

St. Sylvester R. C. Church

68 Ohio Avenue, Medford, NY 11763

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



Receive the Holy Spirit

May 20, 2018

Pentecost Sunday

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

We Pray

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 19, 2018

5:00pm Catherine Holzmänn
Elizabeth Dodorico
Jean Tifford
Genevieve Cannarili
Scott Wilson

Sunday, May 20, 2018

7:30am Richard F. Bennett
9:00am William Desch
11:00am Eric Mendola

Monday, May 21, 2018

8:30am For the People of St. Sylvester

Tuesday, May 22, 2018

8:30am Raymond Matos

Thursday, May 24, 2018

8:30am Dora Oliverio

Friday, May 25, 2018

8:30am Catherine Holzmänn

Saturday, May 26, 2018

5:00pm Henry & James Olafsen
Mary Elizabeth Kostka
Peter Ripi
Lovonia Grant
Eileen Ahlquist
Amelia Amen (1st Anniversary)

Sunday, May 27, 2018

7:30am Josephine Healy
9:00am Doris Greene (11th Anniversary)
11:00am Maresco, Gambino & Skiba Families
(Living & Deceased)

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

Eva D'Amato, Robert Orłowski, 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, Nef Nieves, Joanne Clarke, Richard Gross, Michelle Clark, Diane Ruiz, Martha Benvenuto, Joel Rivera, Miguel Durante, Rosemarie Pugliese, Frank Cayea, Dorothy Birdsall, Michael Dolan, Hilda Gonzalez, John Bennett, Julian Atz, Jim Dietz, Eric Bedell, Charles Lunstrum, Baby Madison Angamarca, JoAnn Brandi, Helen Gallagher, Donyell Gilkes, Joan Zerafa, Deidre Edwards, Theresa Baker, Ed Rafferty, Lisa Conklin, Barbara Vattiato, Vinnie Callanan, Olivia Bazirgan, Diane Arens, Bill Lyon, Alice Micali, Ann Pijko

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

John Mulvihill, Marina Zeruto, Gustavo Gonzalez

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

5/21:	Jas 3:13-18 Mk 9:14-29	Ps 19:8-10, 15
5/22:	Jas 4:1-10 Mk 9:30-37	Ps 55:7-11, 23
5/23:	Jas 4:13-17 Mk 9:38-40	Ps 49:2-3, 6-11
5/24:	Jas 5:1-6 Mk 9:41-50	Ps 49:14-20
5/25:	Jas 5:9-12 Mk 10:1-12	Ps 103:1-4, 8-9, 11-12
5/26:	Jas 5:13-20 Mk 10:13-16	Ps 141:1-3, 8
5/27:	Dt 4:32-34, 39-40 Rom 8:14-17	Ps 33:4-6, 9, 18-20, 22 Mt 28:16-20

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Breathe in me O Holy Spirit
that my thoughts may all be holy;

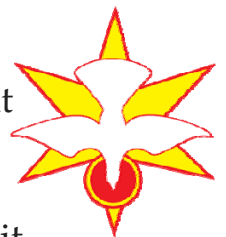
Act in me O Holy Spirit
that my works, too, may be holy;

Draw my heart O Holy Spirit
that I love but what is holy;

Strengthen me O Holy Spirit
to defend all that is holy;

Guard me then O Holy Spirit
that I always may be holy.

St. Augustine of Hippo (AD 354-430)



The Bread & Wine

used at this weekend's liturgies

are the gifts of
The Bennett Family
in loving memory of
Richard F. Bennett



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 offer direct service to our neighbors facing difficulties of all kinds, and expand our understanding and application of Catholic Social Teaching through the use of Praxis. We employ the "See, Judge, Act" Method to examine pressing social problems.

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.

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.

Constructive Feedback?

I welcome your calls, emails, and letters to express feedback 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!

Want to Volunteer?

We rely on contributions of time, money, skills, and prayer to keep our ministry going!

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

Need Assistance?

Parish Social Ministry Intake Line
Monday 930-12, 1-330
Wednesday 930-12, 1-330, 530-730
631-475-4506 x122
clarehouse@stsylvesterli.org

Community Through Communication

Community is at the root of our Christian experience. The Trinity teaches us that just as God is three Persons in one – the very embodiment of relationship – so too are we in infinite relationship with those around us, with God, and with all of creation. Relationships require work and they require communication. This is why we place an invitation to dialogue in the bulletin each week. Only through conversation with one another can we achieve clarity of thought on the complex issues of our time. Only in relationship with one another can we discern God's presence and purpose in our lives.

To facilitate the growth of community through communication we are presenting a series of articles by Mary Snyder focused on Nonviolent Communication:

#4 – Meeting Others' Needs Meets Our Needs Too (July 2017)

Think of a time when you were desperately in need and out of the "clear blue sky" someone came along and helped you out of your desperate situation. How did you feel?

Now think of a time when someone else was desperately in need and you, seeing that you could help, filled that need. Maybe you gave them more than what was required. How did you feel?

This is one foundation and principle of Nonviolent Communication: Our greatest joy comes in meeting our needs and/or helping others get their needs met. Both persons' needs are important. Not one over the other. Could it be the reason why people enjoy volunteering? When you touch the need, you touch the divine energy in the other.

I have a friend who struggled with depression to the point that she became suicidal. She actually had to be revived a few times because of taking too much medication. She finally made a pact with her psychiatrist that when she felt that way, she would call him. Then, if necessary, she would check into a mental institution for a few weeks or more until she became stable, her medication would be adjusted, or both. This actually went on for quite a few years. Her friends tried to help but to no avail.

One day she decided she would volunteer at a place called The Branches. They feed the homeless, the alcohol and drug addicted, and anyone else who needs a meal. They also help the homeless in the winter by wrapping scarves around telephone poles near where they live among other things. They provide many services for the most helpless in our society. My friend is now there almost every day.

By serving at The Branches she has become a changed person and it is absolutely amazing. She still takes medication but she is happy because she has touched a "need" and been touched by a "need." By touching her need as well as the need of another, she touched the divine energy. When she touched the divine energy she was healed.

If we want to become like Jesus and Mary, we must look for the need in ourselves and others and respond accordingly.

Parish Social Ministry

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 place **ONLY NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS** in the donation bin in church on Sundays. Please see graphic below for needed items.

In addition, we are requesting perishable items (butter and eggs) be brought directly to Clare House – Monday 930-12, 1-330 and Wednesdays 930-12, 1-330, 530-730

Please call ahead to ensure our ability to receive your donation 631-475-4506 x122

Thank You for supporting our community!

HEALTHY FOODS TO ENCOURAGE...



From our top 5 most needed shelf-stable food groups*

*Food brands shown are just some healthy examples. Similar and/or healthy choice like items may be donated

NO SUGAR ADDED
OR FRUITS
PACKED IN 100%
NATURAL JUICE



LOW SODIUM or
NO SALT ADDED
VEGGIES AND
SAUCES



CHOOSE
HIGH FIBER
WHOLE GRAINS



UNSWEETEND
and
LOW SUGAR
CEREALS

Must be a 100% "whole grain"

Lean
Proteins



LOW FAT,
SHELF-STABLE MILK
or DAIRY



Look for Low Sodium varieties, dried beans & lentils

DONATE HEALTHY TODAY! St. Sylvester's Parish Social Ministry

Stewardship

Gifts of Treasure

May 13, 2018

Regular ~ \$9,152

Renovation ~ \$95 Solar ~ \$150

Faith Direct May Contributions

Regular ~ \$10,384

Renovation ~ \$1,168 Solar ~ \$224

Reflection

St. Paul reminds us today that all of our gifts have their source in the Holy Spirit and that those gifts are given “for the common good.” What gifts have I been given to share?

Living Stewardship

We are grateful for all stewards who share their God-given gifts and talents through our parish ministries and community organizations, intent on serving our brothers and sisters in need.

“Stewardship: Our Way of Life”

Stewardship helps us to appreciate how blessed we are by the Lord. It shows us how to respond to God’s abundant goodness to us! We are good stewards when we use what God has given us - our time, talent and resources - to participate in our parish’s mission to share the Good News with others in the world. Thank you for being good stewards and for embracing *everyday stewardship* as we commit to put our faith into action, help serve those in need and invite others to the faith this coming year!

Catholic Ministries Appeal 2018

Designated Goal:	\$65,800.00
Amount Pledged to Date:	\$49,816.00
% of Goal Pledged to Date:	75.7%
Number of Donors to Date:	140

Love Lives

And he gave some as apostles, others as prophets, others as evangelists, others as pastors and teachers, to equip the holy ones for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ. ~ Ephesians 4:11-12

Paul writes to the Ephesians and describes different roles of leadership in the Church. He writes that the leaders’ job in a parish is to equip the holy ones or members of the church for ministry. Ministry simply means giving our time and efforts so that God brings His grace and blessing to the world through us. It is the leadership of a church that is responsible for mobilizing members to use their gifts.

God has created you for a specific service in this parish to build up your faith and make a positive impact on others. When you don’t serve in the parish, there is something God wants accomplished that remains undone. When you don’t serve, there is a way in which your personal growth is stunted. When you do serve, you grow in Christ and others do as well.

Pray today for a deeper understanding of how ministry helps you grow as a follower of Christ and makes a positive impact on others. ~ *Church of the Nativity, Maryland*

Stewardship
is heart work



Stewardship



Stewardship News ~ Commitment Weekend ~



Stewardship

Our Way of Life

For the past few weeks, we have been focusing on Stewardship. This focus may evoke many different responses from people. Some will respond very positively, yet others may shy away. Some will even say that they can't "do" Stewardship *this year*, because they are "doing" other things. Stewardship is not a one-shot deal, band-aid or brief program. It is our discipleship - it is who we are - it is our life.

When Jesus says to us, "Come, follow me," He didn't mean just today or maybe next week if you have time. He meant for life. Discipleship is forever. Stewardship is a way of being that is incorporated into our daily lives; it plays a part in every decision we make.

When we speak of **Stewardship Renewal**, we are speaking of a communal celebration. Together with our parish community, we formally renew our **commitment** to be active followers of Jesus. This renewal is followed by action, by sharing our resources in thanksgiving and by offering our gifts through prayer and ministry. Though being an active follower of Jesus may begin - and is sustained and fed through our parish and sacraments - the intention of discipleship is to be lived in the world. We are, in a sense, missionary disciples sent to invite others to the faith by the way we live.

In many areas throughout our lives, we celebrate some kind of renewal of commitment. On Holy Thursday, every year, our priests gather together to renew their sacred vows in front of the community, yet they live out their priesthood every day. As Catholic Christians, we renew our Baptismal promises every year at Easter. We live as Catholics every day, but come together as a community to renew our promises on the most sacred of days. We also celebrate birthdays and wedding anniversaries every year, sometimes renewing our vows



in milestone years. Does this mean we only think about being married once a year? Or do we reflect on these vows nearly every day? How about a commitment to healthy living? This too requires daily (sometimes hourly!!) recommitment.

As Christian stewards, this sense of reflection and the renewal of our commitment to be disciples of Jesus should be present in our daily lives. Yes, commitment requires awareness, discipline and sacrifice; many times we are not perfect. But the journey of discipleship and renewal can bring great happiness and joy!



We, in turn, can bring this great joy of faith into the world by our deeds and actions.

When we do just that, we are missionary disciples - going into the world, proclaiming the Gospel with our lives and inviting others to the faith by the way we live. We are not simply "doing" Stewardship; we are living it!

Let us pray:

Loving and Generous God,

You are the Creator and Source of all that is and all that I am. Help me to recommit myself each day to the call to follow Your Son, Jesus.

Strengthen me and give me courage to embrace my unique giftedness and discover who I am created to be.

Help me to share the gifts you have entrusted to me with love and in service for the purpose of building up your Kingdom.

I say "YES" to living in, and living as, Christ's Light.

Be with me always, as I move along on my faith journey.

Through Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Faith Formation

Registration Information 2018/2019

All children need to be registered each year.
Please note that classes are filled on a first come, first served basis.

You may **register online** through May 27th. Please go to the Parish's website:

<http://stsylvesterli.org>

Go to the Faith Formation Registration link below the picture of the Church on the Home Page and follow the directions.

Registration will be held in the Parish Center on:

Wednesday, May 23 ~ 2pm—5pm

or call 631-475-4506 ext 118 for an appointment.



FIRST TIME REGISTRATIONS

(For First Graders and children new to the program.)

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!

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 McMahon at 631-475-4506 ext 107.

Parish Life

The Week Ahead

Sunday, May 20, 2018

Baptisms ~ 12:30pm ~ Church

Monday ~ May 21, 2018

Drawing Class ~ 10am ~ PDH

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

Tuesday ~ May 22, 2018

Art Class ~ 9am ~ PDH

Legion of Mary ~ 1:30pm ~ Room 8

Adult Confirmation ~ 7pm ~ East Wing

Wednesday ~ May 23, 2018

RCIA Inquiry ~ 7pm ~ East Wing

Thursday ~ May 24, 2018

Al-Anon ~ 9:45am ~ Room 2

Friday ~ May 25, 2018

Senior Circle of Friends ~ 12:30pm ~ PDH

Charismatic Prayer Group ~ 8pm ~ WR

Saturday, May 26, 2018

No morning activities and NO CONFESSIONS

Senior Circle of Friends



The Senior Circle of Friends meet on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month. Their meeting is May 25 at

12:30pm in PDH. Come join us for fun and games. Bring a friend, meet some new ones!



Our annual *May Crowning* will take place next Sunday, May 27th, immediately following the 11am Mass in the East Wing

FLOWER SALE & CLEAN-UP BRINGS BEAUTY TO PARISH

Our Spring Flower Sale was held this past Mother's Day Weekend and the results were something even Mom would brag about! Despite the rainy weather, the Gardening Club Ministry raised \$4,029 for the parish and found the time to weed, mulch and plant the church gardens too!

There are many parishioners who come together to make an event like this so successful. Thanks to Sue Rothe, the head of the Gardening Ministry, and to Terri Vilardo for organizing this sale year after year and to our Gardening Ministers for being so dedicated and braving the elements. Special thanks too must go to Mark LaPointe (aka 'Mulch Man") who picked up all the bags of mulch needed for the parish in his truck and delivered them with a smile, and to Trish Capozzoli for creating and donating one of the garden-themed raffle baskets! And of course, our gratitude goes to Sandy's Garden Center for giving us such beautiful flowers at great prices, and donating the large flower planter raffle. Finally, thanks to all of you who took some flowers home and supported their efforts. Happy planting!



Parish Life

2019 MASS BOOK

The 2019 MASS BOOK will open on Friday, June 8th. Due to the limited number of parish Masses, we must limit the number of individual intention announced Masses to four (4) per family. The Saturday evening Mass is a collective intention announced Mass. You may have as many of those Masses as you desire. The times of Mass are:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 8:30am;

Saturday at 5:00pm;

Sundays at 7:30am, 9:00am, and 11:00am

Remember, there are no Wednesday Masses. **Please note that intentions for all the Easter and Christmas Masses will be for the People of St. Sylvester.**

To help facilitate the process of booking Masses, please PRINT as you fill out the form, and bring it with you to the Parish Office during regular business hours. We will do our best to accommodate your requests. Masses will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Cost is \$20 per intention.

INDIVIDUAL INTENTION ANNOUNCED MASSES (4 maximum)

<i>INTENTION</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>TIME</i>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

COLLECTIVE INTENTION ANNOUNCED MASSES (Saturdays at 5:00pm)

<i>INTENTION</i>	<i>DATE</i>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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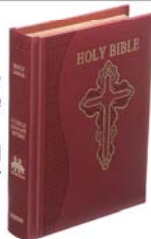
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