

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

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

3rd Sunday of ADVENT

December 17, 2023

This Sunday's Gospel invites us to continue our reflection on the person and mission of John the Baptist. Today we depart from the Gospel of Mark and read a selection from the Gospel of John.

The Gospel for today combines a brief passage from the prologue to John's Gospel with a report about John the Baptist. As in Mark's Gospel, the Gospel of John contains no birth narrative. Instead, John's Gospel begins with a theological reflection that has come to be called the "prologue."

This prologue places the story of Jesus in its cosmological framework. It speaks of Jesus' existence with God since the beginning of time. In John's Gospel, Jesus is presented as the fulfillment of the Old Testament and the culmination of the Word, the light that is coming into the world's darkness.

Following this prologue, John reports on the ministry of John the Baptist. We learn about the attention that John the Baptist received from the Jewish authorities. Messengers from the Jewish priests, the Levites and the Pharisees question



...continued on page 4

Readings and Songs this Sunday

No. 998 in the Blue Gather Hymnal

1st Reading: **Isaiah 61:1-2a,10-11**

2nd Reading: **1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

Gospel Reading: **John 1:6-8,19-28**

LITURGICAL MUSIC for the Holy Mass:

Come, O Long-Expected Jesus **#403**

O Come, Divine Messiah! **#401**

Maranatha, Come **#410**

Savior of the Nations, Come **#421**

(All Masses except Sunday 6pm)

Reminders

- Please be sure to support our children for presenting to us this year's Christmas Pageant by donating to the Parish Christmas Potluck. See page 7 for details on how.
- Thank you to all who came to decorate the Church for Advent.
- We will be decorating the Church for Christmas on Friday, December 22 at 1:00pm. No experience necessary. Please contact Tim Leitch at 631-806-4715 if you are interested.

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

Please check the Bulletin and the Parish Website.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: (Confessional)

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 — Saturday

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Tuesday & Thursday:

4:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Sunday — closed

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

Deacon John F. Fitzpatrick, Ext. 124

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

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

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

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

PARISH TRUSTEES

Tom Richardson

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 18
7:00 AM:	Maria Teresa Hernandez
8:30 AM:	Raymond Grieb
12:15 PM:	Frankie Giannini
Tuesday	December 19
7:00 AM:	Michael Marcello
8:30 AM:	Damian J. Aiello II
12:15 PM:	Glenn Sheppard
Wednesday	December 20
7:00 AM:	For Mary Malerba's intentions
8:30 AM:	Aproniano Cabubas
12:15 PM:	James Bivona
Thursday	December 21
7:00 AM:	(Open: No offered intentions)
8:30 AM:	Robert Dacey
12:15 PM:	(Open: No offered intentions)
Friday	December 22
7:00 AM:	For Chelsea Kravitz's intentions
8:30 AM:	(Open: No offered intentions)
12:15 PM:	Theresia Joseph
Saturday	December 23
8:30 AM	Purgatorial Society
5:00 PM	Richard, Marcellina & Michael Solomita, Douglas Zeis, Chuen Kam Chan Chek
Sunday	December 24
8:00 AM	For All Our Parishioners
9:30 AM	Vincenza Cottone
11:00 AM	Daniel A. Palumbo Jr., Danny Bivona, Louie Rannazzisi, and in Thanksgiving to the Alpueto Family
12:30 PM	Luigi, Filomena & Catherine Salegna & Cornelius Berry

PRESIDERS FOR NEXT WEEK'S MASSES

Saturday,	December 23 4th Sunday of Advent
5:00 PM:	Fr. Gius Garcia
Sunday	December 24 4th Sunday of Advent
8:00 AM:	Fr. Paul Bersamin
9:30 AM:	Fr. Patrick Grace
11:00 AM:	Fr. Christopher Deh
12:30 PM:	Fr. Patrick Grace
	<u>NATIVITY OF THE LORD</u>
4:00 PM:	Fr. Gius Garcia
6:00 PM:	Fr. Paul Bersamin
10:00 PM:	Fr. Gregory Cappuccino—Concelebrated

REST IN PEACE

Matilda Feeley, Augustino Traina, Rosemary Ruffino, Lucy Chiaramonte

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Second Banns

Glenn Geis — Ss. Cyril and Methodius
Kerry Keenan — St. Lawrence the Martyr, Sayville

First Banns

Robert Ploth — St. Martin of Tours, Bethpage
Jacquelyn Corbett — Ss. Cyril and Methodius

NEWLY BAPTIZED

Harper Wrenley Hidalgo, Sebastian Richard Santos

AVAILABLE MASS INTENTIONS

December 21– **7:00 am, 12:15 pm**

December 22 - **8:30 am**

December 26 - **8:30 am**

December 27 - **7:00 am, 8:30 am**

December 28 - **7:00 am**

Please see or call the receptionist during office hours to offer Mass intentions for family members and loved ones, living or deceased.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Kathleen Jacobi, JRV, Lucy Benivegna, Phyllis Otto, Leonard Caltabiano, Joyce Ratushny, Vickie Lynch

We ask that you email Joan Loring (jloring@sscmdp.org) or leave a message at X122 for the name of your sick family member. We will publish it in next week's bulletin and keep the name for 2 months after which we will remove them in the list to make room for others.

PRAY FOR OUR SERVICE MEN & WOMEN

Kyle Chanley US Army

We will only publish 5 at a time for 2 weeks to highlight them. We will publish their names 2x after that they will be taken down. This is to make room and accommodate more names that we could publish. Email Joan Loring if you want a name included.

FROM THE PASTOR

...from cover page

John about his identity and the meaning of the baptisms that he is performing. John's Gospel uses these questions to establish the relationship between Jesus and John the Baptist. John the Baptist is not the Messiah, nor is he Elijah or the Prophet. In John's denials, we hear echoes of the kind of messianic expectations that were common in first-century Palestine.

The only affirmative response that John the Baptist gives is when he quotes the prophet Isaiah. Upon answering the next question, John announces that the savior they seek is already among them, but as yet unrecognized. John's response highlights for us an important Advent theme: Jesus has already come into the world

as our savior. During Advent, we pray that we will be able to recognize Jesus' presence in our midst. Advent also reminds us that Jesus will come again to fulfill the promise of salvation. We pray that we will continue to be watchful as we anticipate that great day.

The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete, a Latin word which means "rejoice," is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass. This theme is echoed in today's second reading from the first Letter to the Thessalonians. It is a reminder that Advent is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

Stewardship

DECEMBER 10, 2023

Regular Collection	\$15,191.11
Online Giving	\$ 1,193.38
Total	\$16,384.49

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

Goal \$125,200

\$88,143.00 Pledged 70.40% of Parish Goal

VANCO
FAITH

Total Collection last week: **\$16,384.49**

We are short of **\$615.51** to reach the weekly collection goal of **\$17,000** in order for our parish not to operate on a deficit.

We are aware of the increased cost of living that we all experience in Long Island. In fact we in the parish feel this even more as we try to maintain a very big property.

We appeal to your generosity if you are able to increase with **\$2, \$5 or \$10** dollars more your usual weekly donation. This would help us much. Thank you for your generous support to your Church family.

PARISH FINANCIAL CONDITION

The weekly goal is \$17,000 for the parish to stay afloat. This would have taken into account a limited number of Parish Fundraisers for the year. If it continues to be lower than the goal, we may need to add more Fund Raiser events in the future or cut down on current services.

This week we are down **(- \$615.51)**

Year to date: **(- \$9,927.03)**

1000 Lights Campaign - to date: \$6,182.00

Goal: \$100,000.00 **(- \$93,818.00)**

We remember how you loved us...

DECEMBER 17 to DECEMBER 23

BREAD AND WINE - Erminia & Victor Fenice, Fannie & Anthony Messina, Merry Christmas in Heaven.

CANDLES AT ST JOSEPH'S SHRINE - Glenn Sheppard, 25th Anniversary in Heaven. Love, your Family.

To memorialize, please contact Joan Loring at X122

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

PLAYBILL®

Children's CHRISTMAS Pageant

CAST

Abbriano, Hope
Acevedo, Ian
Alarcon, Natalia
Algerio, Dylan
Bennett, Kylie
DeGregorio, Domenica
DeGreogorio, Carmela
DelliPaoli, Joseph
Denis, Breeana
Denis, Victoria
Gasiewski, Dylan
Gasiewski, Mason
Golden, Katie
Kerringer, James
Kerringer, Jude
Konecny, Alexander
Konecny, Matthew
Konecny, Zachary
Latva, Dominic
Latva, Nicholas

Lombardo, Lucas
Mangual, Sophia
Martorana, Camila
Ortiz, Miah
Palma, Jack
Palma, Nicholas
Philidor, Zachary
Philidor, Zarah
Pisano, Valentina
Pulciani, Michael
Pulciani, Sal
Romero, Jase
Romero, Joseph
Rubio, Jacqueline
Rubio, Julianna
Sanchez, Juliette
Sanchez, Madeline
Schindler, Brielle
Serpa, Madison
Serpa, Savannah
Simicic, Gabriela
Tatarian, Ryleigh
Ulrich, William
Walkuski, Noah
Wong, Lucas

PARENTS & CATECHISTS

Toni Abbriano
Nicole DelliPaoli
Christina Gasiewski
Victoria Pulciani
Jessica Ramos
Jennifer Williams
Martha & Jimmy D'Acunti
Joshua Alarcon
Matthew Gloria

Parish CHRISTMAS Potluck

Rosaria Luppy
Kariann Guido
Mike Gonzales
Mary Mancini
Jane McMahon
Dorothy Rodriguez

FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY

Calling Faith Formation Parents who would like to help us connect what our children learn in the classroom to the Sunday Mass, and host for them Church events and activities. If interested, call the Faith Formation Office and leave your name and phone number or email us at faithformation@sscmdp.org.

OFFICE INFORMATION

Monday - Thursday: 9:30 am-2:30 pm

MORE ACCESSIBLE OFFICES are now open located by the Gym.

(631) 667-4044 extensions 145 & 147

faithformation@sscmdp.org

This letter is re-published in the bulletin for the sake of those who do not receive envelopes and mailings from the Parish to their home.



SS. CYRIL & METHODIUS PARISH

125 Half Hollow Rd, Deer Park NY 11729

Christmas 2023

My dear parishioners,

The heart of Christmas is family. We would have missed its meaning if we do not see the Holy Family of Jesus, Joseph and Mary and likewise be led to value our own families. Through Jesus' birth – as He is born into a family – God the Father fulfills his promise and plan of saving humanity. Therefore, the proper gift we all need to ask every Christmas is that Jesus may be born in our hearts and truly become part of our own family.

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, let us find every possible way to build up family and strengthen the family bond. It may mean opening the door of your heart to welcome a family member gone astray. It may entail praying for healing in one's heart so reconciliation can begin. It may require making a little sacrifice to reduce "me time" and prioritize "family time". It certainly means making the extra effort to do something special for every member of one's family.

As you know, there is a bigger family we belong to: our parish family of Ss. Cyril and Methodius. This year has been extra challenging with all the recent problems and difficulties that affected us all as a parish. On top of this, part of the difficulty we face now is our finances. Our weekend collection is down and with the rising cost of things, it is taking a toll on us. We are partially resolving this by tightening our belts, looking to find ways to reduce expenses and cut costs while continuing to offer the services and ministries we have been used to. But we need your help. And so, I write to appeal to your generosity.

This Christmas, there is an opportunity to alleviate our situation while honoring loved ones and friends whom we hold dearly in our hearts. Through your offering of **\$100**, a unique custom-made ceramic Christmas ball will bear the name of your beloved deceased family member, relative or friend, which will adorn the sanctuary Christmas tree. Our goal is to come up with **1000** of these ornaments to represent the bright light that they continuously give to us, thus the name of the campaign is **1000 LIGHTS**. As the tree is put up on December 17, 2023, on the 3rd Sunday of Advent, we profess that their light remains and will not extinguished. After the feast of the Baptism of the Lord on January 8, 2024, which marks the end of the Catholic Christmas season, the Christmas tree is taken down and the ornament will be given back to you as a reminder of your offering.

This Christmas may you and your family be strengthened by the family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph and showered with God's generous blessings.



In Opus Ministerii

Fr. Gius Garcia, Pastor

Envelopes are available at the doors of the Church.



1000 LIGHTS CAMPAIGN

A unique and special Christmas ceramic ornament bearing the name of your loved one (*deceased or living*) you wish to honor on one side and the logo of the Parish of Ss Cyril and Methodius on the other side will adorn the Christmas tree in the sanctuary for the duration of the Christmas season.

Scan code to Venmo donation
to support & congratulate
our children's
presentation in the

Children's CHRISTMAS Pageant



venmo

MSGR. ROONEY MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING

Thursday, June 13, 2024

Honoring: Fr Joseph Baidoo & Fr Brian Barr
(former associates of the parish)

Lunch at 12:00pm, Golf at 2:00 pm

TIMBER POINT GOLF COURSE

Cocktails and Dinner at the Fr Behan Hall, Ss Cyril and Methodius at 6:30 pm



2023 ADVENT & CHRISTMAS & 2024 NEW YEAR SCHEDULE

CONFESSIONS

Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 12:45 pm to 1:15 pm

Monday, December 18 - 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm

MASSES

Sunday, December 24 - 4th Sunday of Advent

8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am & 12:30 pm

Sunday, December 24 - **CHRISTMAS** Vigil

4:00 pm (*Family Mass*), 6:00 pm
& 10:00 pm (*Concelebrated Mass*)

There is NO 12:00 Midnight Mass

Monday, December 25 - **CHRISTMAS** Day

9:30 am, 11:00 am & 12:30 pm

NOTE: NO 8:00 am & 6:00 pm Mass

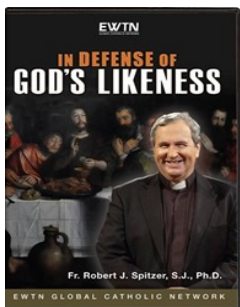
Monday, January 1 - **MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**

11:00 am - Not a Holy Day of Obligation
Only one Mass

Sunday, January 7 - **EPIPHANY**

Vigil - 5:00 pm on *Saturday*, January 6

8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am, 12:30 pm & 6:00 pm



Many try to fight against the culture of darkness, but Fr. Robert Spitzer's solid strategy for creating a culture of life succeeds. In Defense of God's Likeness details a hierarchy of rights, the four levels of happiness, the proper resolution of rights conflicts, proof-positive evidence of the human soul, and much more.

Join Father Grace on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm in the Father Behan Hall

BLACK CATHOLICS MINISTRY

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

ALTAR SERVERS

We are looking for boys and girls in 3rd 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.

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

Meets every **Tuesday from 1:00pm to 3:00pm in the Senior Room.** We will not meet in January. We will return **February 20, 2024.** Any questions call Lucille at 631-586-2438. We would like to wish everyone a Blessed and Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every **Wednesday from 1:00pm to 6:30pm in the Church Crying Room.** Any questions call Carol Matos at 1-813-323-8602.

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.

GREETERS

Greeters are needed at all Masses. If you would like to greet at the Mass you attend then please call Cathie Taibi at 917-597-1559.

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

In today's Gospel John the Baptist says, "I am the voice of one crying in the desert; make straight the way of the Lord." Let us ask for the grace to help others to know the love of the Lord. Christmas is a time of love and gift giving. Please give to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so we can share the blessings of Christmas with our neighbors in need.

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, please email us at sscmstvincentdepaul@gmail.com or call and leave a message at 631-667-4044 ext. 175. You will receive a call back from one of our volunteers using a blocked number. Please answer the phone so we are able to assist you if we can.

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 or visit www.svdpli.org for additional information.

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

We will not meet in January or February. Our next meeting will be **Monday, March 4, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Father Behan Hall. Any questions call Alba Barra at 631-274-5570.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY COLUMBIETTES

Our next meeting will be **January 8th at 7:30 p.m.** at Our Lady of the Rosary #4428 Council. 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.

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 6, 2023.** Any questions call Annette Arena at 631-661-9109.

SS CYRIL AND METHODIUS HOLY NAME SOCIETY

Our next 6 Hour **Defensive Driving Course** is **January 13th** in the Fr. Behan Hall. Coffee and bagel breakfast at 8:30am donated by Mangano Funeral Home. Pizza lunch provided by Shannon Macleod Elder Law Attorney. Space is limited. No Walk Ins allowed. If you would like to sign up for the Defensive Driving Course, please contact Phil Hogan at 631-667-9148.

SENIOR CLUB

No meetings in January and February. Any questions call Mary Indelicato at 631-667-2998.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

For more information call Diana at 845-428-2272.

WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS SUPPORT GROUP

Meets every **3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Senior Room.** For more information call Diana at 845-428-2272.



Respect Life

WALKING WITH MOM'S MINISTRY™

If you or someone you know, is in need of baby items like; diapers/formula/clothing/toiletries or perhaps mentoring support for your newborn, toddler or expectant baby.

Please call the Respect Life Ministry @ 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!

If you would like to volunteer in this Ministry please contact me via the above phone number!

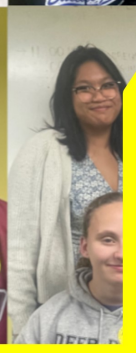
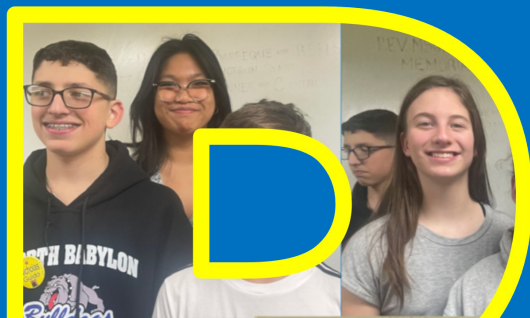
[Join us on the Diocesan Rosary for Life by ZOOM](#)
[Fridays at 3:00 pm www.drvcLife.org \(EASY LINK ON TOP OF PAGE\)](#)

10 Ways to Support Her When She's Unexpectedly Expecting

As a mom who had my first baby in college, I know that an unexpected pregnancy can sometimes bring fear, shame, and doubt. Perhaps one of your friends has become pregnant unexpectedly. I encourage you to support her in her new journey of being a mother.

It's okay if you don't know the perfect words to say. Let her know you are there for her, and ask how you can support her. Assist her in lining up practical help. She may not feel she "deserves" to show happiness; reassure her it's okay (and good) to be happy. Your support might be the only support she receives. You can make a difference in her life. Will you?

Read the full version at respectlifeprogram.org/support-her.



FAITH + FRIENDSHIP + FUN + SERVICE

PARISH YOUTH MINISTRY

Contact: Tim Leitch
631-6674044
timleitch@aol.com





We are looking for boys and girls in 3rd 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 want to learn more about becoming an Altar Server,
please attend our information session on**

Thursday, January 4, 2024, at 7:00 PM in the Father Behan Hall

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.

Parish Social Ministry

Thank you to everyone who has been taking the giving tree tags. Quite a number of them have been returned. We appreciate that very much.

Apologies for not being specific enough with the tags. Next year will be more detailed. Thank you for your patience and input. It is much appreciated.

We are in need of some big-ticket items. It never hurts to ask if anyone has the means to help.

We need another commercial refrigerator. Now that we have 128 families it is hard to turn down perishables because we do not have enough refrigerators to accommodate the donations. We are also in need of a commercial freezer.

We have had the opportunity to receive meats and frozen vegetables from Long Island Cares we could actually order more if we had more freezer space.

We just received 150 dozen eggs from Long Island Cares so now we do not have enough space for milk that is so needed.

We also have the opportunity to receive 25 to 50 cases of shelf stable food from Island Harvest, unfortunately we do not have enough wheeled stainless-steel shelves for them.

Any help is so appreciated.

We have been given multiple grocery carts (the type city dwellers use) for our walkers so that is not a need right now.

Speaking of grocery carts, if anyone has a connection at a supermarket, we are in need of a supermarket grocery cart that we can use to bring groceries to client's cars.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed joyful New Year.

Janet

PANTRY NEEDS:

FOOD

1. Spaghetti Sauce (24 oz. jars please)
2. Soup (Progresso or Campbells Chunky type please as long as it is not the type to add water to, brand does not matter, Chicken Noodle is most popular)
3. Pasta or Spaghetti
4. Cookies

5. Sodium free canned lentils
6. Sodium free canned lentils
7. Sodium free lentil soup
8. Diabetic & Gluten free products (not pasta we have some right now)
9. Shelf stable juice (Lidl has the best price on Apple Juice)

NON FOOD ITEMS

1. Paper Towels
2. Tissues
3. Dishwashing liquid
4. Toilet Paper
5. Bar Soap
6. Deodorant (men & women)
7. Shaving Cream
8. Shower wash

**The pantry is in dire need of everything on the list.
This coming week is when the families get their every other month items.**

If you shop in dollar tree the flour, sugar and oil are the perfect size.

We are in need of the following for our once a month and once every other month items

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|------------------------|
| 1. Ketchup | 4. Jelly | 7. Coffee | 10. Dishwashing Liquid |
| 2. White Vinegar (not gallon size) | 5. Mayonnaise | 8. Flour | 11. Sugar |
| 3. Oil | 6. Salt | 9. Tea | |

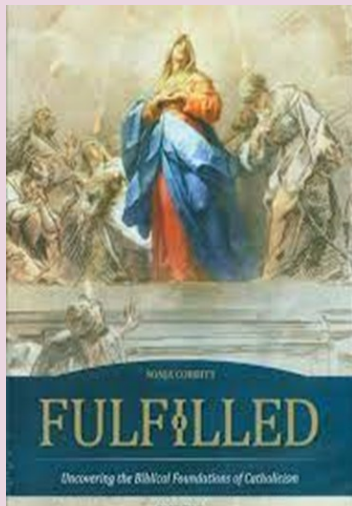
WON'T YOU BE MY NEIGHBOR

Our *Reach Out* committee of 5 has been slowly contacting our parishioners to update our records and see what needs they have. We can use more help in making these calls. See below on how to volunteer.

We have had requests for receiving the bulletin at home and also a friendly visit to those who can't get out. Won't you be a *neighbor* and drop off a bulletin to someone in your *neighborhood* on the way home from church.

Can you spare a bit of time to stop in and visit a *neighbor*, it would be so welcome.

Please call Kerry Brennan at 631 586 6294 to help



Bible Study Class Coming in January! All are welcome!

Fulfilled is a book and a two-part study exploring the biblical roots of the Catholic Faith. It uncovers God's consistent design for our worship of him and his relationship with us. Learn where the blueprint for the Catholic Faith was laid out in the Old Testament and how Jesus fulfilled it in the New Testament.

Part 2 Sessions

Session 1: Introduction
and Review of Part One

Session 2: The Light of Truth

Session 3: The Bread of Life

Session 4: Holy Smoke

Session 5: Holy of Holies

Session 6: The Throne of God

Session 7: At Home in the Tabernacle

Wednesdays, 6:30 pm, beginning January 17, 2024 in Father Behan Hall
For more information and **to register** please call Marianne Grimaldi at 631-463-7886

2023
CATHOLIC
MINISTRIES
A P P E A L
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

*One Family - Journeying together in
Communion, Participation and Mission*



"Advent, then, is a time for overturning our perspectives ... for letting ourselves be surprised by the greatness of God's mercy," -Pope Francis

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