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

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



Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times? Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times."

September 17, 2017 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## We Celebrate!

#### Eucharist:

Weekends: Sat: 5pm Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am & 11am Holy Days as announced

Weekdays: M, Tu, Th and Fr: Mass in the Parish Center @ 8:30am

**Baptisms:** Celebrated on pre-determined Sunday afternoons. **Prior to making plans**, call the Parish Center for Baptism dates, for preparation class dates, and important information regarding Godparents.

**Reconciliation:** Saturday at 12 noon or by appointment.

**Confirmation:** In the Fall for the youth of the parish. Adults and young adults can also be confirmed at Pentecost. Please call the Faith Formation Office.

*Marriage*: Friday @ 3, 4:30, 6pm, Saturday @ 10:30am & 2:30pm. Arrangements must be made one year prior to the requested date. Please be aware that all the Sacraments of Initiation should have been celebrated prior to the requested wedding date and Pre-Cana preparation is required. No plans should be made prior to meeting with a priest or deacon.

Anointing of the Sick: Every second Friday of the month @ 8:30am Mass for those needing surgery, or serious medical treatment, or seeking spiritual healing.

## We are here for you!

## Pastoral Leadership Team

Rev. Thomas W. Coby, Pastor Deacon Joseph Mystkowski Deacon George Riegger, Retired Deacon Frank Rivera Theresa Ellner, Business Manager Michael Lofaro, Faith Formation Administrator Frances McMahon, Faith Formation Director Justin McMahon, Parish Social Ministry Director Lori Zito, Stewardship Director

## Office Information

**Parish Office**: (631)475-4506 ext 101; Fax (631)475-1057 email: parishoffice@stsylvesterli.org M, Tu, 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@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 Fr  $\sim 9:30$ am-11:30am

**Thrift Shop:** (631)475-4506

Tu, Wed & Th  $\sim 10$ am - 3pm; Sat  $\sim 10$ 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

## **W**e Pray

Saturday, September 16, 2017

5:00pm Living & Deceased Members of the

Confessore, Lentini & Skiba Families Maria Beslanovics (2nd Anniversary)

Carmela Hunt Anna Core Gerald Waldman Carmela Lepik

Sunday, September 17, 2017

7:30am Tony Sikorski (3rd Anniversary)

9:00am Edward M Twohig 11:00am Richard Palladino *Monday, September 18, 2017* 

8:30am For the People of St. Sylvester

Tuesday, September 19, 2017

8:30am Jordan James Johnson *Thursday, September 21, 2017*8:30am Edward J. Locke *Friday, September 22, 2017*8:30am John Lynch

8:30am John Lynch *Saturday, September 23, 2017* 5:00pm Paul King, Jr.

James P. Harrington (30th Anniversary)

Angela Frisina Anne Eggert Ronald J. Stella Georgette DuBois

Sunday, September 24, 2017

7:30am Antonio & Maria Fernandes 9:00am Robert Barnett (1st Anniversary)

11:00am Matilde Comas

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

Eva D'Amato, Marguerite Orlowski, Robert Orlowski, Tom Stephens, Melina Grosso Bischoff, Sean Patrick Dixon, Nina Caravana, Martha Lee, Winnie Mulderig, Catherine Hines, Bob Prentiss, Jose Nunez, Jessica Deck, Laurie Saper, Rose Masucci, Baby Bryanna Spencer, Ramona Nunez, Pam Hinton, Pam Filasky, Brian Podlesny, Joseph Wagner, Diane Rockowitz, Patricia Nochese, Donald Tierney, Sr., Danny Miller, Theresa Golembroski, Barbara Vattiato, Roger Chin-Sang, Jenna Knoblauch, Sasha Medile, Theresa O'Connor, Baby Charlotte Steele, Robert Uricola, Fran Pellerito, Virginia Guaiana, Olivia Bazirgan, Michael Goode, William F. Swope, Nef Nieves, Kevin Elder, Ed Rafferty, Julie Pabon, Genevieve Cannarili, Vito Scaglione

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

Josephine Cattano, Lucille Mango

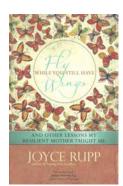
	READINGS FOR	THE WEEK
9/18:	1 Tm 2:1-8	Ps 28:2, 7-9
	Lk 7:1-10	
9/19:	1 Tm 3:1-13	Ps 101:1-3, 5-6
	Lk 7:11-17	
9/20:	1 Tm 3:14-16	Ps 111:1-6
	Lk 7:31-35	
9/21:	Eph 4:1-7, 11-13	Ps 19:2-5
	Mt 9:9-13	
9/22:	1 Tm 6:2-12	Ps 49:6-10, 17-20
	Lk 8:1-3	
9/23:	1 Tm 6:13-16	Ps 100:1-5
	Lk 8:4-15	
9/24:	Is 55:6-9	Ps 145:2-3. 8-9, 17-18
	Phil 1:20-24, 27	Mt 20:1-16

### Women's Prayer Group

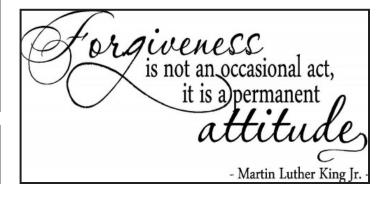
The next gathering of our *Spiritual Book Club* will be **Tuesday**, September 19, 2017 at 7pm in the East Wing. Please join us as we delve into Sr. Joyce Rupp's

Book: Fly While You Still Have

Wings. Sister's books have been used in the past and they are filled with a wonderful, gentle guidance that deepens our relationship with the Lord.



This is open to all women. Please join us!



## Stewardship

## Gifts of Treasure September 10, 2017

## Reflection

Stewardship is not optional! "None of us lives as his own master and none of us dies as his own master," says St. Paul. "While we live we are responsible to the Lord, and when we die, we die as his servants."

## Living Stewardship

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

#### Attention: All Parish Crafters

If you enjoy making crafts at home and have

an extra to spare, please consider donating a craft item or two for our upcoming Holiday Fair, November 11th & 12th. The handmade items will be offered for sale on our craft tables or included in our raffle baskets.



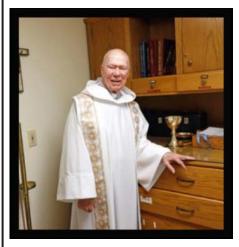
All craft items may be dropped off at the par-

ish office. Please affix your name to the item given as we would like to include it in our annual donor listing. If you have any questions, please contact Lori Zito at phone extension 115 or email to LZito@stsyvlesterli.org.

# Remembering and Caring For Our Senior Priests

Even in retirement our senior priests retain roles as our shepherds, and St. Pius X Residence enables these dedicated men who live there to be fully engaged members of the community. "Still on duty," they serve as our teachers, counselors, and spiritual leaders.

There is a special envelope for retired priests living at St. Pius X Enriched Living Facility next weekend, September 23/24. Please place the envelope in the regular collection basket. Thank you for your generosity!



"St. Pius X is an inspiring and friendly place. I am happy to be here. The care and company are excellent and I am with priests who have done wonderful

things their whole lives."

- Rev. Edward Kealey

# Catholic Ministries Appeal 2017

Designated Goal: \$65,100.00
Amount Pledged to Date: \$47,685.00
% of Goal Pledged to Date: 73.2%
Number of Donors to Date: 156

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

PLEDGE: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Catholic Ministries Appeal

## **Faith Formation**

### Welcome to the 2017-2018 Faith Formation Year

Please note, there will be no online or in person registration October 9—October 22 so that classes begin smoothly. We encourage you to register before October 9.

## Classes have begun!

**Level 8 Confirmation Classes** began on September 11, 2017. *The Confirmation Retreat will take place next Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup> from 1:45pm to 5pm in the Parish Center East Wing.* 

Level 1 begins Saturday, October 14 at 9am in the Church.



Come sow the seeds of

FAITH.

**Home Taught Levels 3, 4, and 5** will begin on Saturday, October 14, 2017 at 10:30am in the Parish Center.

The following Levels will begin the week of October 16, 2017:

Level 2 through 7

Older Sacraments 1 & 2

Older Sacraments 6 & 7

### Attention All Parents!

All Parents will receive an email with the details for their child's class by the end of September.

If have not yet registered your child, please do so before October 9th by going to the website at <a href="www.stsylvesterli.org">www.stsylvesterli.org</a> and go to Faith Formation and then Registration. If you would like to come in to the Faith Formation Office to register your child, please call 631-475-4506 ext. 118, before October 9th, to make an appointment.

## We have a few opportunities available for those who would like to share their gift of faith with the young people of the parish for 2017/2018:

Level 2: Wednesdays @ 4:30pm

Level 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 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

#### Food Pantry Wish List

- 1. Stuffing
- 2. Carrots
- 3. Diapers (4 & 5)
- 4. Body wash/soap
- 5. Tomato Sauce
- 6. Cereal (NOT small boxes)
- 7. Toothbrushes



### Back to School Program

Thank You for your generous contributions to our back to school program! Contributions support our clients and their



families by empowering them to select school supplies that meet the needs of their family. Assistance is available until 09/15/17.



Catholic Charities USA (CCUSA), the official domestic relief agency of the Catholic Church, is working in conjunction with the local Catholic Charities agencies to assist families and individuals impacted by the hurricane.

Here is how you can help:

<u>Pray:</u> God of hope and mercy, we lift up to you all victims of Hurricane Harvey, and those responding with assistance and aid. Protect all who are in any form of danger; provide practical help to all those in need; strengthen the weary; console the grieving and heal the suffering; and bless those engaged in disaster relief efforts with safety and courage. Help all people of goodwill to respond with compassion and generous hearts. Amen.

Give: Help relief efforts in wake of Hurricane Harvey by texting CCUSADISASTER to 71777. You can also give by calling 1-800-919-9338 or by mail: PO Box 17066 Baltimore, MD 21297-1066 and put "Hurricane Harvey" in the memo line of the check. Funds raised will go towards Catholic Charities agencies' efforts to assist families and individuals with shelter, food, and other immediate and long-term recovery needs.

We thank you for your time and generosity.

## **Parish Social Ministry**

**USCCB President, Vice President and** Committee Chairmen

## **Denounce Administration's Decision to End DACA**

and Strongly Urge Congress to Find **Legislative Solution** 

WASHINGTON-Sept. 5, 2017

The following statement from USCCB President Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, along with USCCB Vice President, Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angles, Bishop Joe S. Vásquez of Austin, chairman, Committee on Migration, and Bishop Joseph J. Tyson of Yakima, chairman of the Subcommittee on Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees, and Travelers says the "cancellation of the DACA program is reprehensible."

Over 780,000 youth received protection from the DACA program since its inception by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in 2012. DACA provided no legal status or government benefits but did provide recipients with temporary employment authorization to work in the United States and reprieve from deportation.

#### Full statement follows:

"The cancellation of the DACA program is reprehensible. It causes unnecessary fear for DACA youth and their families. These youth entered the U.S. as minors and often know America as their only home. The Catholic Church has long watched with pride and admiration as DACA youth live out their daily lives with hope and a determination to flourish and contribute to society: continuing to work and provide for their families, continuing to serve in the military, and continuing to receive an education. Now, after months of anxiety and fear about their futures, these brave young people face deportation. This decision is unacceptable and does not reflect who we are as Americans.

The Church has recognized and proclaimed the need to welcome young people: 'Whoever welcomes one of these children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me' (Mark 9:37). Today, our nation has done the opposite of how Scripture calls us to respond. It is a step back from the progress that we need to make as a country. Today's actions represent a heartbreaking moment in our

history that shows the absence of mercy deportation and contribute fully to our and good will, and a short-sighted vision for nation, communities and their families." American youth.

We strongly urge Congress to act and immediately resume work toward legislative solution. We pledge our support to work on finding an expeditious means of protection for DACA youth.

As people of faith, we say to DACA youth regardless of your immigration status, you are children of God and welcome in the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church supports you and will advocate for you."

## CCUSA responds to the administration's decision to end DACA

ALEXANDRIA, VA.—Sept. 5, 2017

"Catholic Charities USA is devastated by the administration's shameful and cruel decision to end the DACA program. The DACA program has offered protection and opportunity to nearly 800,000 young people who were mere children when they were brought to this country for a chance at a better life. As it has done for more than 100 vears. CCUSA will continue to support and advocate on behalf of persons regardless of immigration status.

"DACA recipients have contributed in many ways to our country: some have served proudly in the U.S. military, others have become leaders in local communities and others have built careers and families. Their world will now be turned upside down as this decision means their ability to work and contribute fully to society will come to an end. Hundreds of thousands of people moms, dads, brothers, sisters, sons and daughters - will now live in fear of deportation, potentially forced to leave their families and return to a country they have likely never called home.

"This should not be a political issue, but rather is a profoundly moral and human issue which challenges what this country stands for. CCUSA therefore urges Congress to act now on a legislative solution which protects those protected by DACA so that they can live without fear of

the future. DACA youth are woven into the The individuals affected by this decision are fabric of our country and of our Church, and all children of God. The Catholic Charities are, by every social and human measure, ministry joins the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in calling for meaningful

and compassionate immigration legislation.



#### STAND IN SUPPORT OF DREAMERS

The Dream Act of 2017 (S 1615 / HR 3440) was introduced in Congress as a bipartisan effort earlier this year. It is intended to protect immigrant youth who entered the United States as children and know America as their only home. The bill offers qualifying immigrant youth "conditional permanent resident status" and a path to full lawful permanent residency and eventual citizenship. This bill would protect numerous youth, including the estimated 780,000 individuals who received temporary relief from deportation and employment eligibility through Department of Homeland Security's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.

The young people the Dream Act seeks to protect are contributors to our economy, veterans of our military, academic standouts in our universities, and leaders in our parishes and communities. Throughout the Ignatian network, there is a great tradition of supporting young immigrants seeking to earn an education and contribute to our communities. As a network grounded in the values of the Gospels, we are called to stand with these young people as they seek to be treated with dignity.

Join the Ignatian Solidarity Network in urging your Congresspersons to cosponsor and support the Dream Act of 2017. S. 1615 / HR 3440.

### http://tiny.cc/DREAMACT2017



## **Parish Life**

#### THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday ~ September 17, 2017

Monday ~ September 18, 2017

Drawing Class ~ 10am ~ East Wing

Confirmation Classes ~ 6:50pm ~ Church

Tuesday ~ September 19, 2017

Art Class ~ 9am ~ EW

Legion of Mary ~ 1:30pm ~ Room 8

Women's Prayer Group ~ 7pm ~ EW

Wednesday ~ September 20, 2017

RCIA Inquiry ~ 7pm ~ EW

Thursday ~ September 21, 2017

Al-Anon ~ 9:45am ~ Room 2

Moving On Peer Support ~ 2:30pm ~ EW

Friday ~ September 22, 2017

Senior Circle of Friends ~ 12:30pm ~ EW

Saturday, September 23, 2017

Art Class ~ 9am ~ EW

## Senior Circle of Friends

The Senior Circle of Friends meet on the 2nd



Fun for Seniors and 4th Fridays of the month. Their next meeting is September 22nd at 12:30pm in the East Wing. Come join us for fun and games.

Bring a friend and meet some new ones! New members are always welcome!

## Hold the Date

St. Sylvester's Fall Flower Sale Saturday, September 30

10am-6:15pm

Sunday, October 1 8am-12:30pm



Jessica Christine Moore James Litrenta

as they marry at Our Lady of Grace West Babylon, New York. September 23, 2017 at 3pm

## "Moving On" Peer Support Group

Losing a lifetime partner can have you feeling lost and without purpose. "Moving On" is a group of widows and widowers who come together once a month to help each other find that purpose. Through discussion and prayerful contemplation, we support one another in our attempts to get on with our lives in a meaningful way. Our next meeting is Thursday, September 21 at 2:30 p.m. Please join us then.

Eileen & Martha ~ Coordinators

## Communion for the Homebound



o you know someone who is no longer able to attend Mass but would like to receive the Eucharist? Please have them or their

family member call Parish Outreach at 475-4506 ext 121 to arrange for a visit from an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.

## In the Community

*Gennesaret Retreat* ~ a retreat designed for persons who live with a serious illness is planned for September 22, 23, & 24 at Montfort Spiritual Center in Bay Shore. This retreat offers a respite, a quiet time, an oasis, to enable one to continue the journey. The retreat focuses on God's love, His forgiveness, and His faithfulness. To register or receive more information about the weekend, please call Colette Fanelli at 631-665-7052.

*Camp Hope Day* ~ October 1, 2017 was created to help children ages 5-17 who are grieving the loss of a loved one. The day includes sharing, remembering and commemorating in a nurturing and playful environment. Parents drop off the children in the morning, share a light breakfast and then rejoin the camp at 3pm to share in closing activities and ceremonies. The camp runs from 9am to 4pm. Lunch is included. The camp day is held in Bayport at beautiful Camp Edey. While there is no charge for the day, registration is required by calling Laura Phillips at 631-687-2960.

*Girl Scout Pray and Play Day* ~ Saturday, September 30 from 10am to 2:30pm at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Island in Eastport. Come for a day of prayer, handicrafts and fun. For more information, call 516-678-5800, ext. 254 or go to scouting@drvc.org.

**St. Frances Cabrini** in Coram presents **Reflections of Frank Sinatra & Dean Martin Show** at 3pm on Sunday, September 24 in their Parish Center. VIP seating ~ \$30, Preferred seating ~ \$25 and General Admissions ~ \$20. Call their rectory for tickets at 631-732-8445.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul Friends of the Poor 5K Walk will take place Saturday, September 30 (rain or shine) at Bethpage Community Park, 1001 Stewart Ave., Bethpage. Registration & check-in begin at 9am. Walk with us & help end poverty on Long Island. Call 516-822-3132 for information, or visit www.fopwalk.org. Donations can be mailed to Society of St. Vincent de Paul, 249 Broadway, Bethpage, NY 11714.

Free Mortgage Counseling Seminars ~ Stop Foreclosure ~ hosted by Brookhaven Supervisor Edward Romaine and the Town Board, and presented by Long Island Housing Partnership. You have options. Know your rights. Understand your options. Seminars are 7pm—8:30pm at these locations: Wednesday, September 20th ~ Longwood Public Library
Tuesday, October 3rd ~ Patchogue-Medford Public Library
Thursday, October 12th ~ Comsewogue Public Library
Tuesday, October 24th ~ Middle Country Public Library
For more information, please call 631-451-6600

Widowed, Divorced, Separated ~ Beginning Experience Weekend ~ The loss of a spouse through death, divorce or separation is one of life's most traumatic experiences, often resulting in feelings of loneliness and grief. When those feelings remain, it can be overwhelming and had to move forward. The Beginning Experience weekend is a grace filled time to focus on you . . .to feel understood by peers and experience a sense of peace and a renewed hope for the future. The next weekend is November 3-5, 2017 at the Montfort Spiritual Center in Bay Shore. For information and reservations, call Mary at 516-413-6209 or Jeanne at 631-903-0973 or e-mail BeginningExperienceLI@hotmail.com

## Diocesan News

### 29th Annual Mass For Deceased Children

Let the children come to me, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to these. Mt 19:14

Saturday, September 23 at 12pm
St. Agnes Cathedral, 29 Quealy Place, Rockville Centre
Come early to inscribe your child's name in the "Book of Families"
Refreshments following Mass in the Parish Center
No registration required. All are welcome.



## Golden Wedding Celebration



This fall, couples that have been married fifty years or more will be honored at liturgies on Sunday, October 22, 2017 at the Church of St. Rose Of Lima in Massapequa, and on Sunday, November 19, 2017 at the Church of Christ the King in Commack. Both liturgies begin at 2:30pm. Couple may register for ONE liturgy. Please call the parish office at 475-4506 ext 101to register by October 9th for the October 22nd liturgy and by November 6th for the November 19th liturgy.



## Catholic High Schools Open Houses

You are invited to explore the benefits of a Catholic High School Education. Please feel free to visit our schools during the times and dates listed below.

11am — 1:30pm	Our Lady of Mercy Academy
10am — 1pm	Sacred Heart Academy
10am — 1pm	St. Anthony's HS
12pm — 2:30pm	Holy Trinity Diocesan HS
10am — 1pm	Kellenberg Memorial HS
2pm-4pm	Chaminade HS
2pm-4:30pm	St.Mary's HS
9am — 12pm	McGann-Mercy Diocesan HS
10:30am — 2pm	St. John the Baptist Diocesan HS
1pm-3:30pm	St. Dominic HS
	10am—1pm 10am—1pm 12pm—2:30pm 10am—1pm 2pm—4pm 2pm—4:30pm 9am—12pm 10:30am—2pm

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