

# THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. GERTRUDE

28 School Street, Bayville, N.Y. 11709

## CLERGY OF THE PARISH

Rev. Msgr. Robert O. Morrissey, Pastor  
Rev. Joseph Gaspar, Assoc. Pastor

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

Dr. James Sheehan, Director of Pastoral Formation/  
Pastoral Associate  
Phone: (516) 628-2432  
Email: faithformation@stgerts.org

## PRESCHOOL:

Meredith Brosnan, Director  
Phone: (516) 628-3710  
Email: stgertprek@stgerts.org, www.stgertrudesprek.org

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

### Masses

Saturday: 8:30am & 5:00pm

Sunday: 7:30am, 9:30am (Family Mass), 11:30am

Weekdays: 8:30am

Holy Days: See bulletin/announcements for schedule

**Rosary** every morning after 8:30am Mass

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and  
Benediction 1:00pm to 3:00pm Wednesdays  
except holidays

### Reconciliation/Confession:

Saturdays: 4:00-4:45 pm & by appointment

## SACRAMENTS

**Anointing of the Sick:** Available upon request.

**Baptism:** Third Sunday each month at 1:00pm. Prior  
parent and sponsor interviews with a baptismal  
coordinator required.

**Marriage:** Arrangements must be made in person with  
priest at least 6 months in advance & prior to reception  
arrangements.

**Adult Christian Initiation.** If you are interested in  
exploring the Catholic faith or completing your  
initiation into the Church, please call the Parish office.

### Outreach—Pantry Hours:

St. Gertrude: Friday 8:30am-9:30am

United Methodist Church Outreach. Food pantry  
opened every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month 9-12. Please  
call Ann Albro @ 516-647-5943 for any questions.

**PARISH OFFICE:** Phone: (516) 628-1113

Michele Drago, Office Manager

Email: parishoffice@stgerts.org

Donna Rogers, Secretary/Bulletin Editor

Email: bulletin@stgerts.org

Fran Conte, Business Manager

Email: businessoffice@stgerts.org

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Thursday: 9:00am—4:00pm  
(or by appointment)

Fax: (516) 628-9032

Website: www.stgerts.com



SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024

## 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus  
said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen  
me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."  
- Jn 20:28-29

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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**St. Vincent de Paul:**

Email: bayvillesvdp@gmail.com

Emergency hotline: (516) 490-8793



New to our Parish? We welcome you  
and ask that you please call or stop  
into our Parish office to register.

*The Lord told Israel to reach out to newcomers and  
welcome them (Leviticus 19:36).*

## Remembering. . .

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>April 6</b>
5:00 pm	Carmine Altimari + The Altimari and Galazzo families (living and deceased)
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>April 7</b>
7:30 am	The Rosary Guild, living and deceased
9:30 am	Jean Greco + Michael James Rose +
11:30 am	For the Parishioners of St. Gertrude
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>April 8</b>
8:30 am	Joseph and Ida Barneo +
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>April 9</b>
8:30 am	Dominick and Catherine Carbone +
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>April 10</b>
8:30 am	Vincenzo and Rosa Daniello and family
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>April 11</b>
8:30 am	Joseph Francis DiGennaro +
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>April 12</b>
8:30 am	Lucile B. Palmaro, Marcel B. Palmaro, and the Sabin & Sobrino families +
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>April 13</b>
8:30 am	Patricia Goss + Liuva Andrades + Mary Louise Fusillo +
5:00 pm	Helene and Daniel Kelly +

## Second Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday

A protestant pastor friend of mine was invited to meet Pope Francis with a group of other pastors. He noticed the Pope's chair was especially ornate and set at the head of the group. He somewhat playfully said, "Holy Father, why do you get that special chair?" The group chuckled nervously at my friend's audacious chide.



The following year, the group was invited to return. They entered the room to find only simple chairs placed in a circle. Pope Francis entered, sat down in one of the humble chairs and, looking directly at my friend, with a twinkle in his eye, asked, "What do you think of my chair now?" My friend was stunned that the Pope remembered his concerns — and took the time to answer them.

Thomas the apostle was certainly stunned by the Risen Jesus displaying his wounds in person. But he also must have been equally shocked that Jesus knew and answered his particular questions, worries, and even demands related to his faith. How humbled — and perhaps a bit terrified — he must have been to realize God remembers his concerns and cares enough to answer them.

What questions or demands about Jesus do you find in your heart? Like Thomas, will you be bold enough to voice them this week? How wonderful to know that if we do so, God will remember and respond even to our most audacious desires.

— *Father John Muir*

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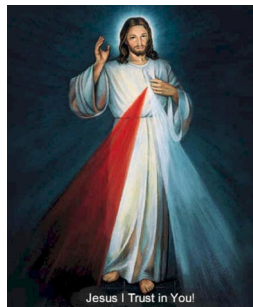
## Second Sunday of Easter Scripture Readings

**First Reading:** The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common. (Acts 4:32)

**Second Reading:** For the love of God is this, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whoever is begotten by God conquers the world. (1 Jn 5:3-4)

**Gospel:** On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." (Jn 20:19)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. ©LPI



## Divine Mercy Sunday

Confessions  
2:00 pm

Divine Mercy Chaplet  
3:00 pm

### Presider's Schedule: (subject to change)

Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> 5:00 pm — Msgr. Morrissey

Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 7:30 am — Msgr. Morrissey

9:30 am — Msgr. Morrissey

11:30 am — Msgr. Morrissey



## Those serving in our military:

*Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen”*

- |                                 |                          |                                 |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| LT Cmdr. Melissa Buffa          | LCpl Brian Allen         | Pfc. Mark Chuisano              |
| LT Mary Grace Colluci           | Major Janet R. Erazo     | 1st LT William Trotta, Jr.      |
| 2nd LT Glenn Harvey             | 1st LT Dylan Wall        | Capt. Alexander Van Patten USAF |
| LT Colonel Nicholas Lo Russo    | Sgt. 5 Jose Marin        | Airman Bryan Mollitor           |
| Pfc. Duncan Moskowitz           | Major James Nicholson    | LT Col. Sean Patak              |
| PFC Matthew A. Passero          | LT William Hegarty       | Sfc. Sean P. Schenck            |
| Hosp. Medic Matthew D. Perez    | LT Sean Riordan          | Cpl. Jason Roland               |
| Capt. Thomas E. Rojek           | Spc. Chase Tucker        | Major Chad Lennon               |
| ENS Patrick Hesse USN           | Ens. James Figari        | US Army Sgt. Richard F. Charon  |
| LT Colonel Terrance Thorgramson | Capt. James Andrew Baker | Lt. Kevin Valsecchi             |

If you would like to inform us of any family member or friend who has been called to active service or for a name to be removed, please call our Parish office. We cannot update this list without your help.



Joe Buffa, Nora Caruso, Sean Stalker, Anthony Altimari

Call the parish office to add a relative to our prayer list. Names will remain for 6 weeks.

## Parish Financial Summary

Sunday collections (including Faith Direct)  
March 17, 2024 \$8,102.00

Our weekly collection budget is \$7,500.00.



Thank you for your prayerful and generous support of our parish family.



### St. Gertrude Parish Pantry Needs:

Supplies are either desperately low or out of the following items: Jar tomato sauce, cereal, Parmalat milk, flour, sugar, coffee (decaf & regular), mayonnaise, toothpaste, shampoo & conditioner, paper towels, deodorant.

Donations to be placed in back of church under choir loft.

Pantry hours are every Friday from 8:30am–9:30am in the lower Church.

United Methodist Church Outreach. Food pantry opened every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday 9-12. Please call Ann Albro @ 516-647-5943 for any questions.

Just a friendly reminder to please be aware of food expiration dates. Thank you!

## Faith Direct

### TEN REASONS TO MAKE YOUR OFFERTORY GIFT THROUGH FAITH DIRECT

1. No more checks to write or envelopes to find
2. 52 weeks of predictable income for your parish
3. Greater security than cash or checks
4. No cost for you to participate
5. Online control of your offertory giving — including special collections
6. Reduction of envelope and postage expense for St. Gertrude
7. Less work for our parish office staff to post contribution records
8. Offertory cards enable you to witness your gift of treasure
9. Earn credit card points for your offertory gifts

You can sign up online at [faith.direct/NY83](http://faith.direct/NY83), or text 'enroll' to 516-494-7947 or call Faith Direct customer service at 866-507-8757 (toll-free). **Thank you!**

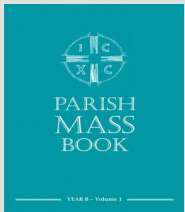
Patrica T. Walka  
Thomas Dimino  
Lenny Cerami

The Parish of St. Gertrude extends its prayerful condolences to their family & friends.



Check out our website for other information that our printed bulletin cannot accommodate.

[www.stgerts.com](http://www.stgerts.com)



The 2025 Mass book is open starting from Tuesday April 2

**MASS INTENTIONS**

One part of Catholic culture sometimes difficult to understand and often misunderstood is the custom of offering Mass intentions. When a priest celebrates Mass each day, he offers each celebration of the Eucharist for a particular person or intention. By doing so he applies special graces from God upon that person or intention.

Please consider offering a Mass for your special intentions or loved one. Masses can be offered for a departed loved one, a special intention, or in thanksgiving for a friend, family or neighbor who is living and suffering, for a celebration, for prayers that have been answered, for someone you know who can benefit from the spiritual graces that come with having a Mass said on their behalf.

If your loved one's date is not available, you can offer the wine and hosts in their memory for the week, which will cover the particular date on which you wish to pray for them.

Masses remain at \$20 each or \$50 for the wine and host commemoration for the week.

Don't miss out on these graces for yourself and those you love. Call or stop in the Parish Office at 516-628-1113.

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

at  
Saint Ignatius Loyola Church

Hosted by  
Catholic Daughters of the Americas  
Court Queen of Angels #869



*Jesus, I trust in You*

In 1931, Our Lord, Jesus Christ appeared to Polish nun Sister Faustina Kowalska. She saw Jesus clothed in a white garment with His right hand raised in blessing. His left hand was touching His chest in the area of the heart, from where two large rays came forth, one red and the other pale.

Jesus said to her: "Paint an image according to the pattern you see with the signature: *Jesus, I trust in You*..."

I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: *"Jesus, I trust in You!"*

Saint Faustina was canonized on April 30, 2000 by Pope John Paul II, who declared the Sunday after Easter to be known as "Divine Mercy Sunday."


**April 7, 2024**

<p>2:00—4:00 pm With Guest Speaker Father David Regan Pastor, Holy Name of Mary Parish, Valley Stream</p>	<p>2:00 pm 2:15 pm 3:00pm  4:00 pm</p>	<p>Confession Holy Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet and Talk Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image</p>
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Prayer guides will be provided. All are welcome.

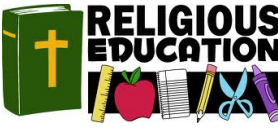
Saint Ignatius Loyola Church 129 Broadway, Hicksville, NY (516) 931-0056 stignatiushicksville.org

**\*\*\*\* NEW DATE \*\*\*\***



**Society of St. Vincent de Paul Meeting**

Monday, April 8  
7:00pm  
Parish Center



**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Do you know of anyone who is thinking of becoming a Catholic? Have you or someone you know wanted to complete the sacraments of Holy Communion or Confirmation? Invite them to join a community of adults who are discerning God's call through prayer and discussion as they learn more about the Catholic Faith. For more information contact Dr. Sheehan in our Religious Education office at 516-628-2432 or [faithformation@stgerts.org](mailto:faithformation@stgerts.org).

**Save the date  
Rosary Guild Plant Sale  
May 11**



We welcome our newly baptized

**Anthony Jameson Walles  
Madelyn Mae Mihm**



**BANNS OF MARRIAGE**  
Jenna Prettitore  
St. Gertrude  
&  
Marc Andrew Ardito  
St. Mary's, Manhasset

**Preschool News:** The Preschoolers were so excited to return from the Easter break. Although it was a short week, the children jumped into Spring themed crafts! Miss Anna's Mommy and Me class made a bird in a nest project. Miss Carmela's 2's learned about the letter U. They also made a pom pom lamb craft. Miss Anna's 3's learned about the letters U and N. They also learned about the life cycle of a frog and made a pom pom caterpillar on a leaf. Miss Michelle's 3's worked on the letter Y. They made a "Put Me in the Zoo" craft and a "One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish" painting. Miss Meredith's 4's learned about the letter W. They made coffee filter and cupcake liner flowers, and a kite suncatcher craft. They also did a science experiment to learn how rain falls from clouds.



Registration is ongoing for our 2024 Summer Camp and for the 2024-25 school year. Please call [\(516\) 628-3710](tel:5166283710) or visit [www.stgertrudesprek.org](http://www.stgertrudesprek.org) for more information.

The Diocese of Rockville Centre  
**GOLDEN WEDDING  
ANNIVERSARY MASSES**

Honoring Couples Married Fifty Years

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The Diocese of Rockville Centre would like to honor those couples who celebrated Fifty Years of Marriage in 2024 by inviting them to attend one of the Masses below for a special blessing.

**Sunday, April 21, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.**

The Cathedral of St. Agnes, Rockville Centre  
Celebrant: Most Reverend Andrzej Zglejszewski  
Registration must be received by Tuesday, April 16, 2024

**Sunday, May 5, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.**

Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Patchogue  
Celebrant: Most Reverend Robert J. Coyle  
Registration must be received by Tuesday, April 30, 2024

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Register online at [drvc-faith.org](http://drvc-faith.org)

For questions, please contact Lisette Robustelli, Associate Director at (516)678-5800 ext. 200 or via email at [lrobustelli@drvc.org](mailto:lrobustelli@drvc.org)



# LECTIO DIVINA

- Lectio
- Meditatio
- Oratio
- Contemplatio



## Join Bishop Andrzej

For Scripture Reflection Series  
on St. THOMAS the APOSTLE - Part I

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

at 7:30 pm - ZOOM webinar.



### Bible Study Verse

**APOSTLE THOMAS**  
**Touching the Wounded Lord**  
**Gospel of John 20. 19-31**

Encountering the Risen One

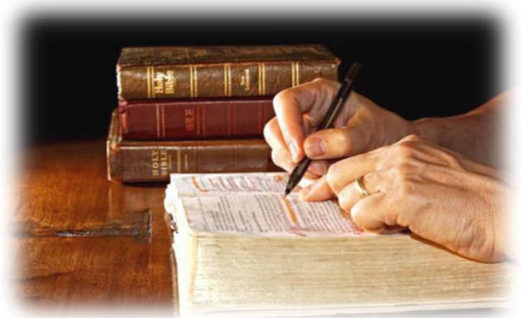
Registration is required in order to receive the ZOOM  
link to each session.

Please contact the Western Vicariate office with your  
name, parish, email address and phone number.

Send your email to:

[westernvicariate@drvc.org](mailto:westernvicariate@drvc.org)

or call Suzanne at 516-744-6850.





*"By being with Jesus, we discover that his pastoral heart always beats for the person who is confused, lost, far away, "*

- Pope Francis

**Your donation to the Catholic Ministries Appeal helps Catholic Charities and Parish Outreach provide love, care, and spiritual nourishment to those in need.**

When Amanda's mom passed away in 2019, her mom's ex-husband left, leaving her three stepsisters alone with the threat that they would be put in foster care. Without any hesitation she took the children in to care for them. *"It's been a hard battle. We were homeless and in bad situations, but I know that God will not give you something you can't handle. You must keep the faith and push forward. With the help of the Parish Social Ministry program at St. John the Evangelist, Center Moriches, I was able to get through this hardship. In addition to food, the PSM has helped me to renew my lapsed insurance license and assisted in paying bills. If I need to talk to anyone, I can call or email to make an appointment. They have been there for me through everything. I really appreciate all they do for me and for everyone else. It is a blessing. They are angels on earth."*



- Amanda, Client of St. John the Evangelist's Parish Outreach

The Director of the Parish Outreach, Katie Spellman, shared how her work allows her to grow in her faith. *"Working in Parish Social Ministry has taken my faith outside of the Church. It's an opportunity for me to dig deeper into faith and think of the humble servant. It's a gift for me to work here – it feeds my soul."*

Please make check payable to the **Catholic Ministries Appeal**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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

THANK YOU



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Our goal this year remains \$55, 500. Total pledged to date: \$13,775 by 26 donors (25%). Total payments thus far are \$9,187. Thank you for your generous support.



# Deacon Ministry

## Are You Being Called ?

LISTEN!—PRAY!—REFLECT!—DISCERN!

***Attend ONE of the following dates:***

7:00PM, Wednesday, April 10

*St. Aidan Williston Park, 505 Willis Avenue*

7:00PM, Thursday, April 11

*St. Joseph Ronkonkoma, 45 Church Street*

12:00PM, Sunday, April 14

*St. Anthony of Padua East Northport, 20 Cheshire Place*

**RSVP no later than Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>,**

**TO 631-423-0483 Ext. 179**

**OR by email to**

**[diaconateformation@drvc.org](mailto:diaconateformation@drvc.org)**



## Liturgical Minister Training- Spring 2024

The Diocese of Rockville Center will offer training in Spanish and English for those who wish to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Lectors. No walk-ins permitted, all participants must be registered in advance with a letter from their pastor.

**Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:** Part A - This training is required for **all** those who are beginning as Ministers. This “BASIC” training is required for **all** Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Those who wish to minister in hospitals, nursing homes and to the homebound are required to attend Part B training in addition to BASIC training. One **must** attend Part A training prior to Part B training. A **Lector Workshop** is available for both new and experienced lectors.

### Dates and Locations for Liturgical Minister Training

#### **Training in SPANISH:**

- **Lector Workshop:** Sat., April 20 – Our Lady of Loretto / Hempstead – Divine Mercy Chapel 9:00 – 1:00 pm
- **Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion – Part A:**  
Sat., April 27 - Our Lady of Loretto/ Hempstead – Divine Mercy Chapel 9:00 – 1:00 pm

#### **Training in ENGLISH:**

- **Lector Workshop and Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion – Part A:**  
**Tuesday, April 16** - St. Elizabeth / Melville - Msgr. Kane Hall; 7 pm - 10 pm  
**Sat., April 27** – Immaculate Conception/Westhampton Beach - Parish Hall; 9 am – 12:00  
**Tuesday, May 21** – St. Christopher/Baldwin – McGoldrick Hall; 7 pm – 10 pm  
You may register for EITHER Lector OR Extraordinary Minister training at each session.  
Doors open 30 minutes before the training start time.
- **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Part B** – presented in conjunction with Catholic Health  
**Sat., April 27\*** – Immaculate Conception/Westhampton Beach - Parish Hall; 1 – 4 pm  
**Tuesday, May 14** - St. Elizabeth / Melville - Msgr. Kane Hall; 7 pm - 10 pm  
**Tuesday, June 4** - St. Christopher/Baldwin – McGoldrick Hall; 7 pm – 10 pm

\*On **April 27**, we are offering Part A and Part B on the SAME day. Those who attend Part A in the morning are welcome to bring lunch or leave for lunch and return for the 1 pm Part B session. Please indicate if you are doing BOTH on your registration letter from your pastor. This will be in English only.

A letter from your pastor will be required to reserve your space at any of these trainings and must be received at least five days prior to the session you wish to attend. To request registration for any of these sessions, please contact your rectory. Do not call the host parishes with questions. For questions relating to the Spanish training, call Ingrid Oliva at 516-678-5800, ext. 560. For questions regarding the English training, call Suzanne Lynn at 516-744-6850. Thank you for your interest.



HelpOurMarriage.org

# RETROUVAILLE

A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

**Because no marriage is beyond hope...**

- Is your marriage tearing you apart?
- Do you feel hurt and angry?
- Does talking make it worse?
- Thought of leaving or divorce?
- Is your marriage heading in the wrong direction?

**Retrouvaille can help.**

**Our Next Weekend is  
April 26-28, 2024  
at The Immaculate Conception Seminary, Huntington**

**To register or for more information:**

**1-800-470-2230  
HelpOurMarriage.org**

**Retrouvaille** is a practical program for married couples facing difficult challenges. It is not a marriage retreat, or counseling. You will not be asked to share the personal details of your story.

**Retrouvaille** is different; it's a way to improve your communication, help you reconnect, and build a healthy, happier, stronger marriage.

**Catholic** in origin, couples of all faiths, or no faith background, are welcome to attend. We are a Christian Peer Ministry offering tens of thousands of marriages hope in over 160 communities worldwide.



# 2024

## CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

*Revitalizing our Faith –  
Renewed by the Eucharist*

**Please consider making a gift to the  
2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal.**



**For more information, to watch our video  
or to make a donation,  
visit [www.catholicministriesappeal.org](http://www.catholicministriesappeal.org)  
or call us at 516-678-5800 ext. 296**



# Oh, Baby!

## Baby shower for moms-to-be

**Free event**

**Saturday, May 11, 2024**

**12:00 – 2:00 pm**

Employee Cafeteria (lower level)



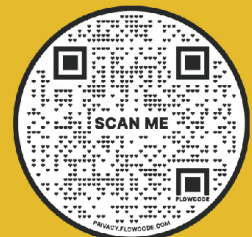
### What to expect:

- Raffles.
- Giveaways for mom and baby.
- Meet and greets with physicians, lactation specialist, mother/baby nurses, games and more!

**This event is for moms, only. Spouses and children will not be accommodated.**



To register, scan the QR code or  
email [Elizabeth.Schwind@chsli.org](mailto:Elizabeth.Schwind@chsli.org)



[chsli.org/mercy-hospital](https://chsli.org/mercy-hospital)

# Community Outreach for Long Islanders



As a not-for-profit, mission-based organization, Catholic Health is dedicated to providing resources to our local communities. Through our various programs, we offer a variety of services to those without access to primary care.

- Blood drives
- Free health screenings and education
- Wellness seminars
- Support groups
- Vaccinations

Visit [chsli.org/events](http://chsli.org/events) to see where the Community Outreach bus will be and to get a free health screening.

## Find a doctor near you

Connect with one of our Catholic Health Physician Partners for safe, high-quality care close to home. We offer a wide range of scheduling and appointment options at multiple locations across Long Island.

Visit [chsli.org/catholic-health-physician-partners](http://chsli.org/catholic-health-physician-partners) or call (866) MY-LI-DOC or (866) 695-4362 for more information or to set up an appointment.

## Bishop McHugh Health Centers

Bishop McHugh Health Centers deliver health screenings, education, vaccinations and other services to those without access to primary care.

To learn more, please visit [chsli.org/catholic-health-community-health](http://chsli.org/catholic-health-community-health)

### Bishop McHugh Health Center (Nassau)

750 South Broadway  
Hicksville, NY 11801  
(516) 827-2727

### Bishop McHugh Center (Suffolk)

24 East Main St  
Bay Shore, NY 11706  
(631) 376-4025



**Msgr. Jim Vlaun**  
**Executive Producer**  
**www.religionandrock.com**

Dear Friend of “*Religion and Rock*” and our television shows on *Catholic Faith Network*,

Thanks for promoting our shows and for your help in our communication ministry! The weekly themes for “*Religion and Rock*” are below along with a suggestion for weekly publication in your bulletin or website.

We have included a bulletin announcement which includes our affiliate, *Sirius Radio, Channel 159, the Catholic Channel*.

Again, a sincere thanks for your longtime support!

Msgr. Jim Vlaun, Host

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**January 2024**

7 **Being Excited**  
14 **Life’s Struggles**  
21 **Unity**  
28 **Searching for a Meaning**

**February**

4 **Forgiveness**  
11 **Sacrifice**  
18 **Leadership**  
25 **Relationships**

**March**

3 **Commitment**  
10 **Renewal**  
17 **Traditions**  
24 **Coping**  
31 **Easter**

**April**

7 **Community**  
14 **Spirituality**  
21 **Issues in Life**  
28 **Poverty**

**May**

5 **Prayer**  
12 **Parenting**  
19 **Boredom**  
26 **Remembering**

**June**

2 **Relaxing**  
9 **Moving On**  
16 **Being Joyful**  
23 **Special Days**  
30 **Nature**

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**SUGGESTED COPY FOR WEEKLY PUBLICATION:**

Tune into “*Religion and Rock*” with Msgr. Jim Vlaun on Sunday from 7:00 AM- 8:00 AM on WBAB 102.3 FM or 95.3 FM on Long Island’s East End. Listen on Saturdays at 11:00 PM on *Sirius Radio, Channel 159, the Catholic Channel* and at 11:00 PM on XM Satellite, Channel 117. Next Sunday’s theme is \_\_\_\_\_, don’t miss it! To listen online or receive more information regarding *Religion and Rock* go to [www.ReligionandRock.com](http://www.ReligionandRock.com) or at “*Religion & Rock*” on ITUNES.

Don’t forget to tune into CATHOLIC FAITH NETWORK, Cablevision Channel 29/137 or Verizon FIOS 296 or visit [www.cfntv.org](http://www.cfntv.org) !

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## Worldwide Marriage Encounter: Second Sunday of Easter—Divine Mercy

1 John 5:1-6: "In this way we know that we love the children of God when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whoever is begotten by God conquers the world. And the victory that conquers the world is our faith." Let us all have **faith** in God and faith in one another. Jesus tells us to **love** one another and to obey his commandments. Take a leap of faith, and trust God to nourish your relationship. Sign up for a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience and you will learn the tools to transform your marriage. You can find one by looking up [WWME.org](http://WWME.org). Some of the dates to sign up are:

April 11-May 23, 2024 (virtual 3RE)

June 7-June 9, 2024 in Upton,, MA

June 21-23, 2024 in Huntington, NY

Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call Kevin & Regina Hickson at 516-554-3835 or <https://wwmenyli.org/>.



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**WWME Virtual Experience**

**Thursday evenings 7:00 PM\*(EST)**

**April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23**

**Via Zoom**

\*Each Session lasts @ 2—2.5 hours



### Additional info?

Call: Chuck & MJ Young 646-642-7463

Email: [jimmy.bernice.acevedo@wwme.org](mailto:jimmy.bernice.acevedo@wwme.org)

Visit: [wwme.org](http://wwme.org)



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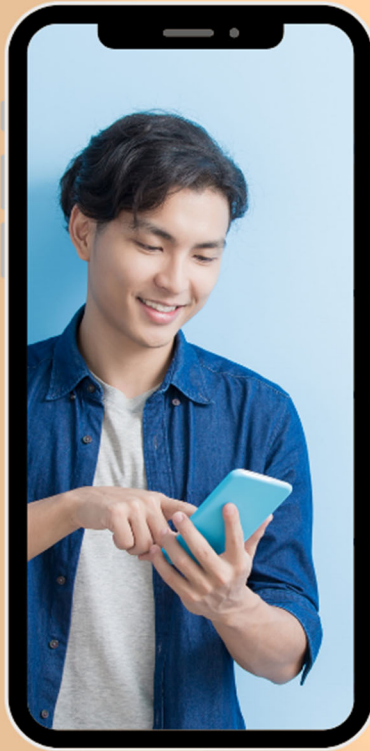
**Planned Gifts of IRAs are not the best assets for family members to inherit?  
WHY? Heirs will pay taxes on these financial instruments.**

On the other hand, IRAs are good assets to give to the Church or other charity when doing your estate planning since they will not pay a tax on retirement assets they inherit.

Making a planned gift of a retirement asset reduces the tax burden on a family. In addition, making a planned gift of an IRA is easy and affordable. All it takes is to update a beneficiary designation with a donor's bank or investment company.

For more information on tax-wise planned gifts, contact Barbara Kilarjian at 516-678-5800 ext. 257 or email her at [bkilarjian@drvc.org](mailto:bkilarjian@drvc.org) 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.

# 5 STEPS SAFE ADULTS CAN TAKE TO PROTECT YOUTH ONLINE



1

Maintain open and ongoing communication about social media and online interactions

2

Monitor technology use (trust but verify)

3

Set and enforce boundaries for utilization of social media and tech

4

Educate yourself on the latest trends and potential risks

5

Inform children and youth they can always tell you if someone makes them feel scared, uncomfortable or unsafe online

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**~A NOTE FROM THE OFFICE FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE~**

During a review of the Virtus report for St. Gertrude's, it was noted many Virtus accounts require updating. If you receive an e-mail from Virtus instructing you to log into your Virtus account, IT IS LEGITIMATE - THIS IS NOT A SCAM!!!

If you remain active in ministry **and** it has been five years (or more) since your prior background screening was performed; it is time to be rescreened. Please log into your Virtus account: [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) If you forgot your user ID and password, Virtus will provide instructions.

After logging into your account, you will be prompted to electronically acknowledge the Diocesan Codes of Conduct and complete the background screening application. Please follow all the instructions on the application and hit the submit button when completed.

During the pandemic shutdown, the Diocese established the on-line background screening process to facilitate remote screening. The company providing the screening is Sterling Solutions. During the application process, you will be creating an account with Sterling and will have access to your screening report when completed. The Diocese does not screen your financial information-the Fair Credit Reporting Act is the name of the legislation protecting your rights as a consumer. Unfortunately, this is poor choice for the title of the legislation, as many believe we have access to your financial information-we do not!.

Finally, if you are active in a ministry with children/youth: Catechist, Coach, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Youth Ministry; you are required to participate in on-going Virtus training. To facilitate this, the Diocese has made available monthly articles you are required to read. These bulletins/articles are attached to your Virtus account, you will receive a monthly email reminder to log into your account and complete the article. When completed, please answer the question and hit submit. Your account will be credited with completion of this requirement. Each article contains useful information pertinent to today's children and youth.

If you have any questions, please send me an email: [mmcmahon@druc.org](mailto:mmcmahon@druc.org)

Thank you.

Mary McMahon, LSCW

# Why Catholic Education?

**We nourish the mind and spirit of every child.** A creative academic program and powerful spiritual guidance are the heart of every day at Long Island Catholic Schools. Our commitment to strong, individualized instruction, enhanced by advanced learning technologies, ensures that all children receive the personalized attention that builds knowledge and self-esteem in addition to the skills and study habits that prepare them for the academic challenges ahead. Daily teachings of faith bring spiritual values to life and foster in children an active and humane concern for others.

**Early Childhood Program—Nursery (age 3) and Pre-K (age 4)**

**We guide children on the path to more fulfilling lives.** Our academic rigor, emphasis on spiritual values, along with our commitment to extracurricular growth opportunities, all combine to give children the knowledge, skills, and confidence to go farther. The result? Higher performance in the classroom and on recognized standardized tests and an exceptionally high rate of college admissions. More important, our students become well-rounded individuals who go on to lead successful personal and professional lives and who become active, caring members of the community.

## Catholic Elementary School Education

**An elementary education at a Catholic school engages children at an important formative time in their lives.** They are learning information, but it is much more than that. They are learning about themselves, about their place and purpose in the world, and about their obligations to others. Catholic school stands out as a place that addresses all of the relevant aspects of a young person's life. A Catholic school's broad charter allows us to 'educate the whole person', in mind, in body and in spirit. It is a difference that creates an advantage for their entire life.

## Catholic Middle School Education

Grades 6,7, and 8 can be difficult but rewarding years for students. Through our schools, we encourage authentic growth: leadership, academics, faith, contributing to their parish, and exploring sports and extracurricular activities. Taking the reins of leadership! The move from elementary school to middle school marks the beginning of a new set of expectations and a new world of opportunities. Challenging academic curriculum, inspired Catholic teachings, and an array of new after-school activities give each student the intellectual, spiritual and social preparation needed for greater achievement in high school, college and beyond.

## Catholic High Schools of Long Island

**It's the education of a lifetime.** Nine Catholic high schools on Long Island present their own unique opportunity for students to explore a faith-based education that challenges, inspires, and prepares them for college, careers, and life. The total experience makes the difference in a Catholic education. Families are strongly encouraged to attend Open House programs held at each Long Island Catholic school to learn first-hand about programs, facilities, faculties, activities, and the character of each institution. If you cannot attend an Open House, please contact a school directly. All of the high schools located on Long Island use the Catholic High Schools Entrance Examination for admission into 9th grade. Rigorous academic learning is reinforced at each of Long Island's Catholic high schools with engaging extra-curricular activities and a strong foundation in faith. These high schools offer a wide range of exciting choices for families considering a Catholic education. Guided by talented and dedicated religious and lay teachers, a Catholic education helps each student to test abilities, add skills, build confidence, and develop his or her understanding of faith. Start your journey now!

**To find out more, go to: <https://drvcschools.org> or on our website: *Choosing a Catholic School* brochure.**

**DRVC Department of Education**

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U.S. Supreme Court Decision in  
*Dobbs v. Jackson*, June 24, 2022



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## BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT



Celebrate Spring with light entertainment! Sunday, April 28, 2024, 5 to 7 pm - Cantabile: Melody in Voice & Instrument. A program of operatic arias and piano selections presented by Timothy Carl, pianist, and Jennifer Russo, soprano, including some works from "The American Songbook." Reception will follow. Reservations required - \$75 per guest, \$70 Member of the Friends of the Seminary. For information: Development Office, (631)423-0483 x 102; [bmalone@icseminary.edu](mailto:bmalone@icseminary.edu).



## *As You Plan Your Future, Please Consider a Legacy Gift to Our Parish*

The principle of Stewardship is frequently discussed in Catholic circles, both among the laity and Church leadership. Stewardship is based in scripture and in Church traditions. Stewardship flows from our gratitude to God for the gifts, with which we have been blessed. We show our gratitude by being generous in our response with our time, talent, and treasure.

We would like to encourage you to consider ways that you can leave a lasting legacy by making a planned gift to our parish or other Catholic Ministry.

You may be asking yourself what a planned gift is as it can be a confusing term and it is often misunderstood. Very simply, planned giving describes a donor's commitment to transfer capital assets to a qualified religious organization or other charity. More often than not, a planned gift is made by means of a formal agreement or contract.

Planned gifts are normally made from the donor's accumulated wealth as part of an overall estate plan. The most common form of a planned gift is a bequest provision in a Will.

Many Catholics find the idea of making a planned gift to their parish appealing. Parishioners often wonder how to go about making a planned gift and they have other questions about doing this.

Faithful parishioners have found that naming the parish in their Wills or Trusts to be a very fulfilling way to show their appreciation for what the Church has meant to them. Some parishioners have left planned gifts in memory of a loved one or close friend. Others have made a bequest to support a particular parish ministry, or outreach.

Individuals who make planned gifts often enjoy significant tax advantages from their giving. Still others find that once their surviving family receives a reasonable inheritance, leaving a bequest to the parish is a fulfilling way to show their gratitude for God's blessings and leave a spiritual legacy.

Please give thought to remembering your parish in your estate plan. It is a beautiful thing to do for future generations!

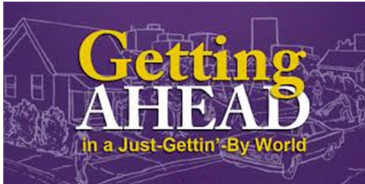
**PLEASE CALL BARBARA KILARJIAN  
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# Resources Available

## FAMILY, MARRIAGE AND INDIVIDUAL THERAPY

Family, marriage and individual therapy, provided by New York State licensed therapists including therapists who specialize in Depression, Divorce Mediation and Domestic Violence, are available to our parishioners at 147 other parishes. This program, under the direction of Dr. George Giuliani, has been conducted in the diocese for the past 41 years for the convenience of parishioners. It is provided by the Catholic Counseling Center, which is independent of and not controlled or supervised by the parish or diocese. Most insurance policies, including Medicare, are honored. We are currently looking for licensed therapists in Nassau, Suffolk and Queens. For confidential information and appointments, please call Dr. Giuliani at the Catholic Counseling Center at (631) 243-2503 or go to our website at: <http://www.thecatholiccounselingcenter.com>.



### “Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin’ By World”

An Invitation to Serve, in the District Council of Nassau North  
We all know how the Society of St. Vincent de Paul regularly provides charitable assistance to neighbors in need. Beginning with the home visit, Vincentians perform numerous good deeds, many of which involve financial assistance (rent & utility bills), immediate needs assistance (food, furniture, etc.) and also counseling.

However, the challenges facing those in poverty are ever more acute today. The “Getting AHEAD” program, offered by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul across the country, is one approach to help these neighbors rise above the “tyranny of the moment” or crisis mode in which they are too often bound. It also answers the questions raised by many Vincentians: “What more can I do for my neighbor beyond the traditional home visit?” and “Is there a structured process I can become involved with that would make a difference?” If you are interested in joining, please email: [svdpstgertrudes@gmail.com](mailto:svdpstgertrudes@gmail.com)

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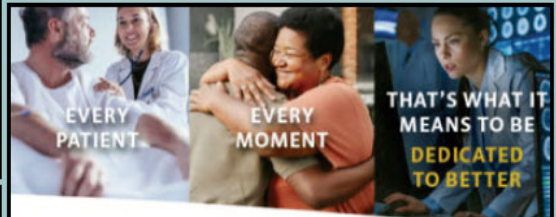


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