



## St. Sylvester R. C. Church

68 Ohio Avenue, Medford, NY 11763

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



*“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.  
And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another  
Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth.”*

**May 21, 2017**  
**6th Sunday of Easter**

## 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@stsyvesterli.org  
M - Wed ~ 9am - 12 & 1 - 8:30pm; Th & Fr ~ 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 Th ~ Temporarily Closed

Fr ~ 9:30am-12pm

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

# We Pray

**Saturday, May 20, 2017**

5:00pm Richard Palladino  
 Margherita Giaquinto  
 Michael G. Faithfull  
 Stephanie Nogid  
 Paul Careccia  
 Juanita Torres  
 Connie Affonso

**Sunday, May 21, 2017**

7:30am Richard F. Bennett  
 9:00am Eric Mendola  
 11:00am Dorothy Burke

**Monday, May 22, 2017**

8:30am For the People of St. Sylvester

**Tuesday, May 23, 2017**

8:30am William Desch

**Wednesday, May 24, 2017**

5:00pm Emma Lou Dobbins

**Thursday, May 25, 2017**

8:30am For the People of St. Sylvester  
 7:00pm Paul Careccia

**Friday, May 26, 2017**

8:30am Daniel M. Cawley (5th Anniversary)

**Saturday, May 27, 2017**

5:00pm Maresco, Gambino & Lupia Families (Liv & Dec)  
 Michael Faithfull  
 Francis Ambrose  
 John Robb II  
 Fr. Charles E. Papa (50th Anniversary of his Ordination)

**Sunday, May 28, 2017**

7:30am Felicita Vale  
 9:00am Doris Greene (10th Anniversary)  
 11:00am Peter Ripi

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

5/22:	Acts 16:11-15 Jn 15:26—16:4	Ps 149:1-6, 9
5/23:	Acts 16:22-34 Jn 16:5-11	Ps 138:1-3, 7-8
5/24:	Acts 17:15, 22—18:1 Jn 16:12-15	Ps 148:1-2, 11-14
5/25:	Acts 1:1-11 Eph 1:17-23	Ps 47:2-3, 6-9 Mt 28:16-20
5/26:	Acts 18:9-18 Jn 16:20-23	Ps 47:2-7
5/27:	Acts 18:23-28 Jn 16:23-28	Ps 47:2-3, 8-10
5/28:	Acts 1:12-14 1 Pt 4:13-16	Ps 27:1, 4, 7-8 Jn 17:1-11

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

*Eva D'Amato, Marguerite Orlowski, Robert Orlowski, Tom Stephens, Melina Grosso Bischoff, Joanne Clarke, Sean Patrick Dixon, Nina Caravana, Joanna Fernandes, Larry Lang, Martha Lee, Winnie Mulderig, Catherine Hines, Roy Fernandes, Bob Prentiss, Jose Nunez, Michael Goode, Michelle Montalvo, Jessica Deck, Ray Breslin, Derek O'Grady, Nathan Morales, William F. Swope, Laurie Saper, Baby William Phillips Swope, Chris Rosado, Lisa Conklin, George Argyris, Rose Masucci, Baby Bryanna Spencer, Ramona Nunez, Pam Hinton, Pam Filasky, Brian Podlesny, Joseph Wagner, Frank & David Avitabile, Diane Rockowitz, Patricia Nochese, Ken Terry, Beverly Noble, Ed Rafferty, Donald Tierney, Sr., Eddie Chin-Sang, Danny Miller, Baby Charlotte Steele, George Steele, Theresa Golembroski, Barbara Vattiato, Jane Mohr*

**The Bread & Wine**

used at this weekend's liturgies  
 are the gifts of the Bennett Family  
 in loving memory of  
**Richard F. Bennett**



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

*Angelina Capizzzi, Dawn P. Guzik*



**The Ascension of the Lord**

Thursday, May 25th is Ascension Thursday, a Holyday of Obligation.

The Mass schedule is : Wednesday, May 24 ~ 5:00pm

Thursday, May 25 ~ 8:30am & 7:00pm

**The Parish Center will be closed Thursday & Friday, May 25 & 26.**

# Stewardship

## *Gifts of Treasure*

**May 14, 2017**

Regular ~ \$8,593

Renovation ~ \$272      Solar ~ \$55

## **2017 Catholic Ministries Appeal**

To date, \$43,015 has been pledged,  
which is 66.1% of our goal.

## **Faith Direct May Contributions**

Regular ~ \$9,492

Renovation ~ \$968      Solar ~ \$1,175

## **Faith Direct**

### **Automated Giving**

**It's easy and 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**.

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

## **Catholic Communications Campaign**

Next weekend, May 27 & 28, there is a second envelope marked "**Catholic Communications Campaign**". This campaign connects people with Christ, here and around the world in developing countries, through the internet, television, radio and printed media. Fifty percent of funds collected remains in our diocese to fund local communications efforts. Your support helps spread the gospel message! Please place the envelope in the regular collection basket.

To learn more, visit [www.usccb.org/cc](http://www.usccb.org/cc).



Next weekend along with many parishes across our Diocese, we will begin to formally celebrate our God-given gifts! Our annual Time and Talent Renewal reminds us that we have all been gifted by our most generous God. Let us pray "Christ Be Our Light" as we reflect on the call to discipleship—the call to use and share our gifts lovingly with others.

## **Reflection**

Those who obey the commandments, Jesus says in today's Gospel, are the ones who really love Him. Does my stewardship reveal my love for Jesus?

## **Living Stewardship**

We are grateful for all stewards who strive to choose wisely, act justly and hold to what is best for the good of all.

## **Parish Appreciation Breakfast**

*for those who serve in Ministry*

If you share your time and talent by serving in ministry at St. Sylvester, and have not yet received an invitation to the June 10th Parish Appreciation Breakfast, please call Lori Zito in the Stewardship Office as soon as possible at 631-475-4506, ext. 115.

# Stewardship

## CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

# 2017



# ONE

FAITH • FAMILY  
COMMUNITY

**“Let us follow the light which God offers us... and present Him with our gifts...”**

**- Pope Francis**

Faith formation is a lifelong process that we, by virtue of our baptism into Christ, are called to embrace. Your gifts to the CMA help to support our Office of Faith Formation.

Ann enrolled in the Diocesan Pastoral Formation Institute (PFI) to learn more about her Faith and to grow in her connection to God – but, as Ann shared, *“I learned so much more!”*

***“During the program I learned how I could better relate to God and the people in the community. I also learned how to listen to God – be still – and listen. When I was in elementary school, the Sisters always told us that God was always with us – the PFI program really re-emphasized that for me.”***



Bringing her gifts back to her Parish, Ann became engaged in the Ministry to Catholics of African Ancestry. Ann is also a Eucharistic Minister and last year became a lector at her Parish.

***Please consider donating to the Appeal and a difference in someone’s life.***

***Thank you!***

Make checks payable to:  
Catholic Ministries Appeal

Parish St. Sylvester

Pledge: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Down payment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# 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](mailto:jmcmahon@stsylvesterli.org)

### Contact Outreach Ministry:

631-475-4506 press 5+1  
[clarehouse@stsylvesterli.org](mailto:clarehouse@stsylvesterli.org)

### Contact Social Justice Ministry:

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

## Plant an Extra Row to Support Our Neighbors in Need!



As the weather (eventually) warms up many of us will begin planting our vegetable gardens for the season. Please consider planting an extra row of whatever you're working on and bring a portion of your fresh produce to Clare House to be shared with the community!

## Wish List:

1. Coffee (regular and decaf)
2. Diapers (larger sizes 3, 4, 5) - (NOT Newborn, 1, 2)
3. Laundry Detergent
4. Toothpaste/brushes (large/family size)
5. \*NO PASTA\*



# Parish Social Ministry



## SUMMER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: RESOURCES DATABASE

Attention: High School Graduates and College Students

Looking for some meaningful volunteer work this summer? Then get involved in the St. Sylvester Parish Social Ministry by volunteering with the Outreach Ministry at Clare House!

We are looking for two (2) high school graduates/college students to assist Clare House in our case management, advocacy, and resource referral efforts for services we provide to our community members facing difficulties of all kinds.

As a volunteer, you will play an integral role in updating our resources database so that we might fulfill our mission to not only alleviate the immediate needs of those we serve (through our food pantry and thrift store), but also to build authentic, ongoing relationships with every individual who walks through our doors. We are committed to journey and partner with them in solidarity, assisting them with the many varied difficulties they encounter.

What is required?

- Strong interest in social issues/helping others
- Proficiency in internet research
- Basic Microsoft Office experience
- A commitment of 2-4 hours each week (days/hours flexible)
- Good organizational skills
- Prior volunteer experience helpful, but not required

Are you ready to get involved?

Please send an email (resume helpful, but not required), telling us about your skills and experience and why you would like to be involved. Please also provide the days/times you are available.

Reply to:

Justin McMahon  
Director of Parish Social Ministry  
jmcmahon@stsylvesterli.org

(no phone calls, please)



## Join Us! Sunday, May 21st

“Know the Creator Through Creation”

12 noon - 2pm  
PDH (parish center lower level) &  
Clare House Community Garden  
(behind the thrift shop)

Immediately following the 11am mass we will gather in the PDH for breakfast refreshments and a video presentation about Pope Francis' call for an ecological conversion and what our faith tradition says about care for creation and environmental stewardship.

After the presentation we will head out to the Clare House Community Garden and begin cleaning out the beds and preparing for this year's planting.

Refreshments will be served!  
Tools will be provided!  
Children and families encouraged to attend!  
Wear your gardening clothes to mass!  
(Jesus doesn't mind!)

\*Community service credit available upon request\*

Contact Justin McMahon with any questions:  
jmcmahon@stsylvesterli.org



Presentation will continue rain or shine!  
If weather prevents gardening after presentation, cleaning and planting will take place Saturday, May 27.

## 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.

You may **register online through May 21st**. 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.

#### **FIRST TIME REGISTRATIONS**

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

***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!

## Music Notes

We welcome Greg Wilson, our new Music Minister, who will be leading us in sung prayer at the 5:00 p.m. Masses on Saturdays.

He would like to put together a musical ensemble for the 5:00 p.m. Mass and welcomes anyone in high school and up to join. For more information feel free to call Greg at 516-318-2886 or stop by after the 5:00 pm Mass to say, "Hi!"





## Parish Life

### *THE WEEK AHEAD*

*Sunday ~ May 21, 2017*

Baptisms ~ 12:30pm ~ Church

*Monday ~ May 22, 2017*

Drawing Class ~ 10am ~ PDH

Spanish Legion of Mary ~ 5:30pm ~ Room 4

*Tuesday ~ May 23, 2017*

Art Class ~ 9am ~ PDH

Legion of Mary ~ 1:30pm ~ Room 8

*Wednesday ~ May 24, 2017*

Ascension Vigil Mass ~ 5pm ~ Church

Adult Confirmation Class ~ 7pm ~ EW

*Thursday ~ May 25, 2017*

Ascension Mass at 8:30am and 7pm ~ Church

ALL OFFICES CLOSED

*Friday ~ May 26, 2017*

ALL OFFICES CLOSED

*Saturday, May 27, 2017*

NO ART CLASS

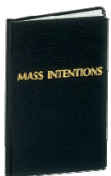
NO CONFESSIONS

### *Spring Plant Sale a Bloomin' Success!*

Despite the rain and wind (and a bit of sun), our Garden Club Ministry persevered and sold hundreds of plants, which raised \$3,040 for the parish! In addition, they ministered to many of the flower beds by weeding, planting and applying mulch. What troopers!

Thank you to co-coordinators Sue Rothe and Terri Vilardo and all the Garden Club Ministry members who helped in the delivery of flowers from Sandy's Garden Center, worked in the gardens, helped shoppers, and for doing everything necessary to ensure that the weekend ran smoothly.

We would be remiss if we didn't thank our 'Guardian Mulch Angel', Mark LaPointe, who picked up and delivered 100 bags of mulch for the Garden Club to use. WOW!



### *2018 Mass Book*

The 2018 Mass Book will open, Wednesday, June 7th. Please arrange Masses as well as Bread & Wine and Candle Memorials through the Parish Office.



## June 23 at 7pm

Patricia Desmond Hall

Come sample the delicious food from some great restaurants in Medford plus surrounding towns. 15 eateries are participating. Bring your appetite!

Tickets are \$20 pp. Look in next week's bulletin for more details.

## Community News

***Gala Spring Chinese Auction*** at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Lake Ronkonkoma on Sunday, May 21st. Doors open at 1:45pm, Auction begins at 2:45pm. Over 100 new prizes, 50/50 and Lottery Tree. Admission is \$10 and includes 25 tickets and coffee & cake. Call 631-585-9291 for more information.

***Sicily, Sorrento & Amalfi, a 10 day Pilgrimage with Fr. Mickey Bancroft*** ~ Saturday, September 23—Sunday, October 1st. From New York, \$3,790 per person. For a detailed brochure call 516-605-1551 or e-mail: peter@petersway.com. Tour Code: PW-9286.

***Substance Abuse Education Workshop for Parents*** ~ June 6th, 2017 from 6pm—7:30pm at Brookhaven Town Hall in Farmingville. This workshop, "***The More You Know***", is presented by the Town of Brookhaven Youth Bureau. Topics include: Adolescent Behavior & Development; Why do adolescents use drugs?; What drugs are adolescents using?; How to talk to adolescents about drugs. This program is made possible by New York State Division of Criminal Justice. RSVP required by May 26th by calling 631-451-8011. A light dinner will be served.

***St. Dominic High School*** in Oyster Bay welcomes all 7th & 8th graders to shadow a current student (become a Bayhawk for the day! ) or schedule a personalized tour. Call 516-922-4888 ext 5325.

***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.

***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.

***Swinging for the Sisters*** ~ benefiting the Ursuline Sisters of Tildonk Retirement Fund. The funds raised are critical to supporting our retired Sisters and those Sisters who continue the work of God through their ministries. Golf Outing & Dinner is Monday, June 26 at Knollwood Country Club in Elmsford, New York. For information visit [info@tildonkursuline.org](mailto:info@tildonkursuline.org) or call 631-363-2422 ext 2060.

***Celebrating the Golden Jubilee of the Charismatic Renewal*** at a conference August 4—August 6 at the University of Scranton in Pennsylvania. The theme is "All were filled with the Holy Spirit." To find out about bus transportation, email Anna Baciuska: [abaciuska@freeporntny.gov](mailto:abaciuska@freeporntny.gov).

Farmingville Residents Association is sponsoring ***Flea Markets*** on the following Sundays: 5/28, 6/25, 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.

***St. John the Baptist DHS*** is offering a Prep Course to prepare students for the Catholic HS Entrance Exam. There will be five 2½ hour sessions beginning in September. There is also a Test Taking Strategies Class the Friday before the exam. Call 631-587-8000 ext. 117 for more information.