

December 18, 2022



Roman Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart
720 Merrick Ave
North Merrick, NY 11566
Phone: 516-379-1356
The Heart of Jesus in North Merrick

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Stephen Brigandi, Pastor
 Rev. Peter Sarpong, Associate Pastor
 Deacon Charles Kammerer
 Deacon John Heverin

Parish Outreach

Mrs. Maureen Paladino
 Outreach Office: 516-379-6123
 Monday —Thursday 10am-1:00pm

Faith Formation Coordinator Grades 1-5

Mrs. Cecilia Bradley
 cbradleyshrep@gmail.com

Music Coordinator

Elizabeth Woods musicdirector@sacredheartnm.org

Pastoral Associate/Faith Formation Coordinator Grades 6-8

Miss Carol Tannehill ctannehillshc@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society SVDP@sacredheartnm.org**Parish Center
Fax**

516-379-1356
516-379-1610

Parish Center Hours:

Mon.—Fri. 9am—12pm & 1pm -4pm

Website: sacredheartnm.org

Mrs. Kathy Ammirati—Volunteer Coordinator ext. 22

Mrs. Mary Katz - Finance Administrator ext. 16

Mrs. Ingrid Samperi Receptionist ext. 10

Mr. Matt O'Brien - Maintenance Director ext. 14

Website: Sacredheartnm.org

We hope that all new residents will come to the Parish Center to register.

Adult Christian Initiation

If you are interested in exploring the Catholic faith or completing your initiation into the Church please call the Parish Center.

Infant Baptism Preparation If you wish to arrange a baptism at Sacred Heart Church, please contact the Parish Center at 516-379-1356 ext.10. One of our baptism coordinators will be happy to arrange a time to meet with you. Ideally, both Godparents should be practicing Catholics. We will review the procedures for the sacrament and you will be able to fill out all the necessary paperwork. Baptisms are held on the first and third Sunday of each month at 2pm in the church. First time parents need to attend a baptism class. They are held on the last Monday of each month in the church at 7:30pm. Crying babies welcome! Godparents are encouraged but not required to attend.

Sacrament of Matrimony Please contact the Parish Center at least one year in advance of the intended date of the wedding. A priest or deacon of the parish will interview you, set the wedding date and help you register for the required marriage preparation program. Marriage Preparation is held in the parish three times a year. Please contact Deacon John @ DunmoreDoc@gmail.com for dates and times.

Sacrament of Reconciliation A priest is available each Saturday at 4:00PM in the church. Please don't hesitate to call a priest at the Parish Center for an appointment for Confession at another time.

Sacraments for the Homebound If you or a family member are not able to attend Mass and would like to receive the Sacraments of Communion, Reconciliation and/or Anointing of the Sick, please call the Parish Center.

December 11, 2022

Attendance: 1222

Envelopes: 414

Collection: \$ 19,466.00

Year to Date: \$ 1,028,546.00

**Monday, December 19, 2022**

9AM Samuel Lukas

Tuesday, December 20, 2022

9AM Ann Sullivan

Wednesday, December 21, 2022

9AM Kathryn Alida Eschmann

Thursday, December 22, 2022

9AM Turner West

Friday, December 23, 2022

9AM Marjorie Cardinale

Saturday, December 24, 2022

4PM (church) William P. Connor

John Duce Perito

4PM (gym) Clare Shorak

10PM Jeanne & Peter Slowik

Mary & Barbara

Sunday, December 25, 2022**Nativity Of Our Lord**

8AM Parishioners of Sacred Heart

10AM (church) Anne McCann

10AM (gym)

12PM (church) John & Anna McManus

12PM (gym) Stephen & Marie Brigandi

*In our thoughts and prayers.**Taylor Agurto**Joanne Angelaastro**Milan Baranek**Edward Bennett**Mary Berberich**Carol Byer**Ed Beyer**John Brennan**Joanne Campbell**Baby Jack**Baby Kaylee**Dolores Costello**Evelio Del Campo**Lisa DelCampo**Anthony DeLuca**AJ DeLuca**John De Luca**DiMatteo Family**Betty DiNicola**Eileen Dobrinkat**Matthew Dwyer**John & Maria Eletto**Robert Galvin**Veronique Hall**Gloria Hannifin**Pat Hesse**Sr. Marie Vianney Gallagher**Barbara Jenkins**Gail Kmitis**Andrew LaClaustra**Brian Mohr**Jack McGreevy**Katherine McGreevy**John McMullin**Taylor Oshan**Jack Palamaro**Peter Palamaro, Jr.**Eileen Pio**John Primavera**Flo Puff**Ginesia Reale**Ann Rhoads**John Rocco**Randall Sinz**Mary Sweeney**Herb Staudter**Theresa Vacchio**Nelson Villaflor**Aidan Walden**John Weber**Alyssa Zangari**Rosemarie Ziminski**Robert Ziminski***Prayers for the Sick**

In an effort to make sure parishioners who are ill are properly prayed for we would like to keep our Sick List as up to date as possible. Names will remain for one full month, but will be **removed at the end of every month**, unless there is a request by the family to extend the prayers for the following month.



If you or someone you know needs assistance with bills, rent, food, or other monetary help, please email SVDP@sacredheartnm.org or call the Parish Center and someone from our St. Vincent de Paul Society will return your call.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

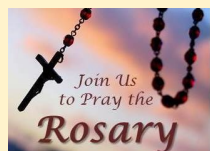
In today's Gospel, we hear that Jesus will be named Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." The mystery of the birth of Jesus is supremely a mystery of love. May each Christmas find us more and more

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."

Since Christmas is a time of love and gift giving, please share in Jesus ministry by giving a gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who are poor can know the good news of Jesus.

*"It is not sufficient for me to love God if I do not love my neighbor. I belong to God and to the poor."
—St. Vincent de Paul*



Every weekday morning
at 8:30am



Let us remember all our parishioners who have been called home to our Loving God. We especially remember Catherine Corrao



*The Bread & Wine for the week of December 18th are in memory of Elsie Vega
Donated by the Arriaga Family*

CAUTION
COLD & FLU
SEASON

If you are sick, take care of yourself. We care for the Body of Christ by first taking care of our own body. The obligation to participate in Mass is not required for those who are sick. If you are sick, do not worsen your illness by trying to get to church, and do not put others at risk of catching your illness.

Wash your hands often, especially if you are an usher or Eucharistic Minister. Soap, water, and a good scrubbing are the best defense against the cold and flu viruses. Scrub your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Avoid shaking hands with others before, during, and after Mass if you are sick or have been in direct contact with someone who is sick.

PARISHIONERS IN THE ARMED FORCES

**Sacred Heart Parish salutes and
commends to prayer:**

Spc. John McCann, U.S. Army, Italy
Sgt. Richard DeTommaso, U.S. Army, Korea
PFC Kendrick McCann, U.S. Army, Korea
Sgt. First Class Lee Ann Gouveia, U.S. Army
L CPL Anthony Rusciano, U.S.M.C.
L CPL Troy Grassi, U.S.M.C., Iraq
SSgt. Edgar C. Francisco, U.S.M.C.
Col. James K. Lavine, U.S.M.C.
Lt. Col. Timothy W. Schnelle, U.S.M.C.
Pvt. Andrew Reynolds, U.S. Army
3rd CS P.O. Joseph La Form, U.S. Navy
L CPL Kevin P. Vaughan, U.S.M.C.
Major Christopher Darconte, U.S. Air Force
U.S.M.C. Deployed Aircraft Carrier Iwo Jima
Sgt. Brandon Furia, U.S.M.C.
PFC Matthew Macario, U.S. Army,
Afghanistan
Lt. James Corino, Army
Lt. Commander William H. Mohr, Navy
Amn. 1st Class Daniel Gilroy, U.S.A.F.
Lt. Daniel T. Lopez, U.S. Air Force
Captain Patrick O'Sullivan U.S.N.A. U.S.M.C.
Lt. j. g. Michael Napolitano U.S. Navy
John Devoti Lt. Col. U.S.M.C.
2nd Lieutenant Jordan Paladino- US Army

Prayer For The Safety of Our Service Men & Women

Almighty and Eternal God, protect these men and women as they discharge their duties. Protect them with the shield of your strength and keep them safe from all evil and harm. May the power of your love enable them to return home in safety to all who love them. May they ever praise you for your loving care. We ask this through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Sacred Heart Purgatorial Society

Helen & Joseph Tatarka, Marianne Collins, Patricia A. Bove, Caroline & Francis Cacossa, Margaret E. Riordan, Joan Fisk, Everett Corum, Jr, James J. Stasi, Maureen & Robert Murphy, Josephine Valenti, Ellen C. Rafter, Donald J. Johnson, Eileen Clarke, Dolores Kulich, Vera Farrell, James Tannehill, William G. Mohr, Shaun Hughes, Edward Walsh & Family, Frances Forgione, Lillian Milana, Randall Cordero, Edward Hesse, Regina Platt, James Artura, Edward A. Kennedy, Carolyn McDonough, Carmel L. Carleo, Raymond P. Carleo, James G. Dwyer, James P. Soldo, Robert Tom Riordan, Henry Darnaud, Stephen J. Brigandi, Sr., Ryan Palma, John Fitzpatrick, Amesse Furchak, Marlene Lawson, Richard Brazenor, Joseph & Dora Accurso, Mary & Frank Gandini, Pat Darienzo, Jr., Tom and Mary Carroll, Brother Hugh Patrick Turley, FMS, Michelle Palma Furchak, Charlotte & Joe Francomano, John Hursala, Mae & John Dugo, Ann Kelly, Margaret, Joseph, Jack & Catherine Eschmann, Kay Alida Eschmann Joseph Sommer, Charles Vaccaro, Epifania Napit, Nancy DeStefano, Lester Smith, Camille and George Pashalides, Patrick M. Darienzo, Thomas J. Maloney, Jack Faust, Theresa Reilly Fred J. Cardinale, Thomas McLoone, Joseph Massaro, Daniel Contartesi, Catherine Contartesi, Teresa & Joseph Sullivan, Helen & Joseph Tatarka, Fred & Theresa Peruggia, Josephine and Leo Scotto, Michael & Virginia Marquardt, Philomena Peruggia Ronald Gandini, Clare Shorak, Edward J. Lunden, Elizabeth & John Chambers, Frank, Eleanor & Jimmy Gill



**The next Anointing of the Sick is
Friday, January 6, 2023**



Christmas Dinner Prayer

Christmas is similar to Thanksgiving in that it's customary to enjoy a large, once-a-year-type of a meal.

The food on the menu varies by culture, and in some traditions, Christmas Eve is the night of the large dinner celebration (the Italian Feast of the Seven Fishes is a well-known example of this.)


Whether your family prepares a feast on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, or just enjoys a simple meal filled with fellowship, saying a prayer at dinner centers the gathering on the meaning of the occasion: the birth of Jesus.

Here are options for Christmas dinner prayers:

“Dear God, we thank you for everyone gathered here this evening, for the food we will enjoy, and for the love we all share. We give thanks this day for the birth of our Savior. In His name we pray. Amen.”

“Heavenly Father, bless this food and bless this meal. Since Jesus came into our world and delivered us salvation, we rejoice in the promise of salvation and pray that our fellowship today brings us deeper into communion with You. We ask this as we ask all things, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.”

“God, recently, our days have been joy-filled yet busy. Occasionally, we get distracted from the true meaning of Christmas. As we gather here tonight, in this quiet moment, we feel your loving embrace. We are filled with gratitude for this meal, this fellowship, and all the blessings you give us. Amen.”



**Food
Pantry
Needs**

Below are the items we would love to have in our pantry.

Our Pantry Wishlist!

- paper towels**
- napkins**
- cereal**
- tea bags**
- coffee**
- juice boxes**
- hot chocolate**
- shampoo/conditioner**
- Soap**
- detergent**



Congratulations to the following Kellenberg students who were inducted into the National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society:

National Honor Society

Antonio Arrigo	Emily Corrigan
Colleen Costello	Kerrin Gallagher
Kevin McGrory	Ryan Nunez
Vanessa Romanelli	

National Junior Honor Society

Valentina Arrigo	Kevin Keegan
Charles McMahon	John O'Keefe
Philip Romanelli	

Ministry of Praise Pope's Prayer Intention for December

Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations
 We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

*The Parish Center is closed
 December 26th, 29th, 30th
 and January 2nd.*

*We wish everyone a Merry
 Christmas and a New Year
 filled with good health and
 peace!*

Our Lady's Rosary Makers

*The next meeting will be on
 December 17th 1pm to 2pm*

*N. Merrick Library Conference Room
 1691 Meadowbrook Road
 N. Merrick, NY*

ALL ARE WELCOME!

*All supplies will be provided.
 No experience required.*

ANY QUESTIONS?
 Please call Jane @ 516-771-8469





This past week students in grades K-3 did a wonderful job presenting their Advent Lessons and Carols. Our Kindergarten classes beautifully performed a live nativity.

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA!



SUNDAY CONNECTION—DECEMBER 13, 2022**First Reading***Isaiah 7:10-14***Second Reading***Romans 1:1-7***Gospel Reading***Matthew 1:18-24*

An angel appears to Joseph, directing him to take Mary as his wife and telling him that the child she will bear will be called Emmanuel.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Finally, on this the Fourth Sunday of Advent, our Gospel Reading permits us to begin our contemplation of the mystery of the Incarnation we celebrate at Christmas: “Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about” (Matthew 1:18).

The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of the birth of Jesus from Joseph's perspective. Today's Gospel passage is the second movement in this story. In the preceding verses of the first chapter of Matthew's Gospel, the Evangelist has listed the genealogy of Jesus, tracing his lineage through King David to Abraham. In the chapter to follow, Matthew tells of the visit from the Magi, the Holy Family's flight into Egypt, and Herod's massacre of the infants in Bethlehem. (The other stories which we associate with Christmas, the Annunciation, the Visitation, the angel and the shepherds, are found in the Gospel of Luke).

We must not gloss over too quickly the difficult circumstances described in today's Gospel. The way that Joseph and Mary face these circumstances tells us much about these holy people and their faith in God. Joseph and Mary are betrothed to be married. This is sometimes described as an engagement period, but it is more than that. Betrothal in first century Jewish culture was in fact the first part of the marriage contract. A breach of this contract was considered adultery. Mary is found to be with child. If adultery is proven, the punishment might be death. Joseph has rights under Mosaic law, but chooses to act discreetly in his plans to break the marriage contract, so as to protect Mary. Then God intervenes.

The message of the angel of the Lord given to Joseph in his dream tells us much about the child that Mary bears and his role in God's plan. He is conceived by the Holy Spirit. His name will be Jesus, which in the Hebrew means “Yahweh saves.” He will be the fulfillment of the prophecy heard in today's first reading from Isaiah: “. . . The virgin shall be with child . . . and shall name him Emmanuel [God with us].”

Joseph does as the angel of the Lord directs. He takes Mary to be his wife and accepts the child in her womb as his own. Joseph and Mary are both cooperative with God's plan. They are both models for us of what it means to be faithful servants of God.



DATES TO NOTE

Tuesday, December 20th: Confessions from 7pm-9pm in the church

Saturday, December 24th: Confessions from 12pm-2pm in the church

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

December 24th: 4pm (gym)
4pm (church)
10pm (church)

December 25th: 8am (church)
10am (church)
10am (gym)
12pm (church)
12pm (gym)

THERE IS NO 5PM MASS ON CHRISTMAS

NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

December 31st: 5pm

January 1st: 8am, 10am and 12pm

THERE IS NO 5PM MASS ON NEW YEAR'S DAY

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