 2018

7:30am Vincenza & Cosmo Tacopino 9:00am Rosa & Manuel Esteves 11:00am Joseph Alexander

Monday, March 26, 2018

8:30am For the People of St. Sylvester

Tuesday, March 27, 2018

8:30am Rose Marie Virostko *Holy Thursday, March 29, 2018*

7:30pm For the People of St. Sylvester

Easter Vigil ~ March 31, 2018

7:30pm For the People of St. Sylvester

Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018

7:30am For the People of St. Sylvester 9:00am For the People of St. Sylvester 11:00am For the People of St. Sylvester

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

Eva D'Amato, Robert Orlowski, Nina Caravana, Martha Lee, Winnie Mulderig, Catherine Hines, Bob Prentiss, Jose Nunez, Jessica Deck, Rose Masucci, Baby Bryanna Spencer, Pam Hinton, Pam Filasky, Ken Terry, Brian Podlesny, Roger Chin-Sang, Sasha Medile, Baby Elliot Garay, Nef Nieves, Joanne Clarke, Richard Gross, Michelle Clark, Barbara Bruzzo, Ann Vidal, Laura Mockler, Diane Ruiz, Martha Benvenuto, Olivia Grace DeFeo, Joel Rivera, Miguel Durante, Rosemarie Pugliese, Diana Erickson, Frank Cayea, Dorothy Birdsall, Jack Frey, Michael Dolan, Baby Valentina Brescia, The Abano Family, Iris DelValle, Hilda Gonzalez, John Bennett, Julian Atz, Richard Broderick, Jim Dietz, Eric Bedell, Charles Lunstrum, Baby Madison Angamarca, JoAnn Brandi, Helen Gallagher

We pray for all who have died, especially . . . Grace Wurm, Americo Marano, Loretta C. Keegan,

Dean Foster

READINGS FOR THE WEEK		
3/26:	Is 42:1-7	Ps 27:1-3, 13-14
	Jn 12:1-11	
3/27:	Is 49:1-6	Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17
	Jn 13:21-33, 36-38	
3/28:	Is 50:4-9	Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34
	Mt 26:14-25	
3/29:	Ex 12:1-8, 11-14	Ps 116:12-13, 15-18
	1 Cor 11:23-26	Jn 13:1-15
3/30:	Is 52:13 — 53:12	Ps 31: 2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25
	Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9	Jn 18:1—19:42
3/31:	Gn 1:1-2:2 Ex 14:	15—15:1 Ex 15:1-6, 17-18
	Rom 6:3-11 Ps 118	8:1-2, 16-17, 22-23
	Mk 16:1-7	
4/1:	Acts 10:34, 37-43	Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23
	Col 3:1-4	Jn 20:1-9

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 ~ 5:45pm ~ Room 4

Carmelites

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

There are still Masses available in the 2018 Mass Book. Please make arrangements for Masses and Weekend Memorials through the Parish Office. The 2019 Mass Book will open in the first week of June.

We Pray

Penance Service

7pm ~ Communal Penance Service

Holy Thursday Thursday, March 29

9am ~ Morning Prayer

7:30pm ~ Mass of the Lord's Supper

Visits to the Repository and

Silent Adoration until 10pm.

Monetary donations go to Parish Outreach





Good Friday

Friday, March 30

9am ~ Morning Prayer

3pm ~ Solemn Liturgy of the Passion & Death of the Lord with Veneration of the Cross

Holy Saturday Saturday, March 31 9am ~ Morning Prayer NO Confessions or 5pm Mass Today

7:30pm ~ Easter Vigil





Easter Sunday The Resurrection of Our Lord Sunday, April 1 7:30am, 9am & 11am Masses

Prayer for Palm Sunday

Loving God,

I am just beginning to realize how much you love me.

Your son, Jesus was humble and obedient.

He fulfilled your will for him by becoming human and suffering with us.

I ask you for the desire to become more humble so that my own life might also bear witness to you. I want to use the small sufferings I have in this world to give you glory.

Please, Lord, guide my mind with your truth. Strengthen my life by the example of Jesus. Help me to be with Jesus in this week as he demonstrates again his total love for me. He died so that I would no longer be separated from you. Help me to feel how close you are

Help me to feel how close you are and to live in union with you.

Amen.

Faith Formation

Attention Parents

Registration will begin the week of April 16, 2018 for the coming year. (Please see next page for details)

Do not wait until the last minute to complete the following requirements as they are not easy to make up at a moment's notice!

In order for you to register your child for the next Level your child is expected, with your assistance, to complete the following:

Mass Reflection Forms

4 Mass Reflection Forms for Level 1 6 Mass Reflection Forms for Levels 2 – 7

Masses are every weekend: Saturday at 5pm; Sunday at 7:30am, 9am & 11am



Hall

Guardian

Reconciliation

Celebration of Reconciliation at least 1 time each year for Levels 2 – 7

Reconciliation is every Saturday at 12 p.m. in the Church. (Please note: there is no Reconciliation on Holy Saturday, March 31st.

If your child is in Levels 2-8 and has not yet celebrated Reconciliation, please bring them to the Penance Service on Monday, March 26th at 7 pm in the Church.

Reconciliation cards are available in the Faith Formation Office & the Church.

We ask you to work with us in making sure your child has completed the above requirements so that they can move up to the next level.

If you have any questions, or need assistance, please call the Faith Formation Office at 631-475-4506, Ext. 118.

Are you sitting outside in your car or in the Parish Center while your child or grandchild is in his/her Faith Formation <u>Class?</u>

If so, we invite you to think about serving the parish community by joining the Hall Guardian Ministry Team as a Substitute Hall Guardian.

For more information, please call Terése in the Faith Formation Office: 631-475-4506, ext. 118.

Faith Formation

Frequently Asked Questions About Faith Formation:

When should I register my child in Faith Formation for First Holy Communion? Preparation for FHC is a two year process that begins when your child is in <u>First Grade</u> in School, so be sure to register them the Spring before. See days and times below.

Can my child switch from another parish to St. Sylvester Faith Formation Program? Yes. It is necessary to bring a letter of completion on the other parish's letterhead indicating the years attended.

What if my child has missed a couple of years of Faith Formation and now we want to get started again?

No problem. Call the Faith Formation Office at $631-457-4506 \times 118$ and we will be happy to help you.

In Addition. . .

A *baptismal certificate* is required for all first time registrations. We will be unable to process your registration without this required certificate, so please be sure to bring it with you when you come to register.

If you are not yet registered with St. Sylvester Parish, please register in *The Parish Office* before registering your child in Faith Formation. The Parish Office hours are:

Monday—Wednesday 9am-12pm & 1pm-8:30pm; Thursday & Friday 9am-12pm & 1pm-5pm;
Sunday 9:30am-12:30pm.

Registration Dates & Times

Monday, April 16 4:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Tuesday, April 17 4:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Wednesday, April 18 4:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Faith Formation
Registration Thursday, April 19 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM and 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

On-Line Registration will begin April 16th and run through April 29th

Please go to www.stsylvesterli.org and click on Faith Formation and then Registration.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Faith Formation Ministry as a teacher/catechist, please call 631-475-4506 x 118 or e-mail: faithformation@stsylvesterli.org for more information.

Stewardship

Gifts of Treasure

March 18, 2018

Catholic Ministries Appeal 2018

Designated Goal: \$65,800.00 Amount Pledged to Date: \$35,716.00 % of Goal Pledged to Date: 54.3% Number of Donors to Date: 86

Reflection

Good stewards strive to conform their lives to that of Christ—emptying themselves of all pride and putting themselves at the service of others.

Living Stewardship

We are grateful for all stewards who commit to supporting the Vision and Mission of Jesus—to build the Kingdom of God—by serving others through ministry.

Good Friday Collection

On Good Friday, our parish will take up the annual Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land. Each day, the news reminds us of the violence and instability plaguing the Middle East, but we rarely hear of the shrinking Christian community there, a community that struggles to remain in the land of Christ's birth, death and resurrection. Please help support our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land by giving to the Good Friday Collection. This Pontifical Collection allows the Franciscans and others to continue caring for Christianity's holiest sites and for God's people in the Holy Land. Thank you for your generosity.

BAPTISM PREPARATION TEAM SEEKING ADDITIONAL TEAMMATES

Do you have a strong faith? Are you willing to share your faith with our parish's parents and godparents? Do you believe that the initiation sacrament of Baptism is an important part of our Christian call to action?

Our Baptismal Preparation Team is seeking additional teammates to assist in preparing our families for Baptism. Team members take turns speaking at our monthly Baptism meetings which are normally held on the first Monday evening of every month, so the commitment would be for one evening every few months. The ministry, overseen by our Deacons and Baptismal Coordinator, Joanne Barry, involves welcoming the parents and godparents and sharing your Catholic faith with those in attendance from a personal perspective. Team members usually work in pairs, making it an ideal opportunity for married couples or friends to minister together, but it is not necessary.

If you feel you are being called to this important and rewarding ministry, please contact Joanne Barry in the parish office at 631-475-4506, ext. 102.



Stewardship

Stewardship Our Way of Life

Stewardship is about **mission**. (not money)

Stewardship is about **discipleship**. (not dollars)

Stewardship is about **vocation**. (not volunteerism)

Stewardship is about each of us fulfilling our unique role in the building of

God's Kingdom.

(not our own or anyone else's kingdom)

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! PLEASE RSVP.

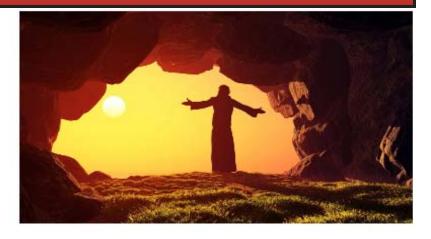
I welcome your calls, emails, and letters to express feedback - positive or negative - on any aspect of our PSM program. Dialogue is essential for clarification of thought. Thank you to those of you who have contacted me. I look forward to continuing the conversation!

Constructive Feedback?

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

Contact Outreach Ministry. 631-475-4506 x122 clarehouse@stsylvesterli.org

Contact Social Justice Ministry: 631-475-4506 press 5+2 jmcmahon@stsylvesterli.org



Easter Weekend Food Drive!

Our Clare House Market has been in the TOMB for the past few months and we are in need of supplies. Help us RESURRECT our pantry so we can serve others in our community who lack access to basic supplies like food and personal care products. Together we can RISE UP like Jesus on the third day!

Please bring the following items to the church lobby before all masses on Easter Weekend:

Breakfast

(hot & cold cereal, bottle juice, syrup, pancake mix, etc.)

Lunch

(peanut butter, jelly, juice, mac & cheese, soup, tuna, etc.)

Dinner

(rice, jar sauce, canned veggies, beef stew, etc.)

Snack

(granola bars, canned fruit, fruit snacks, chips, pretzels, etc.)

Toiletries

(tooth brushes, toothpaste, bar soap, shampoo, etc.)

Household Cleaning Supplies

(dish soap, laundry detergent, Lysol, Windex, Clorox wipes, etc.)

All items should be placed in church lobby before mass. On Monday morning volunteers will bring these items downstairs to the church basement. Thank You!

Parish Social Ministry





Chapter 3: Food that Nourishes

If the image that comes to mind when we think about hunger and poverty is an undernourished person starving in their home or on the street, it is time to reset our perception. Our national relationship to food has changed significantly in the 21st century. Beginning in 2006, the U.S. government made a distinction between hunger (an individual-level physiological condition that may result from food insecurity) and food insecurity (a household-level economic and social condition of limited or uncertain access to adequate food) and recognized different levels of food insecurity that families may experience. 1 As families' and individuals' experiences have changed, our lexicon has shifted and so must our understanding of the intersection of access to food and poverty.

The reality today goes beyond hunger. Some food-insecure households may seem like they would never suffer; they could have a home, appliances, televisions, and cell phones. One incident, however, can throw a family into an economic crisis, causing food to become a lower priority. 2 Low wages strain families and force them to decide between paying for healthcare, insurance, transportation, and housing, or putting healthy food on the table. It is not rare for working families or individuals to require assistance meeting their basic nutritional needs in the United States today. In 2017, more than 40 million people received assistance from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in a given month, and more than half of these SNAP households with at least one working-age, non-disabled adult were working.3 More adults and children are eligible for other nutrition programs such as Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and school lunches, but all of these programs combined still fail to meet the country's full need.

Living in "food deserts," areas with limited selections of healthy food due to the lack of grocery stores, also negatively affects families and individuals.4 Families with limited transportation shop at stores closer to home, which may lack healthy options. Foods that are high in added sugar are often cheaper than fresh fruit, vegetables, and other foods with necessary vitamins. This nutrition deficit has serious implications, affecting health, children's school performance, and overall well-being. Systems and structures in our society have made communities of color particularly susceptible to food insecurity. Today, African American individuals and families suffer from food insecurity at twice the rate of white, non-Hispanic households.5 Lower average income, higher poverty rates, and other factors contribute to this disproportionate rate of food insecurity. Latino households are also vulnerable to higher rates of food insecurity, and are less likely to get help with nutrition assistance programs at a federal level because of limited information about the programs or concern over immigration status (SNAP has a five-vear residency requirement). 6

As people of faith, we believe access to healthy, nutritious food is a human right. The United States is one of the wealthiest nations in the world, but there are millions who experience food insecurity each year. In the 21st century, no one in a nation as wealthy as ours should suffer from hunger or food insecurity.

Facts and Figures

- In 2016, roughly 41 million people struggled with hunger, including 13 million children.7
- More than 50% of households experiencing food insecurity are white.2
- Around 94% of majority African-American counties in the United States are food-insecure.8
- African-Americans households are four times more likely than their white counterparts to suffer from 'very low food insecurity.'8
- 24% of Latino children suffer from food-insecurity compared to 13% of white, non-Hispanic children.9

Reflection Questions

How has your understanding of food insecurity and poverty changed by learning more information about the issue? What impact do you believe that higher rates of food insecurity have on the health outcomes of communities of color? What is the effect of the price of healthy foods increasing while processed and fatty foods are becoming cheaper? What does this mean to low income communities and communities of color?

Sources

- 1. United States Department of Agriculture. Definitions of Food Security: October 4, 2017, https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-us
- 2. McMillan, Tracie. The New Face of Hunger. National Geographic, https://www.nationalgeographic.com/foodfeatures/hunger/
- 3. Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. Policy Basics: Introduction to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). October 3, 2017, https://www.cbpp.org/research/policy-basicsintroduction-to-the-supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap
- 4. American Nutrition Association, USDA Defines Food Desert, http://americannutritionassociation.org/hevs/letter/usda-defines-food-deserts
- Feeding America. African American Hunger Facts. 2016, http://www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/african-american-hunger-facts.html
- Garcia, Alejandro. Fighting Hunger Among Latino Children. Center for American Progress, June 2011, https://www.american.progress.org/ssues/poverty/news/2011/06/02/9739/fightinghunger-among-latino-children/
- 7. Feeding America. Facts about poverty and hunger in America. http://www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/hunger-and-poverty-facts.html
 8. Bread for the World. Hunger and Poverty in the African-American Community February 2017, http://www.bread.org/sites/default.files/african-american-fact-sheet-february-2017.pdf
- Feeding America. Latino Hunger Fact Sheet. September 2017, http://www.feedingamerica.org/assets/pdfs/fact-sheets/latino-hunger-fact-sheet.pdf

Parish Life

The Week Ahead

Palm Sunday, March 25, 2018

Baptisms ~ 12:30pm ~ Church

Monday ~ March 26, 2018

Drawing Class ~ 10am ~ East Wing

Individual Confessions ~ 12noon ~ Church

Spanish Legion of Mary ~ 5:45pm ~ Room 4

Parish Penance Service ~ 7pm ~ Church

Tuesday ~ March 27, 2018

Art Class ~ 9am ~ EW

Legion of Mary ~ 1:30pm ~ Room 8

Adult Confirmation ~ 7pm ~ East Wing

Music Ministry Rehearsal ~ 7pm ~ Church

Wednesday ~ March 28, 2018

RCIA Inquiry ~ 7pm ~ East Wing

Holy Thursday ~ March 29, 2018

Morning Prayer ~ 9am ~ Church

Al-Anon ~ 9:45am ~ Room 2

Mass of the Lord's Supper ~ 7:30pm ~ Church

Good Friday ~ March 30, 2018

Morning Prayer ~ 9am ~ Church

Passion of the Lord ~ 3pm ~ Church

Holy Saturday, March 31, 2018

Morning Prayer ~ 9am ~ Church

Easter Vigil ~ 7:30pm ~ Church

Forget

You can purchase Gift **Don't** Cards after Masses and in the Parish Center for:

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

We also have available Gift Cards for: Cheesecake Factory and Olive Garden.

Every time you purchase a gift card, our parish receives 5% of the sale, at no extra cost to you! Gift cards can be given as a present or can be used by you!

Thrift Shop News

The Thrift Shop is in need of both girls and boys clothing in sizes 3—6x as well as men's jeans up to size 38. Please bring your donations into the Thrift Shop during their regular hours.

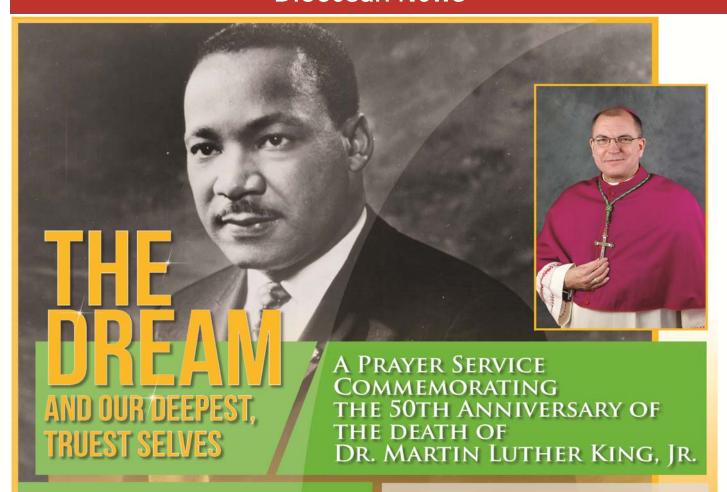
PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE DONATIONS **OUTSIDE THE BUILDING!**

The Triduum

The Parish Center will open at 9:30am and close at 12noon on Holy Thursday, March 29th, and remain closed through Monday, April 2nd.



Diocesan News



WHEN:

Wednesday, April 4, 2018

7:30 p.m.

WHERE:

Cathedral of Saint Agnes 29 Quealy Place Rockville Centre, NY 11570

ROCKVIIIe Centre, NY 11570

WHO:

- Most Reverend John O. Barres, Bishop of Rockville Centre
- Sister Thea Bowman
 Diocesan Gospel Choir

WHAT:

- Homily by Bishop John O. Barres
- Prayer
- Witness talks
- Gospel, spirituals, contemporary Christian music
- Refreshments following prayer service

ON APRIL 4, 2018, WE COMMEMORATE ONE SACRED LIFE, LAID DOWN AS A WITNESS TO OUR FUNDAMENTAL EQUALITY AS SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN CHRIST. THIS THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CALLS US TO REMEMBER, IN PRAYER, A MAN WHO ALLOWED HIMSELF TO BE AN INSTRUMENT OF GOD.

For more information contact: Darcel Whitten-Wilamowski, Office of Multicultural Diversity 516.678.5800, ext. 239 or 407.





Community News

Seder at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Island in Manorville. Explore our Jewish roots with Rabbi Gadi Capela and Fr. Roy Tvrdik, Tuesday, March 27th at 6pm. \$36 per person includes full dinner and wine. Limited seating. RSVP 631-325-0661.

Liturgy of the 7 Last Words ~ Wednesday, March 28, 7pm at Church of the Resurrection. Jesus spoke to us 7 times from the cross before His death. Through guided meditation, prayer and music discover the message He had for each of us.

Good Friday Way of the Cross Pilgrimage ~ March 30, 9am—12 noon. Join Our Lady of the Snow Parish in Blue Point & St. Lawrence the Martyr Parish in Sayville in the Way of the Cross Pilgrimage as we walk and pray the Stations of the Cross recalling significant moments in the story of the Passion and Death of Jesus Christ, praying the Rosary, Divine Mercy and singing hymns. Meet 9am at St. Lawrence the Martyr parking lot for registration, depart at 9:15, walk along Montauk Hwy with police escort to Our Lady of the Snow, arrive by 12 noon to attend Stations of the Cross. Free bus ride back to St. Lawrence the Martyr provided by DBA Transportation Inc.

Bay Area Friends of the Fine Arts featuring the Bay Area Chorus presents in concert "The Gift of Life" on Sunday, April 8, 4pm, at the United Methodist Church of Patchogue. Selections by John Rutter include "The Gift of Life—Six Canticles of Creation". Free will donations accepted.

Preparing for Marriage? ~ Engaged Encounter is an effective **Pre-Cana** program designed to provide you with the tools for a successful marriage. Couples are given the opportunity to explore many aspects of their relationship through a series of presentations, writings and dialog. There are no group discussions. Our next weekend will be at the Montfort Spirituality Center in Bay Shore, April 13—15, 2018. For information/registration please call Lenny & Pat Walker at 631-563-1032 or visit www.engagedencounterli.org

11th Annual Great Brookhaven Cleanup, part of the Great American Cleanup™, the nation's largest organized cleanup, beautification and community improvement program, will take place Saturday, May 19th. Once again, individuals and groups can participate. Join *good* people doing *great* things . . . and help us fight dirty!! Please register online at brookhavenny.gov or call 631-451-TOWN to explore your best option or participating in this worthy community event.

The Patchogue unit o the *Steuben Society* is seeking new membership. We partake in social events, educational programs and offer scholarships while cultivating & celebrating our Germanic heritage. Anyone interested may call the society at 631-730-5151 or e-mail: steubensocietynatl@yahoo.com

Golden Wedding Jubilee Liturgy ~ This spring, couples that have been married fifty years or more will be honored at a Mass on Sunday, April 29th at the Church of St. Rose of Lima in Massapequa. Mass will begin at 2:30pm. To register, call our parish office at 631-475-4506 ext. 101 by April 13th.

Bereavement Support Group ~ St. Mary's Parish in East Islip is offering a free 8 week support group for adults who are struggling to cope with the death of a loved one, which begins on Wednesday, May 9th from 7pm –9pm. Registration is required. Call 631-581-4266 ext 100. In order to participate in this group, the death must have occurred prior to February 21, 2018



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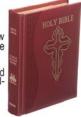
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