



Gloria in excelsis Deo

Roman Catholic Church of St. Matthew

35 North Service Road, Dix Hills, New York 11746

(631) 499 - 8520 Fax: (631) 499 - 1530 www.smrcc.org

Office Hours: Mon-Fri in the Parish Center 9 am-12:30 pm & 1:30 pm-5 pm

Pastor

Rev. Robert Hewes

Associate Pastors

Rev. Joseph Habila

Rev. Benet Uwasomba

Deacons

James McQuade

Carmine DeStefano

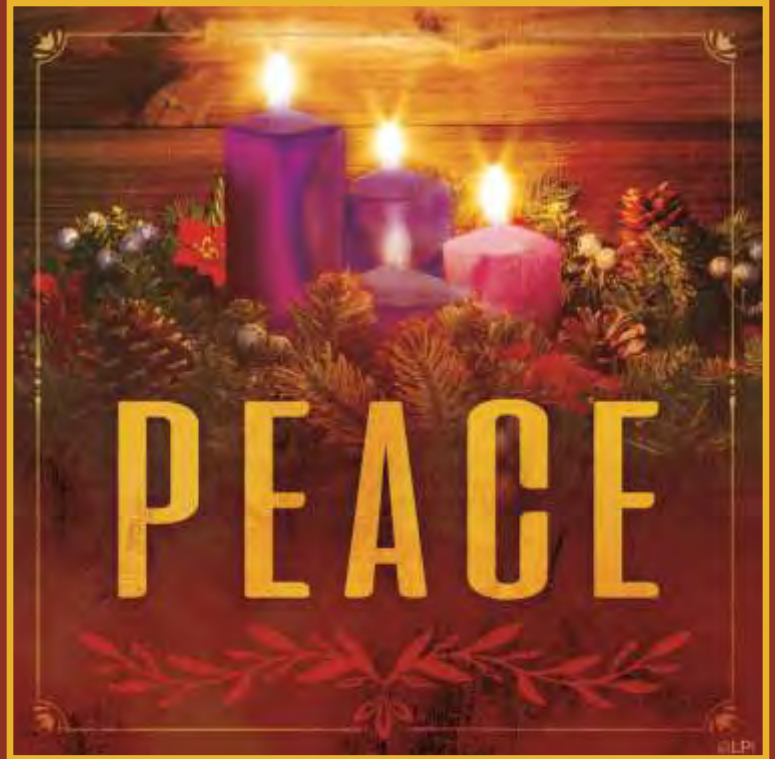
Luis Polanco

Pastoral Associate

Sister Kathleen McCarthy, O. P.

D.R.E.: Mary Donaldson

Music Director: Lee Forsythe



The Salvation of Souls is the Supreme Law

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

SATURDAY: 4:00 p.m. and Spanish Mass at 7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY: 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. (Family Mass), 11:00 a.m. (Choir Mass), 12:30 p.m. and also at 12:30 p.m. (Latin) Tridentine Mass in the Chapel.

MONDAY - SATURDAY: 9:00 a.m. Mass in the Church. Holy Days will be printed in the bulletin.

CONFESSIONS

SATURDAY: 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. For any other time, please call to make an appointment with a priest.

BAPTISM SCHEDULE

The 3rd Sunday of each month at 1:45 p.m. and the 4th Saturday of the month at 12:30 p.m. (No Baptisms Easter Sunday or Christmas Weekends.) First-time parents are required to attend a **Baptismal Preparation Class** which is offered on the last Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. (No class is held in December.)

Registration is required for both the Baptism and /or the Baptism Class and must be done online at www.smrcc.org.

MARRIAGE

Arrangements should be made at least 6 months in advance and should be made prior to making plans for a reception. Call the Parish Center for an appointment with the priest or deacon you wish to witness your wedding. All couples are required to attend Pre-Cana.



Christmas Confession Schedule 2019

All in the Church

Monday, December 23rd

7:00 - 8:00 P.M.

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24th

11:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon

CHRISTMAS



Tuesday, December 24th - Christmas Eve

4:00 P.M. in the Church

4:15 P.M. in Monsignor Goggin Hall
(below the Church)

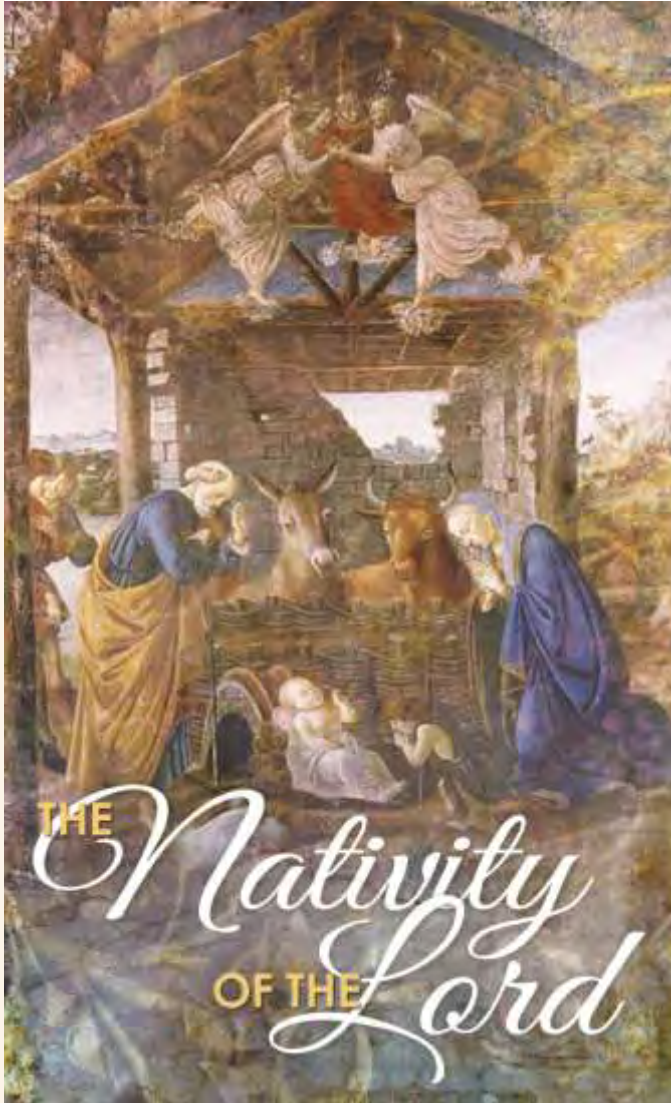
10:00 P.M. in Church
with Choral Prelude at 9:15 P.M.

Wednesday, December 25th - Christmas Day

7:30 A.M., 9:30 A.M., 11:00 A.M., and 12:30 P.M. all in the Church.

Traditional Latin High Mass 12:30 P.M.
in the Parish Center Chapel.

Mass Intentions



Saturday, Dec 21

- 4:00 PM Guiseppi Taranto & Family
Maria & Guido Pace
Delia Marano
Joanne Marzano
Living Intentions of Jack Tseng
Nancy De Fabius
- 7:00 PM Pedro Antonio Gomez

Sunday, Dec 22

- 7:30 AM Joseph A. Todaro
9:30 AM Albert & Margaret Finn
11:00 AM Matthew J. Ferrara
12:30 PM (L) For the People of the Parish
12:30 PM Vincenzo Domingo ~ Happy
4th Anniversary In Heaven

Monday, Dec 23

- 9:00 AM Anne Olsen

Tuesday, Dec 24

- 9:00 AM Thomas Slevin
4:00 PM Domenico & Maria Tropeano
4:15 PM Christine T. Quarello
10:00 PM For All The Deceased Loved
Ones of the Russo Family

Wednesday, Dec 25

- 7:30 AM Frank Campa
9:30 AM Michael G. Quinlivan
11:00 AM Deceased Members of the
Archbold & McNally Families
12:30 PM (L) For the People of the Parish
12:30 PM Leo & Agnes Perry

Thursday, Dec 26

- 9:00 AM Costello Family

Friday, Dec 27

- 9:00 AM Jack & Eileen Brennan

Saturday, Dec 28

- 9:00 AM Marie Anne Toussaint ~ Happy
1st Anniversary In Heaven
Antonio Giova
Intentions of Vita Rose Cacace
Vito Italiano
Millie & Frank Tricamo
Bart Rodriguez
- 4:00 PM Intentions of Jack Tseng
Michael Panico
Intentions of

- Christine & Peter Amato
Domenico & Amelia Capozzi
Louis & Margaret De Ciantis
Vincenzo Marra

- 7:00 PM Leonardo Vasquez ~
9th Anniversary in Heaven

Sunday, Dec 29

- 7:30 AM Johnathan Bonfitto
9:30 AM Joseph & Rosemary Volpe ~
Merry Christmas
11:00 AM Salvatore Montesano
12:30 PM (L) For the People of the Parish
12:30 PM Special Thanks To God From
Yolene & Frantz Lubin

PARISH MINISTRIES

ALTAR SERVERS: Porzia DiGiorgio: me@porzia.com
and John DiGiorgio: me@johndigiorgio.com

APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER:

Kathryn Giandoreggio: 631-491-3735

ATHLETIC WEBSITE: www.smrcc.org

ATHLETICS DIRECTOR/ INTRAMURAL & CYO TRAVEL

COORDINATOR: Chris Felice: smrccathletics@gmail.com

BAPTISM OFFICE: Bettyanne Russo: 499-8520 x 126

Email: stmatthewdixhills@gmail.com

BEREAVEMENT: Kathryn M. Douglas: 631-495-8541

Including: Teens (12-17) who have lost a parent.

Widows and Widowers 65 and under

Widow and Widowers 65 and over

BIBLE STUDY: Anthony Albano: 586-4827

BOY SCOUTS: Ernst Tramosch: 631-254-2656

BULLETIN: email: bulletin@smrcc.org

BUSINESS MANAGER: Dolores Tiernan: 499-8520 x 113

CATHOLICS FOR FREEDOM OF RELIGION:

Ann Podina: 858-0684

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL:

Jack Maccio: 499-8520 x 117 or JBM1944@icloud.com

C.C.D. RELIGIOUS ED: Mary Donaldson, D.R.E.: 864-3321

Rita Minder, Assistant: 864-3321

CHOIR: Lee Forsythe: 631-499-8520 x 116

Ed Oriani, Cantor for Tridentine Mass

COMPASSIONATE CARE & CONSOLATION MINISTRY:

Sr. Kay McCarthy: 499-8520 x 124

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION:

Ray Smolenski: 243-0449

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS TO THE HOMEBOUND:

Sr. Kay McCarthy: 499-8520 x 124

FEED THE POOR MINISTRY: Frank Harnos: 499-0074 or

Julie Maddaloni: 242-2183

FOOD PANTRY: Sr. Kay McCarthy: 499-8520 x 124

HOSPITALITY: Dolores Tiernan: 499-8520 x 113

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Glenn Martin GK: 631-873-7233

K OF C SQUIRES: Sir Francis Scotti: 917-567-9829

LECTORS: Helen Campa: 586-0682

LEGION OF MARY: Judy Archbold: 667-4629

LET'S PLAY: Sr. Kay McCarthy: 499-8520 x 124

MINISTRY OF PRAISE: Rosemary Sammon: 499-5176

PARISH OUTREACH: Sr. Kay McCarthy: 499-8520 x 124

PILGRIM MADONNA: Rosa Nappo: 920-2446 or

Lucia Agnone: 940-4015

PLANT ENGINEER: Luis Flores: 631 492-7881

PRE-CANA: Deacon Carmine DeStefano: 631-896-0983

RIGHT TO LIFE: Toni Shannon: 631 586-3807

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY: Patricia Bissex: 631 549-9415

PASTOR/PARISH SECRETARY: Bettyanne Russo:

499-8520 x 126 - Email: stmatthewdixhills@gmail.com

SONS OF ITALY: Diana Grauer: 631-242-2710

SPANISH MINISTRY: Deacon Luis Polanco: 631-334-1052

ST. VINCENT de PAUL: Michael Brennan: 499-8520 x 118

USHERS: Tom Siegler: 631-920-2055

WEDDING MUSIC: Lee Forsythe: 631-334-7138

YOUNG SENIORS MODERATOR: Fr. Benet: 499-8520 x125

PARISH REGISTRATION

NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE AT www.smrcc.org.

New families and new parishioners are encouraged to register with the parish. Registration forms are also available at the Parish Center.

INSTRUCTIONS IN THE FAITH:

Those adults who live in the Dix Hills area and/or those with family in the parish seeking information about becoming a Catholic or completing their Sacraments are invited to contact the Pastor.

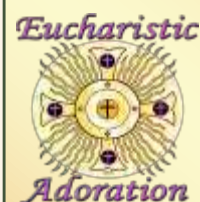
FIRST FRIDAY: Mass is at 9:00 a.m. Exposition of the Holy Eucharist takes place in the Chapel from Friday 7:00 p.m. until Saturday 8:30 a.m. and concludes with Benediction.

FIRST SATURDAY: 8:15 a.m. Devotions

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: The Sacrament is available EVERY SATURDAY after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. The Sacrament is available for those who are to undergo a serious medical procedure the following week or who have a serious illness and who have not been anointed within the past three months. If you wish to be anointed, please let the celebrant know before Mass.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK: Holy Communion will be ministered to those confined at home. Those who are seriously ill should request a priest for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

PARISH SCHOOL: HOLY FAMILY REGIONAL:
631-543-0202



First Friday Exposition
From 7:00 pm the First Friday
of the month until
8:30 am Saturday morning
in the Parish Center Chapel.

Private and authorized group prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in the Tabernacle is encouraged at any time during the many hours the main Church and Chapel are open. Occasions on which specific groups request Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament can only be conducted by a priest or deacon with the knowledge and approval of the Pastor.

Business Manager
Dolores Tiernan
Finance Chairperson
Richard Bove
Trustees
Philip Pandolfi and
Raymond Smolenski

Altar Flowers



Altar Candles

Bread and Wine



In Loving Memory of
 Leo & Agnes Perry
 Forever In My Heart, Mary



Collection Totals

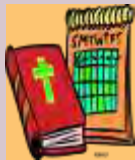
December 7 & 8

Weekly: \$18,441.00
 Religious Retirement : \$ 5,448.00
 Faith Direct: \$ 2,300.00

December 9

Immaculate Conception: \$ 1,063.00

The totals for December 14 & 15 will be in next week's bulletin.



Mondays

- **Miraculous Medal Novena:** after the 9:00 am Mass
- **Legion of Mary:** 2:30 pm In the Blessed Mother Room

Tuesdays

- **Rosary Society:** 1st Tuesday each month 7:00 pm
- **K of C:** General/Business Meeting 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month 8:00 pm

Wednesdays

- **Adult Choir Rehearsal:** 7:00 pm In the Family Room

Thursdays

- **Carmelite Holy Hour:** 3rd Thursday of each month 4:00 pm-5:00 pm in the Chapel
- **Young Seniors:** 9:00 am
- **Apostleship of Prayer:** 1st Thursday of each month after the 9:00 am Mass

Saturdays

- **Bible Study:** 9:45 am
- **Spanish Bible Study:** 1:00 pm
- **Tridentine Mass Choir:** (Latin) 4:00 pm in the Family Room

Sundays

- **Secular Franciscan Order:** Second Sunday of each month (except January & August) 1:00 pm in the Library (Room 201)
- **Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites:** Second Sunday of each month (except April, May & August) 9:00 am-1:30 pm including 11:00 am Mass



PLEASE NOTE THE UPCOMING BULLETIN DEADLINES

Sunday, December 29 has passed
 Sunday, January 5, 2020 has passed
 Sunday, January 12 is Monday, January 6
 Sunday, January 19 is Monday, January 13
 Sunday, January 26 is Friday, January 17
 Sunday, February 2 is Monday, January 27
Please email: bulletin@smrcc.org

Many churchgoers don't fully appreciate the importance of a church bulletin. Instead of throwing away your church bulletin, give it to a co-worker, a neighbor, a relative or a friend who doesn't attend our church.

The bulletin will give them information on what's happening in our parish. Something might spark an interest that the Holy Spirit can use to draw them to Christ.

Instead of leaving the bulletin in the pew, why not take it home. When you have finished reading it, give it away. Or if you are not going to take it home, it would be much appreciated if you drop it off at the back of the church.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Place for Learning and Praying

Our Family/Children's Mass is Sunday at 9:30AM

Mary Donaldson, Director, Rita Minder, Assistant

Religion Office Phone 864-3321 Fax 499-1530 maryccd@smrcc.org

CHRISTMAS WISHES

Loving God, help us remember the birth of Jesus that we may share in the songs of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, the worship of the Wise Men, and the joy of Mary and Joseph. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. May Christmas morning make us happy to be with our children and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus sake.

Finally, as we wrap, box, bag, tie and tag, let us think about what Charles Dickens once said, "For all of us, it is good to be children sometimes, and never better than at Christmas when its mighty founder was a child Himself.

The Religious Education Department wishes all the children and their families a very Merry Christmas.

GRADE LEVEL MASS FOR WINTER AND SUMMER PROGRAM STUDENTS

Sunday, January 5, 2020, the 7th & 8th grade will attend the 9:30 Mass.

Sunday, January 12, 2020, the 5th & 6th grade will attend the 9:30 Mass.

These grade level Masses do include the Summer Program students. For those students attending their grade level Mass listed above, please sit in the front of the Church, try to arrive by 9:10AM and remember your tithing envelope as they are not only used for a donation but also for taking attendance. All family members are invited to join us at this Mass.

SPECIAL NOTES

Classes are suspended for the Christmas holidays (and the office is closed) from Friday, December 20th thru Wednesday, January 1, 2020. We resume classes on Thursday, January 2, 2020.

Monday, January 20, 2020, classes are cancelled for Martin Luther King Day.

CONFIRMATION INFO

The date for Confirmation for our 8th grade students is Tuesday, March 31, 2020. Bishop Richard Henning will be presiding and there are two Confirmations, one at 10:00AM and one at 1:30PM.

Monday, January 6th, 2020, all 8th grade students must be present to be measured for their Confirmation gowns. This will take place during class time 7-8PM. Confirmation Packets will be distributed that night as well.



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Christmas 2019

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

In his December 1, 2019 Apostolic Letter *Admirabile Signum: On the Meaning and Importance of the Nativity Scene*, Our Holy Father Pope Francis writes:

“The nativity scene is like a living Gospel rising up from the pages of sacred Scripture...I wish to encourage the beautiful family tradition of preparing the nativity scene in the days before Christmas, but also the custom of setting it up in the workplace, in schools, hospitals, prisons and town squares.

Great imagination and creativity is always shown in employing the most diverse materials to create small masterpieces of beauty. As children, we learn from our parents and grandparents to carry on this joyful tradition, which encapsulates a wealth of popular piety. *It is my hope that this custom will never be lost and that, wherever it has fallen into disuse, it can be discovered and revived.*”

The Holy Father captures so poignantly how we creatively share our Catholic faith generation to generation through the Nativity sets and crèches that bring Christ’s light and love into our homes, our parishes and our public squares.

He also captures how the poor, the outcast, the ignored, the forgotten and the vulnerable have a privileged place in every Nativity scene: “The presence of the poor and the lowly in the nativity scene remind us that God became man for the sake of those who feel most in need of his love and who ask him to draw near to them. Jesus, ‘gentle and humble in heart’ (Mt 11:29), was born in poverty and led a simple life in order to teach us to recognize what is essential and to act accordingly. The nativity scene clearly teaches that we cannot let ourselves be fooled by wealth and fleeting promises of happiness. We see Herod’s palace in the background, closed and deaf to the tidings of joy. By being born in a manger, God himself launches the only true revolution that can give hope and dignity to the disinherited and the outcast: the revolution of love, the revolution of tenderness. From the manger, Jesus proclaims, in a meek yet powerful way, the need for sharing with the poor as the path to a more human and fraternal world in which no one is excluded or marginalized.”

As we celebrate the joy of Christmas and the power and presence of the Prince of Peace in our families, in the Church and in the World, we realize at the same time that the Christmas Crib can never be separated from the agony of Calvary’s Cross.

Even as we rejoice this Christmas of 2019, we remember and stand with the poor, the hungry, the addicted, the mentally ill, the global refugees and non-documented immigrants, and survivors of sexual abuse.

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

As we pray before the Christmas manger and see the beauty, the hope, the possibility in the birth of Jesus, we are compelled to remember that far too many children do not receive the welcome and joy they deserve for the miracle of their existence.

We cannot forget this Christmas season the great sadness that New York State, through the passage of the horrific Reproductive Health Act¹, has enshrined into law the killing of innocent human beings through abortion up until the moment of actual birth and beyond, as this radical law permits the killing of those children who survive abortion.

Together, we invoke the power of the Prince of Peace and His compassionate Word found in the Beatitudes and in His call to serve the poor and the most vulnerable among us in Matthew 25. Our Lord gives us the courage and the voice as the Catholic Church in New York State and around the world to speak of the beauty, the sanctity and the dignity of every human life.

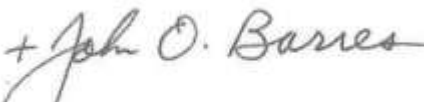
We will continue to be “a sign of contradiction” by witnessing relentlessly and courageously to the Gospel of Human Life. As is said in the first words of the *Didache*, the earliest known non-Scriptural Christian writing” “There are two Ways, one of Life and one of Death...” We will always stand with our earliest ancestors in the Christian faith in favor of the Way of Life and opposed to the Way of Death.

We will continue to seek the intercession of St. Thomas More, patron of statesmen, politicians and lawyers for the conversion of the public servants who have supported this tragic legislation.

The Cistercian biblical scholar Father Simeon writes: “The Child, while present only in Bethlehem by his poverty and weakness, is already present in the pattern of the constellations by his splendor and his glory.”²

May our praise and glory of the Prince of Peace fill our hearts and homes and give us the courage and prayerful determination to bring the Joy of the Gospel and the Splendor of Truth to every public square in New York State and throughout the world.

Sincerely in Christ,


Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Rockville Centre

¹ <https://www.drvc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/ReproductiveHealthCareAct.pdf>

² Erasmo Leiva-Merikakis (Fr. Simeon), *Fire of Mercy Heart of the World: Meditations on the Gospel according to St. Matthew Volume 1* (San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 1996), 76.



December 28 & 29

Eucharistic
Ministers

4:00 P.M.	7:30 AM	9:30 AM	11:00 AM	12:30 PM
I. Lucie	H. Campa	F. Harnos	E. Vincente	A. Albano
C. Vogt	J. Campa	M. Prainito	A. Pappas	M. Shef
R. Grande		P. DiGiorgio	K. Zaki	
D. Tiernan		C. Sposato		

Lectors

4:00 PM	7:30 AM	9:30 AM	11:00 AM	12:30 PM
M. Brennan	H. Campa	M.C. Okonkwo	D. Manetta	B. Abadom



PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Chloe Atienza
Lisa Ciota
Daniela Conti
Gerard Costa
Joseph Costa

Vilma Diaztoral
David Falen
Lawrence Famighetti
Nunzio Grella
Roy Internicola
Christian Martino

Sophia Marzulla
John McIntyre
Jay McNamee
Jill Pasquolone
Mary Perry
Marge Puccio
Gary Rickerson
Casey Rodriguez

Christopher Sabato, Sr.
Cecelia Sanzone
Charles Sanzone
Grace Sanzone
Debbie Serio
Ed & Ann Smith
Albi Snolis
Brian Tripp



APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER

The **Apostleship of Prayer** is a worldwide association of Catholics and other Christians who strive to make their ordinary, everyday lives apostolically effective. Through the Apostleship of Prayer, the **Pope** gives his monthly prayer intentions to the entire Church. For this reason, the Apostleship came to be known as *"the Pope's own prayer group."*

DAILY OFFERING PRAYER - *God, our Father, I offer You my day. I offer You my prayers, thoughts, words, actions, joys, and sufferings in union with Your Son Jesus' Heart, Who continues to offer Himself in the Eucharist for the salvation of the world. May the Holy Spirit, who guided Jesus, be my guide and my strength today so that I may witness to Your love.*

DECEMBER: The Future of the Very Young

That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.



We Pray, especially for our Service Men and Women:

Christopher Pavlat - Army, Rev. James Krische - Active - Colonel - Army,
Pvt. Brandon Leap - Active - Army, 1st Lt. Dominador Pascual III - Active - Air Force,
Pilot Matthew Waldman - Active - Air Force, 2nd Lt. Joseph Morgan - Active - Army,
2nd Lt. Christopher Felice - Marines, Christopher Motlenski - Navy, Nicholas Mazzone - U.S. Coast
Guard, Peter Mazzone - Marines, SSG Michael Hughes, SPC John Vautrin-Gardinier - US Army,
Lance Cpl. Ryan Matthew Ferrara - Marines, Matthew Kirchner - Army, Noah Kirchner - Air Force,
Ensign Melanie Thompson - Navy, Capt. Joseph De Monte IV - Pilot - United States Air Force,
Lt. Brendan Johnston - U.S. Navy, Jeffrey Gabriellini - Air Force, Cpl. Michael Grella - Navy Airman,
Julien - Army - Iraq., Lt. Col. Robert Wright - Marines, Michael Wissemann, LPL San Sievero - Marines,
Ambrose Michelino, Jarod Racuot - Army, Robert Scarpelli, Anthony Lazado - Marines, Richard Freese, Jr. - Navy,
Rho Nagasguna - Marines, Michael Doherty - Army, Pablo Quirindongo - CW4 - Army,
Cpl. Ronnie Belmarez - Marines, Commander Christopher Grande - Navy, Spec. 4 - Frank Grue - Retired - Army

↔ If you would like your family member added to the list or if one has returned home, ↔
please contact the Parish Office or email bulletin@smrcc.org.

**HELP SUPPORT THE
PRECIOUS SCHOOL'S MISSION IN INDIA FOR THE AUTISTIC CHILDREN**



Autism, a developmental disability in children, has become prevalent all over the world. Many children are struggling to live with it. In India, the financial backwardness and the social stigma make their life extremely miserable. The social support is practically nothing. The children with most severe autism and impairments have little hope unless we extend to them a helping hand. I believe that every child we encounter is a Divine appointment and no man stands as tall as when he stoops down to help a child in need.

Precious School is a home where healing and hope meet. It was founded in 2013 in a rural area of Kerala, India. It is a home where autistic children and their parents find shelter and care. A team of professionals, priests and religious are dedicated to do meaningful services to the children.

Mission Statement

Precious School's focus is to raise awareness, provide treatment services and support families. It has a program that is to introduce and help facilitate early and on-going treatment in autism with a strategy to provide necessary services, so each child can reach his/her highest potential. It provides various therapies and education in a tender loving ambience. It has day-care programs, residential facility and parenting skills training. It promotes social awareness and works to fight against social stigma.

What we need: Your prayerful financial support for-

- **Daily Care:** One dollar a day will support a child with food and care. I would appreciate if you could sponsor a child for a year or for a few months. A brochure is available for more information about sponsoring children and donating to the mission.
- **A New Project:** Many autistic children under five years of age are in desperate need of a place for care. The existing home is full. Therefore, we need a facility to provide them with early intervention therapy. A family in the locality has benevolently donated an acre of land which is suitable for a walk-in-clinic. The estimated cost of a building is approximately \$150,000.00 (One hundred and fifty thousand dollars). I am requesting your generous financial support for this project for the "little angels."

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Through sponsorship you can make a life-changing investment. Your donation, no matter what its size may be, will directly and in full, go to the benefit of the needy children. They will receive personalised support by free care and training. We will provide them food, therapy and spiritual nourishment.

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta said:

"Not all of us can do great things in this world, but we can do small things with great love."

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE:

PRECIOUS SCHOOL FRIENDS INC. is a non-profit organization registered in New York to help support of Precious School's Mission in India. You will receive a receipt for your tax purposes.

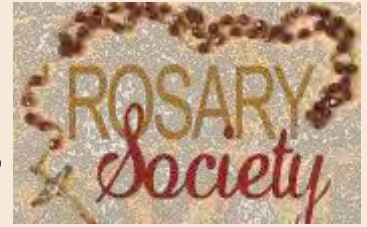
Fund transfer options:

1. Online: **Zelle** QuickPay- Use the email: dadyjacob@gmail.com Or **PayPal**
2. By "**Donate Now**" in the website *
3. **Check for donations can be made payable to Precious School Friends Inc.** and return/send to Fr. Jacob Vattackattu, 35 North Service Road, Dix Hills, NY 11746.
Contact details: Fr. Jacob - Cell # **516 591 9315**, email: dadyjacob@gmail.com
* Website: www.preciousschool.org

You can also contact, Mr. John Gatto at **516 241 1264** who stands-in here for Precious School.
NB: Fr. Jacob is residing at St. Matthew's until mid-January 2020.

Dear Rosarians,

It is already the fourth Sunday of Advent! It is almost time to hasten to the manger to adore our Newborn King! Most of us probably have been hastening and hurrying all month - shopping, wrapping, baking, helping and giving. Yet there is still time, a few days left, to watch, wait and prepare with prayer and penance for the Coming of our Savior Jesus Christ. Perhaps a few moments of silence in front of the Blessed Sacrament to rest our minds and quiet our souls to hear His voice? Perhaps a quiet meditation on the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary or a visit to one of the many images of the Blessed Virgin in our parish? Perhaps giving up a meal before the Christmas Feast to remember the hardship and deprivation the Holy Family endured? And let's remember to say "thank you," "I'm sorry," "forgive me," and "I love you" to those around us.



A big thank you to all who helped with Breakfast with Santa, especially Kathy, Donna, Emmy, Anna, Marcia, Joan, Rosalie F., Tina, Judy, Andrea and her daughter Laura, Sharon, Liz, Patricia Bertolini, Rose Ann and Theresa the Elf. Because of your generosity of time, talent and treasure we were able to spread the Faith and Joy of the season to all the little ones and their families.

I appreciate also, all those who assisted with the Christmas Plant Sale Fundraiser for the Parish. May the Divine Infant reward each of you!

PLEASE REMEMBER TO COLLECT DONATIONS, GIFTS AND GIFT CARDS FOR THE SPRING FUNDRAISER FASHION SHOW.

I wish each and every one of you a happy, holy, healthy Christmas filled with the Divine Love of our Savior Jesus Christ and His Holy Mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary. Merry Christmas!

Love and prayers always in the Hearts of Jesus and Mary,
Patricia Bissex

About The Types of Catholic Wedding Ceremonies

There are two forms of our Catholic wedding Liturgy:

The Wedding or Nuptial Mass:

Often referred to as a "full Mass," it is the celebration of the Mass with the wedding ceremony inserted in the middle of the Liturgy. It presupposes both parties are practicing Catholics and receiving Holy Communion after a proper spiritual preparation.

The Wedding Ceremony:

This has all the elements of the above (music, readings, vows, etc.) but without the celebration of Mass. This form is suitable for general congregations and is of shorter duration than the above.

PLEASE NOTE: Nuptial Masses are NOT celebrated on Sundays. The ONLY exception is when a visiting priest is invited by the family, approved by the Pastor and is willing to offer a Nuptial



ATTENTION STUDENTS 7TH GRADE AND OLDER

If you would like to be a part of the church ministry and are comfortable speaking in public, you may want to consider becoming a lector at the 9:30 AM Sunday Family Mass. **If you are interested, call Mrs. Campa at 631-586-0682.**



Every Tuesday, a Eucharistic Holy Hour for the Sanctification of the Clergy and the Purification of the Church is held in the church immediately after the 9:00 AM Mass.

The Rosary will be prayed before the Blessed Sacrament exposed in the monstrance and other prayers will be offered in reparation for sins and for the healing of the victims of sin.



Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites

are lay men and women called to live out a contemplative **vocation in daily life**. Daily meditation and prayer is our primary focus as well as Liturgy of the Hours, ongoing formation and study of the saints of the order and their writings/doctrines. If you feel called to experience a more intimate and deep prayer life and wish to learn more about the Discalced Carmelite Seculars, please contact: Carolyn Weber at 631 261-6455.



December 22 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

In today's Gospel, we hear that Jesus will be named Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." The mystery of the birth of Jesus is supremely a mystery of love. May each Christmas find us more and more like him: more humble, more holy, more happy and more full of God.

Your gifts to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul helped those who are poor and suffering to find Emmanuel and they also came to know that "God is with us."

Y.E.S. ~ SENIOR NEWS

Meetings are held every Thursday (from September - June) after the 9:00 a.m. Mass except on luncheon dates. Please join us. All are welcome.

Everyone here, wishes everyone there, a most happy and blessed Christmas.

Remember to pray for all those who are ill and for their loving caregivers. Pray always for our church, our country, the military and for all first responders, who daily put themselves between us and danger. God bless America.

See you in Church , Pat

"Where Else Would A Lamb Be Born"

No proper place, no royal palace, to receive a royal birth
God's gift of Love, wrapped in a blanket
Would be His way to reach the earth.

A bed of straw, became a cradle, embracing God, in human form.
One would expect more than a stable, but where else would a Lamb be born?

No stately house, no noble mansion, where He would reign in majesty.
The path He chose led to an altar
Where He would give His life for me.

A bed of straw, became a cradle, embracing God, in human form.
One would expect more than a stable, but where else would a Lamb be born?

He is the Great I Am
The Sacrificial Lamb
Who takes away the sins of the world.

Steve Amerson

Merry Christmas everyone!

Dear Parishioners,

This is a heartbreaking story. Please read the message below from Daniela Conte's family. I wish you could meet her as she is a beautiful, smart, amazing, courageous little girl who has suffered from cancer for 3 years.



Sister Kay

Last June, Daniela made her First Holy Communion in our Chapel. Fr. Hewes gave her the Eucharist for the first time and her parents, brothers and sister, her relatives, the Religious Ed Directors and I were privileged to be there. As you read below, you will learn that her family has tremendous medical bills. If you are able, please try to assist the family with these overwhelming bills. Of course, I also ask you to please pray for her and her family. I know that I can count on you.

Thank you and God bless you.

Sr. Kay McCarthy

Daniela Conte is a vibrant 8-year-old girl who continues her battle with Embryonal Rhabdomyosarcoma. Embryonal Rhabdomyosarcoma is a relatively common muscle and soft tissue pediatric cancer. What makes Daniela's case extremely rare is that it's in her liver and surrounding veins. There are almost no documented cases like this.

For the past 3 years, Daniela has undergone various types of chemotherapy, experimental procedures, surgeries, medications, and radiation therapy. Upon completing her most current 10 rounds of chemo this past year, her scans showed her as being cancer free.

Unfortunately, this September we received news that her cancer was never really gone, just not detectable with the scans. Two areas in her liver had a regrowth of cancer. The larger area was able to be destroyed with ablation therapy. She had this procedure last month. The second, smaller area is being treated with radiation therapy right now. The plan after this is to destroy any surviving microscopic cancer cells with immunotherapy medication.

Daniela has also undergone several dental procedures due to the extensive damage from chemotherapy. Most teeth have been rotted out, many have had to be pulled and she has multiple fillings and root canal procedures at such a young age. Unfortunately, this will continue until her treatment is finished. The dental bills have already been in the multiple thousands and will continue to rise due to the continuing treatment. Her dentist is unable to do most of these procedures due to the complexity of the problems and due to the fact that she is on blood thinner medication. So, she must see a specialist and they do not participate in our insurance plan.

Despite all that she has been through, she is still in good spirits. She's back at school almost full time and is trying to live the best life she can. It's been over 3 years of her fighting this. She is looking forward to the day she is cancer free and can stop with all the treatments, procedures, and medications.

Thank you all for your love and support.

Sincerely,

The Conte Family

**Donations can be sent to:
Mrs. Katia Conte, P.O. Box 1128
Melville, NY 11747**



Our Lady of Mercy Academy

Yessenia Abrego

Adrianna Cirenza

Laura Hiu

Amanda McQuade

Chinwe Okonkwo

Sadly, on Nov. 11th adorable, beautiful, 6-year-old Gianna Traina died after suffering from leukemia for 5 years. Her funeral was here at St. Matthew's on Nov. 15th. Her parents, Rose and Anthony Traina have 4 other children. As you would expect, they have been heartbroken and burdened, not only with Gianna's sickness and death, but also with many medical bills and other expenses. They do have a gofund me page which is listed below with the link. I know that you will help them if you are able to do so. I ask you to please pray for this family, as they mourn the death of little Gianna.

Thank you and God bless you.
Sr. Kay McCarthy



https://www.gofundme.com/f/giving-up-is-not-an-option-for-qigi?utm_source=customer&utm_medium

**MY DEAR PEOPLE OF ST. MATTHEW'S
AND CHILDREN IN OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM**

The great Dominican mystic, Meister Eckhardt wrote, "If the only prayer you say in your entire life is thank you, that will be enough." Hopefully, this prayer is enough to say for you.

You have been so kind and generous, not only at Thanksgiving and Christmas, but all year long, to those who lack the basic necessities of life. In fact, every morning at 7:15 when the Sisters and I gather to pray the morning office, we always thank God for our blessings and for people like you who always inspire us to love God and to help others.

As the Thanksgiving season ends, we enter into Advent, a time of waiting. Waiting is not something that most of us like to do. Technology might contribute to this. We don't need to wait in line to buy tickets for a show or sports event. You buy them on line. We don't need to wait to read the latest issue of a magazine. You can read it on line. However, waiting for test results after a previous serious sickness is extremely difficult. In addition, waiting for a loved one to come home, who has been giving military or other dangerous service, is also extremely difficult. And yet, we can even become impatient when our computers are slow to respond. That's why Advent can be a reminder of the holiness of waiting. Faithful Christian waiting and hope is a virtue and a grace.

Christian waiting also encourages us to find God in our present – not simply in our future. God is not only coming: God is already here. So while we anticipate the future with hope, we know that living mindfully in the presence of God is a key way to encounter Him. For us now, it is greater intimacy with Christ. For those near the end of their earthly lives, they wait in hope for eternal life with God. Let us pray for one another that we can find God today and wait in hope and trust in God's plan for our future. That future is unknown. The poet Alfred Lord Tennyson wrote of the future and asked, "when shall all man's good be each man's rule and universal peace lie like a shaft of light across the land?"

Wouldn't it be a beautiful future, if we always looked out for the good of one another? And wouldn't it be a beautiful future, if there was peace in our hearts, families, homes and world - a universal peace? Let us pray for one another and do all that we can to end discord, damaging conflicts and to promote peace wherever we find ourselves.

Merry Christmas and may the peace of Christ be with you and your loved ones.
Sister Kay McCarthy

Diocese of Rockville Centre
Healing after Abortion



Project Rachel retreats offer the opportunity to experience the loving mercy of God in a safe and sacred space. The retreats are directed by specially trained compassionate caregivers, including counselors and clergy, who have a sensitivity and a heart for those who suffer.

Day of Prayer and Healing for Women
Saturday, March 7, 2020

Please register by Monday, March 2nd.

For more information and to register please visit www.respectlife.drvc.org or contact Project Rachel at 1(888) 456-HOPE (4673), 1(516) 766-2538 or projectrachel@drvc.org. All information will remain confidential.

Saint Elizabeth is currently seeking a part time Facilities and Maintenance Worker.



Requirement and duties:

Maintain Parish grounds and facilities; Inform Business Manager of any defects, damages, or required repairs; Have the ability to effectively manage time, meet deadlines and coordinate work functions with other personnel and outside contractors; Have working knowledge of mechanical repairs, electrical and plumbing systems. Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. Salary to be determined, based on experience. For additional information or to submit your resume, contact Harry Perepeluk at 631 271-4455 ext. 304 or email hperepeluk@stelizabeth.org

Tune into "Religion and Rock" with Rev. Msgr. Jim Vlaun on Sunday from 7 AM - 8 AM on WBAB 102.3 FM or 95.3 FM on Long Island's East End. Listen on Saturdays at 11 PM on Sirius Radio, Channel 159, the Catholic Channel and at 11 PM on XM Satellite, Channel 117.

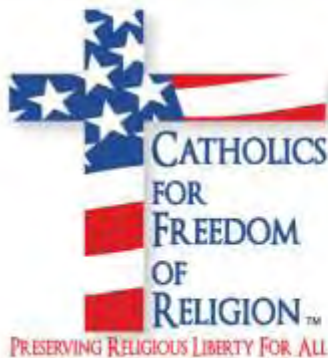
The theme for next Sunday, December 29, 2019 is New Beginnings.

Don't miss it! To listen online or receive more information regarding Religion and Rock go to "Religion & Rock" on ITUNES or www.ReligionandRock.com. Don't forget to tune into Catholic Faith Network, Cablevision 29/137 or Verizon FIOS 296 or visit www.cfntv.org.



*In every community, home and heart
the Christ Child is welcomed, freely, openly and joyfully.*

*Wishing a blessed and joyous Christmas from
Catholics for Freedom of Religion*



"By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us..." Luke 1:7



St. Matthew's Gift Shop

Open Monday through Friday

9:00 am - 5:00 pm **Closed 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm**

Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

and will be open

Sunday, December 22 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
for your Christmas shopping convenience.



Christmas Nativities, Advent Candle Holders, Ornaments, Christmas Cards, etc. Also, Unique religious gifts, rosaries, books, fonts, statues, picture frames, Baptism items, wedding unity candles, vestments and so much more...

The Gift Shop is located in the Parish Center, across from the Receptionist area.

All Proceeds Benefit Our Parish Ministry!



Look for our Raffles from now until Christmas.

