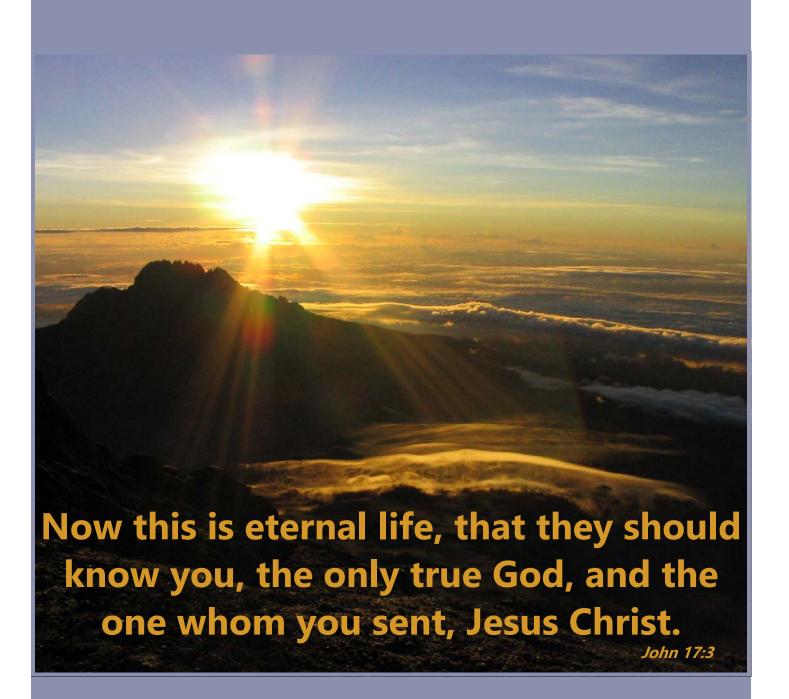
St. Sylvester R. C. Church 68 Ohio Avenue, Medford, NY 11763

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



May 28, 2017 7th 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@stsylvesterli.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@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 $\sim 9:30$ am-12pm, 1pm-3:30pm Wed Night $\sim 5:30$ pm-7:30pm Th \sim Temporarily Closed Fr $\sim 9:30$ am-12pm

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

Saturday, May 27, 2017

Maresco, Gambino & Lupia Families 5:00pm

> (Living & Deceased) Michael Faithfull Francis Ambrose Iohn Robb II

Fr. Charles E. Papa

Sunday, May 28, 2017

7:30am Felicita Vale

9:00am Doris Greene (10th Anniversary)

11:00am Peter Ripi Tuesday, May 30, 2017

For the People of St. Sylvester 8:30am

Thursday, June 1, 2017 Les Weir 8:30am Friday, June 2, 2017

8:30am Gerald Belvedere

Saturday, June 3, 2017

5:00pm Gerard Donaghy

> Benvenuto Monaco Marion Interrante Alice Callahan Carol Baker Joshua Faithfull Lucy Ospina Frank Tudisco

Sunday, June 4, 2017

7:30am Luigi Russo & Family 9:00am Martin J. Helbig Barbara Golden 11:00am

Weekend Memorials

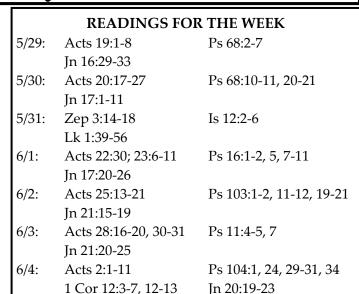
The Bread & Wine and Candles

used at this weekend's liturgies are the gifts of the Carroll Family

in loving memory of

Richard Carroll II and

Kaye & Al Cipley



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

We pray for all who have died, especially ... Dawn P. Guzik, John Ralph Connelly, Angela Frisina



First Saturday Devotion

Come join us for song and prayer as we pray the Rosary

next Saturday, June 3 at 9am in the Worship Room.

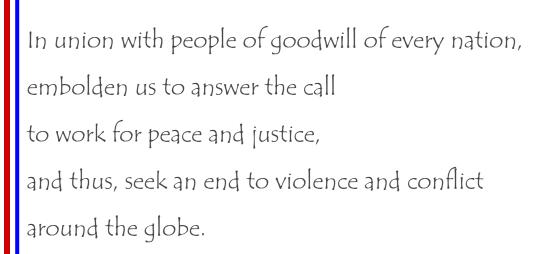
We Pray

Heavenly Father,

On this Memorial Day,
we pray for those who courageously
laid down their lives
for the cause of freedom.
May the example of their sacrifice

May the example of their sacrifice inspire in us the selfless love of your Son.

Bless the families of our fallen troops, and fill their homes and their lives with your strength and peace.



We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen



Stewardship

Gifts of Treasure May 21, 2017

PENTECOST MINISTRY CELEBRATION

On Pentecost we celebrate the gifts of the Holy Spirit. All of us have been given special gifts and talents — have you thought about how you can share them with our faith community here? Do you want to become more involved but aren't sure what goes on in the parish besides weekend Mass?

Stop by our Ministry Tables outside in Fellowship Plaza (weather permitting) after Mass next Sunday, speak with members of the Stewardship Committee and volunteer ministers, pick up information, visit the art show in the parish center and learn just how much takes place in this wonderful, welcoming parish!

Catholic Ministries Appeal 2017

Designated Goal: \$65,100.00 Amount Pledged to Date: \$43,015.00 % of Goal Pledged to Date: 66.1% Number of Donors to Date: 139

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.

Time and Talent Renewal Has Arrived!

It's that time of year when we, both as individuals and as a parish community, reflect on the gifts God has given us. We have all been gifted by God, in so many different and wonderful ways! We pray "Christ Be Our Light" as we use our gifts on our journey as Christian stewards with our families and in our workplaces, communities and throughout the world —as well as right here in our parish!

Please read the insert on the following page to discover more about the meaning of Christian Stewardship. We will be sending a special letter to all parishioners this week that will invite everyone to begin this year's process of Time and Talent Renewal.

Reflection

In today's Gospel, Jesus prays, "I have given you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave Me to do." Good stewards follow His example by using their time and talents for the glory of God.

Living Stewardship

We are grateful for all stewards whose giving –whether of alms or of service — is an expression of gratitude for what the Father has given them.

Stewardship

Christ Be Our Light

Remember when...

you were counting on someone and he or she betrayed you?
your family member or close friend called you to share his or her diagnosis?
you heard the news of our LI teens being brutally murdered by gang members?
These times, or times like them, are certainly times of darkness.

Thank God, we do not stay there forever.

We do literally "thank God," for God, through Jesus, came to dispel the darkness. The will of God is, always and forever, the fullness of our life—that we live in the Light, that we be rooted in the Light.

Jesus is the Light of the World.

We—disciples, stewards, pupils, learners of Jesus, who is God—are called to mature into our Godlikeness and be, too, a light to the world for Jesus says, "You are the light of the world." *Matthew 5:14a*

Now, for a moment, go back into the darkness — any dark moment on your life's journey...how is it that you are not still there?

It would be safe to speculate that someone—a friend, a priest, a family member, a stranger—brought light to your darkness.

Someone, whoever it was, tapped into their Godlikeness and shared their gifts to dispel the darkness by being who they are: "the image and likeness of God."

Are you aware of your Godlikeness and the gifts God has given you? Are you aware of the Light that resides in you by your Baptism? Are you aware of God's great desire to be shown through you, your words, your actions, your gifts?

And are you aware of the darkness in our community, in our world?

The vocation of the laity, the vocation of the church, the vocation of the *whole* People of God is to dispel the darkness by being bearers of the Light.

During this stewardship renewal, we take time to reflect on how we share our God-given gifts to be the Light of Christ to and for others.

Let us pray: Christ, be our Light!



Are you aware that we are called to be stewards of the Light?

Our task is to bring the Light of Christ to others as we discover, develop and share our gifts and stand before the Lord in a spirit of accountability.

We then become stewards of the Light in our families, workplaces, parish and communities.



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Stewardship



2017 Catholic Ministries Appeal

Monday is Memorial Day and we would like to recognize and show our appreciation to all who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country and the freedoms we enjoy.

We would like to ask you to take a moment tomorrow to pray for those that have served and are serving our nation. Many families have lost loved ones, and our military men and women that have survived will face countless struggles and challenges for the rest of their lives.

On Monday when we honor and celebrate their service and sacrifice, let us also remember the once homeless veterans, who because of your support of the Catholic Ministries Appeal, have been helped through our ministries and programs like Catholic Charities *Project Veterans' Independence*.

Thank you for your support! You make a difference in the lives of so many through your prayers and generosity!

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

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.Deodorant (men's and women's)
- 6.*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 imcmahon@stsylvesterli.org

(no phone calls, please)



A decision on whether the United States will remain in the Paris Agreement on Climate Change will happen any day! Send this letter to President Trump, your US Representative, and your US Senators by going here:

tiny.cc/CCCsign

"Our nation's willingness to honor our commitment to the Paris Climate Agreement is in doubt. As a Catholic echoing, Pope Francis' call for climate action, as your constituent, and for the sake of our shared present and future, I urge you to support our nation's continued and constructive involvement in the Agreement. I ask that our nation's participation include honoring our commitments under the Agreement to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, so that we may do our part in the global effort to limit global average temperatures to well below 2°C.

Climate change is impacting poor and vulnerable peoples around the world right now in tragic ways. More frequent and intense storms, prolonged droughts, food and water shortages, and reduced crop yields, threaten their ability to survive. These circumstances foster suffering, desperation and displacement that lead to global instability and unrest. It is our moral duty and in our national interest, to honor our pledge in the Paris Agreement and assist the poor and vulnerable among us to adapt to climate change.

Pope Francis makes it clear that our care for one another and our care for the Earth are intimately bound together. The Church calls all of us to be stewards of God's creation, respectful and mindful of the fact that we depend on nature to survive. The Paris Agreement is a manifestation of this stewardship, recognizing we all contribute to the causes and solutions to climate change.

As Pope Francis receives President Trump in the coming days, I hope that our nation's commitment to the Paris Agreement will be affirmed. The world's leaders have an obligation to protect God's creation, to ease the suffering of the poor and vulnerable, and to protect our nation and world from the harms of climate change. Choosing to remain in the Paris Agreement helps further these goals. I urge you to affirm our commitments to the Paris Agreement and the resources needed to implement the U.S. commitments to the Agreement."

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 June 4th. 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!

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 2016/2017:

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.

Parish Life

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday ~ May 28, 2017

Monday ~ May 29, 2017

All Offices Closed

No Morning Mass

Tuesday ~ May 30, 2017

Art Class ~ 9am ~ PDH

Legion of Mary ~ 1:30pm ~ Room 8

Wednesday ~ May 31, 2017

Adult Confirmation Class ~ 7pm ~ Church

Thursday ~ June 1, 2017

Al-Anon ~ 9:45am ~ Room 2

Wedding Rehearsal ~ 6pm ~ Church

Friday ~ June 2, 2017

Wedding Kerry Dellavalle & Greg Platti ~ 3pm

Charismatic Prayer Group ~ 8pm ~ WR

Saturday, June 3, 2017

Art Class ~ 9am ~ PDH

First Saturday Devotion ~ 9am ~ WR

Art Show/Sale ~ 6pm ~ East Wing



Kerry Ann Dellavalle

Gregory John Platti

as they marry at St. Sylvester June 2, 2017 at 3pm

All Parish Offices will be closed Monday, May 29th in observance of Memorial Day, and there will not be an 8:30am Mass.

Also, the Parish Office will be closed Sunday, June 4th.

The Parish Center Summer Hours Begin Monday, June 5th:

Monday ~ 9am—12pm & 1pm—5pm

Tuesday ~ 9am—12pm & 1pm—5pm

Wednesday ~ 9am—12pm & 1pm—8:30pm

Thursday ~ 9am—12pm & 1pm—5pm

Friday ~ 9am—12pm & 1pm—4pm

Saturday ~ Closed

Sunday ~ 9:30am—12:30pm

Art Show/Sale

Next Weekend, June 3 & 4 After All Masses

Come choose from a beautiful selection of paintings from our extremely talented local watercolorists. They meet here weekly with

fellow parishioner Paul Padovano, who graciously shares his time and talent.

Parish Life

2018 MASS BOOK

The 2018 MASS BOOK will open on Wednesday, June 7th. 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)

	ENTION		DATE	TIME
				_
				_
				_
co	LLECTIVE INTE	NTION ANNO	DUNCED MASSES ((Saturdays at 5:00pm)
INTE	ENTION		DATE	
	 	 		_

Parish Life



+ Plus tasty treats from restaurants in neighboring towns!

Come sample the delicious food from the following eateries:

Angora Grill
Associates Gourmet Market

Blue Moon Deli

Café Gia

Cactus Café

Chubs Meats

Golden Star

Hurricane Grill & Wings

Island Empanada

Mama Bella

Medford Pasteria

Moller's Heroes & Caterers

Pita House

Ristegio's

Tony's Pizza

Trio at Medford

Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased in the Parish Office or after Masses on June 10/11 and June 17/18.

Community News

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.

Medford Fire Department Blood Drive is Flag Day, June 14th, from 2:30pm —8:30pm at the Oregon Avenue Fire House. Your donation will help to save up to THREE lives. Please share this lifesaving gift. All donors will be entered in a drawing to win a new American Flag, and a coupon for a large McDonald's sandwich with any purchase.

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 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@freeportny.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.