

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF
**Ss. CYRIL &
METHODIUS**

WWW.SSCMDP.ORG
125 HALF HOLLOW RD, DEER PARK, NY 11729

NATIVITY OF THE LORD

December 25, 2022

From time to time you hear about babies being born in a car on the way to the hospital. Suddenly, an expectant father becomes an obstetrician. While those moments must be very stressful, I imagine that the back seat of a modern-day car must seem like the Mayo Clinic compared to a stable in Bethlehem. I don't think that St. Joseph gets enough credit for making the Christmas story a happy one, so I offer you my five reflections for spending Christmas with St. Joseph:

1. Sore feet. I have never ridden a donkey before, but I imagine that there is not much room for anyone besides a pregnant woman. The trip to the delivery stable was not short. Google Maps puts it at over ninety miles of walking. Luke's Gospel does not indicate that Mary was in active labor during the trip, but nonetheless Joseph did all the walking. Remember that getting things ready for Christmas can be exhausting, but don't add to the stress of the delivery by be-

ing cranky. I guarantee you that Joseph didn't complain.

2. No reservations. We know for a fact that the Holy Family had no reservations, so Joseph had to do some quick thinking. Flexibility is the first ingredient to lowering holiday stress. This Christmas expect the unexpected, say a little prayer to St. Joseph, and go with the flow. When things turn upside down, you'll smile and not frown.

3. There's company coming. After Jesus was born, there were a lot of visitors. First the shepherds showed up, next the Magi, and all along a multitude of Heavenly Hosts were enjoying the view. A little alone time is a nice thing, but it may not happen this year. Enjoy any calm before the storm. Don't just lie on your bed and nap; spiritually rest. Say your favorite prayer slowly (mine is the Memorare), and ask the newborn Prince of Peace to let his peace stay with you when you are

...continued on page 4

Readings & Songs this Sunday

No. 1003 in the Blue Gather Hymnal

Vigil Mass see page 1003

Mass during the day see page 1006

LITURGICAL MUSIC for the Holy Mass:

O Come, All Ye Faithful	#439
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing	#424
Silent Night	#441
Angels We Have Heard on High	#430
Away in a Manger	#448
Joy to the World	#437
(All Masses except Sunday 6pm)	



SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday: 5:00 pm (Vigil)

Sunday: 8:00 am, 9:30 am: Family Mass - LIVESTREAM,
11:00 am, 12:30 pm
4:00 pm (Vietnamese Mass) & 6:00 pm

Weekdays: 7:00 am, 8:30 am, 12:15 pm

Saturday: 8:30 am

HOLY DAY SCHEDULE

Eve of Holy Day: 5:00 pm

Holy Day: 7:00 am, 8:30 am
12:15 pm & 7:00 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: (Children's Chapel)

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: after the 12:15 pm Mass

Saturday: 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm
and by appointment by calling the Parish Office

PARISH OFFICE

Tel: (631) 667-4044

Fax: (631) 667-6237

Email: parishoffice@sscmdp.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Saturday & Sunday

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Tuesday & Thursday:

4:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Parish Social Ministry Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Other hours by appointment only.

Email: socialministry@sscmdp.org

BAPTISM: Saturday at 12:30 pm and Sunday at 2:00 pm. Contact the Parish Office to arrange for an interview and to register for the required preparation class.

MARRIAGE: Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance and prior to wedding reception plans. Call the Parish Center to make an appointment for the initial intake.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK: Holy Communion are ministered by appointment to those confined to home. Contact the Parish Office to schedule a visit by a Eucharistic Minister.

THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Saturdays after the 8:30 am Mass (inform priest before Mass or request for it after Mass). In an emergency, call the Parish Office to request a priest. Outside office hours, call (631) 667-4044, Ext. 9.

PASTORAL STAFF: (631) 667-4044

Rev. Gius Garcia, *Pastor*, Ext. 121

Rev. Christopher Deh, *Associate Pastor*, Ext. 165

Rev. Patrick Grace, *Associate Pastor*, Ext. 166

Rev. Paul Bersamin, *Associate Pastor*, Ext. 167

Rev. Francis D. Sang, *In Residence*, Ext. 170 (Retired)

Rev. Gregory Cappuccino, *Occasional Help*, (Retired)

Deacon John F. Fitzpatrick, Ext. 124

Deacon James A. Murano, *Liturgical Music*, Ext. 127

Deacon William Sperl, Ext. 112

Ms. Amora Laucella, *Religious Education*, Ext. 145

Ms. Janet McEnany, *Social Ministry*, Ext. 105

Mr. Timothy Leitch, *Youth Ministry*, Ext. 154

Deacon Philip A. Mills, Jr. *Business Manager*, Ext. 110

PARISH TRUSTEES

Mary Malerba

John Grieb



Mrs. Joan Ann Loring, Ext. 122

Parish Secretary / Bulletin Editor

Mrs. Marianne Saffran, Ext. 115

Baptism & Wedding Coordinator

Ms. Allison Taibi, Ext. 111

Bookkeeper

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	December 26
7:00 AM:	For Russell Salerno's intentions
8:30 AM:	Edward Perras
12:15 PM:	Jean O'Hara
Tuesday	December 27
7:00 AM:	For Fr. Christopher Deh's intentions
8:30 AM:	Eileen Klimczuk
12:15 PM:	James N. Barone, Assunta and James DeJohn
Wednesday	December 28
7:00 AM:	For Bailey Kravitz's intentions
8:30 AM:	For Father Gregory Cappuccino's intentions
12:15 PM:	Dr. Joe Matos
Thursday	December 29
7:00 AM:	For Chelsea Kravitz's intentions
8:30 AM:	Aida Feliciano
12:15 PM:	Alicia Morales
Friday	December 30
7:00 AM:	For Mary Malerba's intentions
8:30 AM:	Brady - Ludmer Family
12:15 PM:	Harold W. Schillinger
Saturday	December 31
8:30 AM	Purgatorial Society
5:00 PM	Living and deceased members of the Giordano and Jukubiel Families
Sunday	January 1
8:00 AM	For Our Parishioners
9:30 AM	Harold W. Schillinger
11:00 AM	Luigi, Filomena and Catherine Salegna, Antonia Fantauzzi, and for Donna Meyer's intentions
12:30 PM	James Kilkullen
6:00 PM	Damian (Sam) Aiello

PRESIDERS FOR NEXT WEEK'S MASSES

Saturday,	December 31
5:00 PM:	Fr. Christopher Deh
Sunday	January 1
8:00 AM:	Fr. Christopher Deh
9:30 AM:	Fr. Gius Garcia
11:00 AM:	Fr. Paul Bersamin
12:30 PM:	Fr. Gius Garcia
6:00 PM:	Fr. Paul Bersamin

REST IN PEACE

Pasqua Ricci

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Third Banns

Edward Hurley — Ss. Cyril and Methodius

Laura Bellotti — Ss. Cyril and Methodius

Ronald Doskoez — Ss. Cyril and Methodius

Kelly O'Brien — Ss. Cyril and Methodius

NEWLY BAPTIZED

Landon James Chase, Cristiano Carlos Fernandes

PRAY FOR THE SICK

T. J. Hicks, Christian Daniel, Bella Barra, Frank Barra, Margaret McCartney, Theresa Schaefer, Leonard Caltabiano, Joseph Massa, Connie Rigert, Stanley Urbanowski Stephen Neveroski, Eugene Sheehy, Clemente Oropallo, Kevin Talbot, Jean Fortunato, Joyce Ratushny, Barbara Dunne, Louis Xavier Maldonado, Kristen Mills, Tony Bufalino, Jackie Becker, Susan Marsillo, Carmelo Mal Controne, Joseph Battista, Brianna Barra, Ezra Folcik, Omar Stuart, Carmine Soldano, Diane Ryan, Brendan Gould, John Viviani, Mark Dixon, Troy Liddell, Rosemarie Maloney, Susan and Paul Mattei, Salvatore Piazzolla, Mark Glatzer, Rosemarie Dorsty, MP, Mellie, Eileen Conlin, Marie Cipriano Merrifield, 50 Joey, Theresa Scheuer Smith, Sylvia H., Ronald Beauzais, Angelina Duramacco, William Shirk, Maria Garcia, Robert Glaser, Keith Thomas, Lydia Reveron, Jackie DeCerbo, Diana Walsh, Christopher M. Wall, Bob Walsh, Rose Guisti, Madelyn Simonetti, Angela Mento, Susan Semetsis, Anne Sheppard, Kathleen Jacobi, Louis D' Agostino, Ding Caliendo, Julio Cesar Rivera, Joseph E. Torres, Parette Gisele Torres, Sydney Ann Torres, Lucy Piazzola, Renee Hovanec, Eric, Joseph Pepe, Padraic Beach, Mary McMahon Alex, Emma Villarola, Paulette Giusto, Kristin Piazzola, Ralph Savastano, Rocco Oliveri, Richard DiMaggio, Arlene McMahon Providence Hulsen, Lisa Hulsen, Thomas Kane, Baby Dominic, Danielle E. Shingler, Bob Lockwood, Heather Dunne, Ellen Bland, Tammy Walsh, Mary Theresa Deegan, Edmond Fitzgerald, Inez Schillinger, Jackie McDonald, JoAnn Oberlies, Paul Kabaservice

WE PRAY ESPECIALLY FOR OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

Sgt. Joseph Evola, Karley Hawkins, Sean O'Farrell von Fenton, Lt. Patrick H. LaMonica, Lt. Jonathan W. LaMonica, 1st Lt. Charles Gulotta, Captain Matthew Gulotta, James Powers, Cordel Breitenstein, Commander Christopher Grande, Sgt. Vincent Tullo US Army, Thomas Anthony Brick US Marines, Staff Sgt. Jason Miller, Warrant Officer Kelly Johnston, Chief R. Travis Johnston, Petty Officer 2nd Class Kaitlyn Parisi, Petty Officer 2nd Class Kacey Medrano Petty Officer 1st Class Hugo Medrano, Petty Officer 2nd Class Vincent Parisi III, Major Salvatore W. Garcia, Sgt. 1st Class William J. Braun



Christmas Day

...from cover page

in the midst of a big crowd, especially if that crowd is related to you.

4. Away from home. Joseph and his young family were away from their friends when Jesus was born. Many people are alone on Christmas, and for some this is very challenging. If you're not one of those people, stop and think if you know someone who will be alone, and invite them over for a little Christmas cheer. I am of the opinion that someone outside the family at the Christmas table puts everyone else on their best behavior. If you will be alone this Christmas, remember that you're never alone. In prayer, spend some time with the Holy Family in their solitude. Holidays need not be lonely. You can actually make Christmas an intentional spir-

itual retreat, a planned time of prayer with the best company imaginable.

5. No delivery. I am not talking about the baby; I mean dinner. New moms need to eat and drink to regain their strength. The Gospels make no mention of a Domino's delivery camel showing up outside the stable. Joseph shopped, cooked, and cleaned. If that is your Christmas job assignment, be grateful because you're in such great company. If you normally don't help with these things, put down your eggnog, get your lazy self off the couch, and say these simple words, "I will do the dishes." Think of it as doing Jesus' dishes.

Father William (Bill) Byrne is a native of Washington, D.C. For 8 years he was the Pastor of St. Peter's on Capitol Hill, developing and providing a special ministry for Catholic members of Congress.

We remember how you loved us...
DECEMBER 25 to DECEMBER 31

BREAD AND WINE

- God Bless Us Everyone. The Gould Family

ALTAR CANDLES - In memory of Antonia Fantuzzi.

CANDLES AT BLESSED MOTHER'S SHRINE

- Available

CANDLES AT ST JOSEPH'S SHRINE

- Available

FLOWERS AT BLESSED MOTHER'S SHRINE

- Thanks to you our Parishioners

FLOWERS AT ST JOSEPH'S SHRINE

- Happy 2nd Anniversary in Heaven Dad, Richard A. Barth. Love, the Incandela Family.

ALTAR FLOWERS

- Thanks to you our Parishioners

Altar Candles, Candles at Our Lady's Shrine & St. Joseph's Shrine - Offering - \$25 Bread & Wine - \$50 Flowers at Blessed Mother & St. Joseph - \$50 Altar Flowers - \$50 per Vase or \$100 for both.

Stewardship

DECEMBER 18, 2022

Regular Collection \$15,706.91

Online Giving \$ 962.39

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

Goal \$125,200

\$93,410.00 Pledged

74.61% of Parish Goal

Thank you, and God Bless you, for your faithful weekly Stewardship of our Parish and for your support of the 2022 Catholic Ministries Appeal!

Jesus came into the world for us. His humility, His living and dying, His ministry was all for us—because He loves us.

OUR STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE: THREE (3) HOURS TO THE LORD

- One hour in prayer each week
- One hour in service to others each week
- One hour's wages financial support of our parish family.

VANCO
FAITH

Merry Christmas

Thank You for your prayerful participation in our Christmas Season Masses and for your generosity in our Christmas & Poinsettia Offerings. Your faithful stewardship all throughout the past year is much appreciated and provides the financial resources necessary to continue our pastoral ministries.

We pray that God will Bless us all in the New Year of 2023 with health, financial stability, world peace, and hope.



Along with the Wise Men, may we continue our own journey to seek out, discover, and personally encounter the LOVE of God in Christ Jesus!

*Father Gius, the priests, deacons, and lay staff of
Saints Cyril and Methodius Parish Family*

Family Faith Formation and Religious Education

Family Faith Formation Gifts for the Homebound

Every year, our middle school students join us for an afternoon of Christmas Wreath making, all of which are delivered to the homebound of our Ss. Cyril and Methodius parish community. During our 2019 Christmas Wreath Making Day, our middle schoolers made so many wreaths that we had a great supply this year to distribute and deliver. A big thank you to our Level 6, Level 7, and Level 8 students of 2019-2020 whose good deeds of giving of their time are still making spirits bright three years later!

We also were able to add to our wreaths a very special gift; One of our Family Faith Formation alumni, Claire Reccardi, is a very talented artist who, for the last four years, has painted incredibly beautiful canvases depicting different Christmas scenes. This year, Claire painted fifty canvases of different churches that we were able to distribute to those who will not be able to join us for Christmas. Thank you so much for your time and talent, Claire!

These gifts from Family Faith Formation were also delivered with cookies and Christmas ornaments that were made by our Youth Ministry team. We were so glad to send our middle schoolers to the Youth Cookie Bake to get to know them, while also doing something meaningful for others. What a way to collaborate and show those who are not able to be with us in person how loved that they are by the young people of our Parish!



Christmas Break

This is a reminder to everyone that our Office is **CLOSED** for Christmas Break, starting on **Thursday, December 16th until Tuesday, January 3rd**. Our Office will reopen and classes will resume again on **Wednesday, January 4th**.

We hope that everyone has a fun and safe Christmas Break, and that you all enjoy it with all of the people that you love and keep near and dear to your heart!

Administration

Ms. Laucella
Director of Family Faith Formation,
Programming, & Religious Education
(631) 667-4044 ext. 145
amlaucella@sscmdp.org

Office Information

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:30am-2:30pm
(631) 667-4044 exts. 146 & 147
faithformation@sscmdp.org
Instagram: SSCMFamilyFaithFormation
Facebook: SsCyrilandMethodiusRCC

CATHOLICISM



Join Father Grace on Tuesday, **January 17th from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** in the Father Behan Hall. **Episode 8: "A Vast Company of Witnesses: The Communion of Saints,"** Bishop Barron celebrates some of Church's most extraordinary saints —Edith Stein, Mother Teresa, Therese of Lisieux and Katharine Drexel. **Please note we will resume January 17th.**

ALTAR SERVERS

We are looking for boys and girls in 4th grade or above to become part of our Altar Server Ministry. For more information call Father Christopher Deh at 631-667-4044 ext. 165.

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. Maintaining social distancing practices we gather weekly to recite the Novena near the statue of Mary. Make this powerful 20 minute prayer an essential and routine part of your spiritual life. Let our Blessed Lady intercede for your needs to her son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

FLAME OF LOVE DEVOTION

Will gather in the Church every **Friday afternoon from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.** Our Mother is begging for our help! Won't you say yes? Any questions call Anna Mancini at 631-586-5214. Welcome Christ Jesus at home on December 23rd and 30th with family. **We will gather again on January 6, 2023.**

RECITATION OF THE ROSARY

Join the Rosary Altar Society every Tuesday and Thursday at 6pm. You may tune in to the communal recitation of the Rosary on ZOOM CONFERENCE as led by the members of the Holy Rosary Society of Saints Cyril and Methodius. Download the **Zoom app** on your phone or login to **zoom.us Meeting ID: 82505467253** and **Password: TV369x** Any questions call Leslie Barra at 631-586-1663.

THE LOVE OF CHRIST CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. John 3:16. Meets every **Tuesday from 1:00pm to 3:00pm in the Senior Room.** Any questions call Lucille at 631-586-2438.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every **Friday from 1:00pm to 4:00pm in the Chapel.** The first hour we pray the Rosary and Divine Mercy. The last two hours we spend in silent prayer. **Will resume in the near future.**

BLACK CATHOLICS MINISTRY

If anyone is interested please contact Donna Dixon at 631-664-5692.

SENIOR CLUB

Our next meeting will be on **January 3, 2023 at 2:30pm** in the Father Behan Hall. Any questions call John Kelly at 631-586-0827. Registration for 2023 is now open.

USHERS

Ushers are needed at all Masses. If you would like to help out at the Mass you attend then please call Paul Coppola at 631-587-9649 for more information.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL - "We Help People"

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!! LET US REJOICE AND CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!!!

As we hear the words of the angel, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy". We would like to thank everyone who has donated to St. Vincent de Paul all throughout this past year, it has enabled us to help our neighbors in need so they can feel joy instead of fear.

If you or someone you know is in need of assistance in addressing rent, utilities or other crucial bill arrears, or needs assistance with furniture, clothing or dental needs, please email us at sscmstvincentdepaul@gmail.com or call and leave a message at 631-667-4044 ext.175

If you would like to donate clothing, the bins in the north side of the church are for clothing only. To donate furniture, please call 631-858-0380. To donate household goods, please visit the SVDP Thrift Stores at 1705 Jericho Turnpike, Huntington, NY 11743 or 2160 Jericho Turnpike, Garden City Park, NY 11040 or visit www.svdpli.org for additional information. Thank you!

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

There is no meeting in January and February. We will resume **March 6th**. Any questions call Alba Barra at 631-274-5570.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY COLUMBIETTES

Our next meeting is **January 9th at 7:30 p.m.** at Our Lady of the Rosary Council on Long Island Ave. If you would like to become a member please call Inez Schillinger, President at 631-586-2176.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

We meet the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month. Please call Grand Knight Dan Thompson at 646-529-4850 if interested in becoming a member.

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS

Join us every first Saturday of every month for Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament at 8:00am followed by the 8:30am Mass and recitation of the rosary. **The next First Saturday of the month is January 7th, 2023.** Any questions call Nancy Lanni at 631-242-5078.

CHURCH CLEANING MINISTRY

The first phase of pew cleaning has been completed.. We thank the 5 volunteers who devoted many hours to removing the top layer of grime from the pews.

While we wait to continue this process. Just remember this is our church, let's keep the Church clean!

THE REACH OUT COMMITTEE

They have started contacting our parishioners to update our records and see what is needed. Right now we have only 6 volunteers calling 7,000 families so please be patient.

If you would like to be part of this ministry just call the parish office.





QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DONATIONS (QCD)

*Direct transfers from IRAs to Charities
– a tax benefit for you*

This unique opportunity allows taxpayers to make charitable contributions through a direct IRA transfer.

If you would like to make a gift using your ira and if:

1. You are at least 70 1/2 years old on the date you make your gift
2. Your IRA is a traditional (some Roth IRA's may qualify)
3. You don't exceed your personal maximum of \$100,000 per year in qualified charitable distributions

TAX SAVING ADVANTAGES:

1. QCDs are not included in your adjusted gross income.
2. QCDs deliver a tax benefit while "regular" charitable donations might not since the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act almost doubled the standard deductions amounts.
3. QCDs taken from your traditional IRA counts as a distribution for the required minimum distribution (RMD) rules. Therefore, you can donate all or part of your RMD that you would otherwise be forced to receive and pay taxes on.

The best way for you to start is with your IRA custodian. Tell them you want to make a "qualified charitable distribution." In most cases you will only have to fill out a simple form.

VERY IMPORTANT!! Your gift must go directly from your IRA to the Charity. If you receive the money first then you'll be taxed on it like any other distribution.

Bill has a \$125,000 in a traditional IRA and would like to contribute \$5,000 to his parish. Upon hearing of the **Charitable IRA Rollover** opportunity, he directs the custodian of his IRA to transfer this amount not later than December 31, 2022 directly to the Parish as the family's 2022 gift. He gets to exclude the IRA distribution given to charity from income.

This information is not intended and should not be construed as legal, tax or investment advice. For such advice, please consult an attorney, tax advisor or investment professional.

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[www.drvc.org/
newsletter](http://www.drvc.org/newsletter)

POWERED BY OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE



BIBLE STUDY CLASS CONTINUES.... ALL ARE WELCOME!

THE BIBLE TIMELINE THE STORY OF SALVATION WITH JEFF CAVINS



The Bible Timeline® Study Program takes you on a guided journey through salvation history. Presenter Jeff Cavins shows you **how fourteen of the Bible's narrative books tell the biblical story from beginning to end and gives you the keys to understanding the amazing story woven through Scripture.** You will learn the major people, places, and events of the Bible and discover how they all come together to reveal the remarkable story of our Faith.

Wednesdays, 6:30 pm, in the Father Behan Hall. For more information and **to register** please call Mary at 631.291.7020

Augustine Institute-Lighthouse Catholic Media presents
pamphlets, books and cd's available at the kiosk in the breezeway or rectory.

ENGAGE YOUR FAITH



EMPOWERING THE NEW EVANGELIZATION

UNDERSTAND, LIVE, AND SHARE YOUR FAITH



AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE





Thank you for your generous support of the 2022 Catholic Ministries Appeal.

Completing your 2022 pledge ensures that our Parish
will benefit by receiving our full rebate.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to give, please prayerfully consider
making a donation to the Appeal. To give securely online,
please go to: <https://www.drvc.org/donate/cma/>

There's still time to make a gift. Please remember that
all new pledges must be in by December 31, 2022 and
paid in full by January 31, 2023.

Make checks payable to: **Catholic Ministries Appeal**

Parish _____

Pledge: \$ _____

Name _____

Down payment: \$ _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

To make a donation, you can also visit <https://www.drvc.org/CMA> or call us at **516-678-5800 ext. 296.**

ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO SERVE AS A DEACON?

By virtue of Baptism, we are called to holiness—the lay faithful as well as bishops, priests, and deacons. But have you felt called to serve in a much deeper and committed way? If you are a man between the ages of 30 and 59, who feels that you are being called to ordained ministry as a deacon in the Church, you are invited to come for an Evening of Prayer and Discernment with other men of faith to discuss and explore that very question. There is no cost to the evening—just your time and openness.

COME TO ANY ONE OF THESE MEETINGS - PREPARED to LISTEN, to PRAY, to REFLECT, to DISCERN where God is calling you!

EVENINGS are being offered conveniently at **THREE LOCATIONS.**

7:00PM, Tuesday, January 10 - St. Joseph Ronkonkoma, 45 Church Street

7:00PM, Wednesday, January 11 - Maria Regina Seaford, 3945 Jerusalem Avenue

7:00PM, Thursday, January 19 - St. Aidan Williston Park, 505 Willis Avenue

with an **EARLY WEEKEND OPTION** to be held at

1:00PM, Sunday, January 15 - St. John the Evangelist Center Moriches, 25 Ocean Avenue

RSVP by Friday, January 6th, to 631-423-0483 Ext. 179 or by email to diaconateformation@drvc.org

We thank you and look forward to being with you.



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Christmas 2022

To the People of God of the Diocese of Rockville Centre:

Merry Christmas to you and your families!

In union with our Holy Father Pope Francis, and in a non-judgmental spirit of mercy, humility and charity, I invite everyone who will be present at our Christmas Masses, or watching our Christmas Masses via the Catholic Faith Network or CBS, or not present at all: If your life has been far from the Catholic Mass and the Eucharist, I invite you with Pope Francis to return.

I invite you to experience the power and liberation of Christ's mercy and forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance and to cross the bridge into the full practice of your Catholic Faith through a radical fidelity to the Sunday Mass and an ever-deepening love for the Holy Eucharist.

Perhaps you are not a Catholic and yet have some mysterious attraction to the Catholic Mass and the Eucharist.

You are not alone! Many saints – I think of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, the pioneering American Catholic educator and convert – had the same experience and were drawn to enter the Church through their intuitive experience of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist in our parish churches! Be open to the Eucharistic movement of the Holy Spirit in your life!

Our celebration of Christmas 2022 occurs this year as every Catholic diocese, every Catholic parish, every Catholic hospital, university, and institution in the United States is engaged in an evangelizing ***Eucharistic Revival***.

What do we mean by the phrase "Eucharistic Revival" and why is it so important for our celebration of Christmas?

What does a love for the Eucharist and an openness to being a 21st Century Eucharistic missionary have to do with our celebration of Christmas 2022?

Pope Francis points out the relationship between the Birth of Christ and the Holy Eucharist and the Mass. The very word Bethlehem means "house of Bread."

Pope Francis states: "Bethlehem is the turning point that alters the course of history. There God, in the *house of bread*, is born in a *manger*. It is as if he wanted to say: 'Here I am, as your food.' He does not take, but gives us to eat; he does not give us a mere thing, but his very self. In Bethlehem, we discover that God does not take life, but gives it. To us, who from birth are used to taking and eating, Jesus begins to say: 'Take and eat. This is my body.' (Matthew 26:26) The tiny body of the Child of Bethlehem speaks to us of a new way to live our lives: not by devouring and hoarding, but by sharing and giving. God makes himself small so that he can be our food. By feeding on him, the bread of life,

we can be *reborn in love*, and break the spiral of grasping and greed. From the 'house of bread,' Jesus brings us back home, so that we can become God's family, brothers and sisters to our neighbors. Standing before the manger, we understand that the food of life is not material riches but love, not gluttony but charity, not ostentation but simplicity. The Lord knows that we need to be fed daily. That is why he offered himself to us every day of his life: from the manger in Bethlehem to the Upper Room in Jerusalem. Today too, on the altar, he becomes bread broken for us; he knocks at our door, to enter and eat with us (cf. Revelation 3:20). At Christmas, we on earth receive Jesus, the bread from heaven. It is a bread that never grows stale, but enables us even now to have a foretaste of eternal life."¹

Eucharistic Revival, in the words of Pope St. John Paul II, is a rediscovery of "Eucharistic Amazement" and Eucharistic Devotion.

Eucharistic Revival means that we understand deeply that every Mass has a cosmic significance, and every Mass is celebrated on the Altar of the world – the Altar of Ukraine and every war torn and injustice-ridden area of our world.

Eucharistic Revival is an effective catechesis of the theology and spirituality of the Catholic Mass that moves the hearts, minds, souls and imaginations of the People of God.

Eucharistic Revival in our Catholic schools means the cultivation of a radical fidelity to the Sunday Catholic Mass on the part of our teachers, our staff and our families.

Eucharistic Revival is a rekindling of Pope Benedict XVI's insight that every period of Church reform and effective Catholic evangelization and mission throughout history can be traced to a rediscovery of the Real Presence of Jesus Christ, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist.²

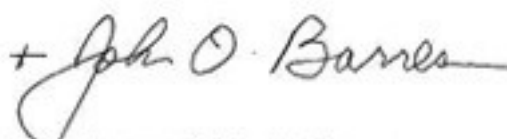
As we celebrate the birth of Christ and his rebirth in our hearts and families at Christmas, we pray for a renewal of our faith in Christ's Eucharistic presence.

We pray that each of us could be Divine Mercy instruments of bringing many, many people back to a full fidelity to the Eucharist and the Catholic Mass.

As we celebrate Christmas, we are being called to be intentional, compassionate, understanding and listening Eucharistic missionaries.

Merry Christmas to you and your families! May the love of the Christ child and the love of the Holy Family light your remaining steps on earth and light your path to Heaven and Eternal Life.

Sincerely in Christ,



Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Rockville Centre

¹ Pope Francis Homily for Midnight Mass, Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord, December 25, 2018.

² See Pope Benedict XVI's 2017 Apostolic Exhortation *Sacramentum Caritatis* 6: "Every great reform has in some way been linked to the rediscovery of belief in the Lord's eucharistic presence among his people."

Make a Joyful Noise!

FUTURE EVENTS

Friday, March 10th, 7:00PM – **LENTEN TAIZE PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS**, featuring Taize chants accompanied by piano, flute, violin and guitar in a prayerful atmosphere, uniquely lit by candlelight. This will be a striking meditation on the meaning of the cross of Christ and promises to be an essential Lenten experience.

Friday, May 26th, 7:00pm – **PARISH SPRING CONCERT**, featuring sacred and secular works performed by our own musicians, choirs, cantors and our pastor, priests and deacons! This concert will be a time to celebrate our parish and the gifts our Lord has showered on us all. This year's tentative theme: "**Encounter, Listen and Discern**".

If you would like to help defray the costs of these special events, as well as, regular Music Ministry expenses, please consider becoming a **Liturgical Music Patron**. If you have been blessed and are able to help, please leave a message for Deacon James with the receptionist at the rectory - 631 667 4044 x100.

Respect Life

Please Visit our Pro-Life Material rack in the back foyer of the church, closest to Deer Park Ave. Here you will find many valuable resources for all of life's stages.

From dating and marriage to family planning, infertility, reproductive technology, and handling an adverse prenatal diagnosis. There are brochures that give us a better understanding of poverty and abortion, as well as Conscience protection for healthcare workers. We also have topics on Advanced Medical directives and Wills for Living, very informative for ourselves or loved ones who may be going through the final stages of life. You will also find brochures that inform much on the topics of healing from abortion, religious freedom, suicide, voting, and the death penalty. If any questions please call the RL Ministry number below.

Margie Reilly

A PRAYER FOR PREGNANT MOTHERS

O Blessed Mother, you received the good news of the incarnation of Christ, your Son, with faith and trust. Grant your protection to all pregnant mothers facing difficulties. Guide us as we strive to make our parish communities places of welcome and assistance for mothers in need. Help us become instruments of God's love and compassion.

Mary, Mother of the Church, graciously help us build a culture of life and a civilization of love, together with all people of good will, to the praise and glory of God, the Creator and lover of life.* Amen.

If you or someone you know is in need of support (items like diapers/wipes, or formula) for your newborn, toddler or expectant baby, please call the Respect Life Ministry at **631-667-4044 Ext 120** and leave a voice message. We are here for you and will get back to you and help in any way that we can!

** Please join in the Diocesan Rosary for Life

GO TO: WWW.DRVCLIFE.ORG website for the zoom link **WHEN:** Every Friday at 3:00pm
This is a beautiful way to put your faith into action by way of saying the Rosary with others!



CRYING ROOM

Available for use
by families with babies and toddlers.

The Children's Chapel
(located by the Church lobby/narthex)

PARISH RELIGIOUS STORE **NOW OPEN**


At the Parish Office Reception

CURATED RELIGIOUS ITEMS

Special elegant Rosaries
Bibles
Parish logo Fleece jackets
Candles
Prayer Books
And many more!!!

THIS MY IS CHURCH

I WILL
PICK UP
I WILL
CLEAN UP



REMEMBERING LOVED ONES WHO HAVE PASSED IN CHURCH in WEEKLY CELEBRATIONS

Offering flowers and lighting candles are very unique and special ways we can remember the birthday and death anniversary of departed family members and friends while making our worship space pleasant and inviting. The shrines of St. Joseph and the Blessed Mother and the tabernacle are designated spaces offered for us to do this. Your gift remains in those designated spaces for a whole week. Bread and wine used for the Mass can also be donated. If interested, contact the Front Desk for availability & more information.



GIFT CARDS for sale at the parish office during office hours. The list is what we currently have in stock. If there is something else that you would like, please call 631-667-4044 ext. 110.

As requested, we now have Olympic Diner Gift Cards!



- \$100** - Amazon, Kohl's , Texas Roadhouse - **\$100**
- \$50** - Panera, Stop & Shop, Kohl's., Texas Roadhouse - **\$50**
- \$25** - Apple Bees, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond - **\$25**
- \$25** - CVS, Dick's Sporting Goods - **\$25**
- \$25** - Home Depot, Kohl's, Lowes, Macy's, Michael's, Olympic Diner - **\$25**
- \$25** - Panera, Pet Smart, Red Lobster, Regal Movie, Rite Aid, Shutterfly - **\$25**
- \$25** - Speedway, Staples, Stop & Shop, Tanger Outlets - **\$25**
- \$25** - Target, Texas Roadhouse, Walgreens - **\$25**
- \$10** - Dunkin Donuts, Panera, Regal Movie, Starbucks - **\$10**



An easy way when giving gifts to your family and friends, while SUPPORTING your parish!

BINGO

**Please consider becoming a VOLUNTEER
DOOR OPENS 6:00 PM**

SAINTS CYRIL & METHODIUS **Reusable Grocery Bags**

Strong and Eco-Friendly

Available for Purchase at the Parish Office.

\$2.00 per Bag

Parish Social Ministry

Merry Christmas Everyone

Next week I will be reporting to you about all the Christmas' you have given to needy people in our community.

For right now I will only say this parish has tremendous heart.

Thank you thank you thank you from all of us at Parish Social Ministry! That includes the 21 volunteers who come week after week religiously (pun intended) to attend to such an important ministry. I could not do any of the things I do without them! Please when you see them give them a thank you for all they do.

I cannot say enough about the Parish, from The Pastor to all the Priests to the Deacons and all the support staff here they are the most wonderful people on earth!

Merry Christmas may yours be Blessed Merry and Bright!

God Bless Everyone and their families at this most wonderful time of year.

Janet

PANTRY NEEDS:

FOOD

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Ritz type crackers | 9. Ketchup |
| 2. Vegetable Oil | 10. Mustard |
| 3. Vinegar | 11. Salad Dressing |
| 4. Sugar | 12. Cookies |
| 5. Flour | 13. Muffin Mix |
| 6. Jello | 14. Brownie Mix |
| 7. Pudding | 15. Cake Mix |
| 8. Mayonnaise | 16. Icing |

NON FOOD ITEMS

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. Toilet Paper | 5. Laundry detergent |
| 2. Paper Towels | 6. Dishwashing Liquid
(not for dishwasher) |
| 3. Tissues | 7. Soap |
| 4. Napkins | 8. Shower Wash |

ROYAL ALBERT NATIVITY SETS

**JUST IN
TIME
FOR THE
HOLIDAYS!**

**AVAILABLE
AT THE
PARISH
STORE**



Beautifully detailed &
hand-painted 11-piece
fine china nativity set by
Royal Albert
(a Royal Doulton Brand)

Reduced price

\$50

Best gift for young families

Reserve yours now!

631-6674044 ext.105

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Alcoholics Anonymous 24-Hour Hotline:

631-669-1124

Al-Anon Suffolk County: 631-669-2827

American Red Cross: LI:516-747-3500

Pregnancy Support Hot Line:

631-476-LOVE (5683)

Brighter Tomorrow (Domestic Violence):

631-395-1800

Catholic Charities (Food Stamp Info):631-789-9546

Child Advocacy Center (CAC) (Child Abuse):

631-439-0480

Fidelis Insurance (Family Health Plus):

1-888-343-3547

Gamblers Anonymous Hotline: 1-855-222-5542

Good Shepherd Hospice:631-376-3758

Hope House Ministries:631-473-6030

L.I. Women's Coalition (Domestic Violence):

631-666-8833

Narcotics Anonymous:631-689-6262

National Suicide Prevention Hotline:

1-800-SUICIDE

Response Crisis Center:

631-751-7500 (Suicide Hotline)

The Retreat (Domestic Violence Hotline):

631-329-2200

Conexion Linea de Crisis (Mon-Fri: 5-10 PM)

631-751-7423

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

- In need of **Adult Altar Servers** for the 8:00 am Mass. Leave a message at the front desk for Fr Chris Deh or email him at frchris@sscmdp.org. Some training is involved

- **Cleaning Ministry** - The first phase of pew cleaning has been completed. While we wait to continue this process, just remember this is our church, let's keep the Church clean!

- In need of **Livestream Technician** for the 9:30 am Sunday Family Mass. Training will be offered. A good inclusion to your resume if you are studying communications. College kids welcome.

- **Reach OUT Ministry.** Volunteers are needed as "call center agents" to give about two hours per week to come to the parish office and call the numbers in the Parish Registry (about 6,000 members) over a period of time to check how people are and see how we can serve them better - if they are receiving their envelopes, if they have pressing needs that our Social Ministry can assist with, if they want to receive bulletins in the mail, and inquire about other concerns.



We are looking for boys and girls in 4th grade or above to become part of our Altar Server Ministry.

The Altar Server's Ministry is a unique one in the Catholic Church. Other than the priests and deacons, no one else has the opportunity to participate so closely in the preparation of the Eucharist. Participation as an Altar Server is special. Essential life skills are built through teamwork, communication, reliability, and self-confidence. Altar Service also provides a unique way to earn valuable community service hours while growing in faith.

If you are interested in learning more about becoming an Altar Server, please attend our information session on

January 9, 2023, at 7:00 pm in the church auditorium.

For more information, contact Father Christopher Deh at frchris@sscmdp.org or sscyril.altarservers@yahoo.com
You can also leave a message at the front desk of the rectory at 631-667-4044.

Dear Altar Servers, you are, in fact, already apostles of Jesus! When you take part in the Liturgy by carrying out your altar service, you offer a witness to all. Your absorption, the devotion that wells up from your heart and is expressed in gestures, in song, in the responses: if you do it correctly and not absent-mindedly, then in a certain way your witness is one that moves people. The Eucharist is the source and summit of the bond of friendship with Jesus. You are very close to Jesus in the Eucharist, and this is the most important sign of his friendship for each one of us. Do not forget it.

-excerpt from Pope Benedict XVI, Address to Altar Servers, August 2, 2006