

January 1, 2023

NEW YEAR PRAYER:

Thank You Lord for giving me
The brand new year ahead.
Help me live the way I should
As each new day I tread.
Give me gentle wisdom
That I might help a friend,
Give me strength and courage
So a shoulder I might lend.
The year ahead is empty,
Help me fill it with good things
Each new day filled with joy
And happiness it brings.
Amen.

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: DeaconJohn@sacredheartnm.org 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 18, 2022

Attendance: 1124

Envelopes: 363

Collection: \$19,218.00

Year to Date: \$1,047,764.00

**Monday, January 2, 2023**

9AM Raymond Carleo

Tuesday, January 3, 2023

9AM Robert Rabsey

Wednesday, January 4, 2023

9AM Anna Seyboid

Thursday, January 5, 2023

9AM Christopher Schwarz

Friday, January 6, 2023

9AM Purgatorial Society

Saturday, January 7, 2023

9AM Ray Carleo

5PM Rose DeCistofaro

Elizabeth Zaleski

Jennie Ladasseur

Sunday, January 8, 2023

8AM Joseph Licari

10AM Jacqueline Felix

12PM Parishioners of Sacred Heart

5PM Christine Talbot

Julio Marino

*In our thoughts and prayers.**Taylor Agurto**Joanne Angelastro**Milan Baranek**Edward Bennett**Mary Berberich**Dylan Buckley**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**Harold Flay**Robert Galvin**Veronique Hall**Gloria Hannifin**Pat Hesse**Sr. Marie Vianney Gallagher**Pat Hesse**Marco Ireland**Barbara Jenkins**Gail Kmitis**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 Villafior**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.

"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



OVER 50 CLUB

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, at 1:30pm in the school cafeteria. The Schedule of Events and flyers for the upcoming trips will be distributed at this meeting. Please try to attend since we have much to discuss!

You may call Mary @ 378-1335 for further information.

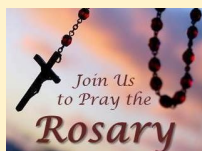
Happy New Year to all!

The Rosary Society will not meet during January and February. They will begin again the first Monday in March. Check the bulletin for time and place.

Happy New Year to all!



Let us remember all our parishioners who have been called home to our Loving God. We especially remember
Josephine Montanino
Anthony Dutkowsky
Jerry Catalano
Kathryn Sansone Wells



Every weekday morning
 at 8:30am



Ministry of Praise Pope's Prayer Intention for January

For educators

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all

The Parish Center is closed from Thursday, December 29, 2022 to Monday, January 2, 2023.

We wish everyone a Happy, Healthy New Year!

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**

Parish Outreach

Food Pantry Needs

If your means allow, the following items are in short supply:



paper napkins
detergent
black beans
bar soap
milk
eggs
butter
Frosted Flakes, Special K
bread
canned chicken
syrup
shampoo, conditioner
kid's snacks and drinks
coffee
rice

PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

God, thank you for a new year. May everyone in our family be willing to begin anew with a clean slate. We know that you are always ready to forgive us. Help us to be willing to forgive ourselves and to forgive one another.

As we begin a new year, remind us of our truest values and our deepest desires. Help us to live in the goodness that comes from doing what you want us to do. Help us to put aside anxiety about the future and the past, so that we might live in peace with you now, one day at a time.



FRANCES BLAKE 300 CLUB DECEMBER 2022 WINNERS

\$300 Winner

Ms. Maryse Haig #022

\$100 Winner

Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Murphy #293

\$75 Winner

Mrs. Susan LaBarbera #262

\$50 Winner

Mrs. Rita DeVita #229

\$25 Winners

Mr. Walter Shorak #210
Mrs. Elizabeth Schmidt #053
Loretta O'Brien #223
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas DeMicco #129

\$15 Winners

Mrs. Eileen Ward #251
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Torres #260
Kathyanne Farmer #002
Jerry Catalano #250
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Tatarka #003

Congratulations and Merry Christmas to all the winners! The January 2023 Monthly Drawing of the Frances Blake 300 Club will be held on Tuesday, January 24, 2023. All paid up members have 13 chances to win!

Remember to send in your payment.

Christmas Tree Lighting, Creche Blessing and Pageant



As we begin a new year, I wanted to take a moment to thank all those who made our Christmas celebrations meaningful. It was great to have so many people worshipping with us. There was a spirit of kindness and good will throughout the Masses which was wonderful.

I want to begin by thanking my brother priest, Fr. Peter, and my deacons, Deacon John and Deacon Charlie. They are always encouraging and helpful and it is very much appreciated.

A debt of gratitude to Jim Costello and Bob Lovejoy who along with the members of the K of C made sure we had a worship space in the gym. They do this every year and it's amazing how it just happens. A special thank you to the students from our Faith Formation Program who came and helped them with the set up. I also want to thank the CYO coaches, organized by our Head of Maintenance, Matt O'Brien, for taking down the chairs (on December 26th) and putting everything away so our young people were able to enjoy the gym last week.

Hopefully you noticed how beautiful the church looked. I am grateful for our decorating committee: Amelia Palamaro, Bob & Jill Lowe, Jim & Sue Carroll and their son, John, and Ann Engelhart. As always, Teresa from Voegler's Florist gave her time and energy (and flowers) to make sure our church was as festive as it could be.

The liturgies were special and meaningful thanks to all of those in our liturgical ministries. Our ushers welcomed all our guests with a smile. The lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, music ministry, altar servers and sacristans all enhanced the liturgies. Our choir was a wonderful addition to our liturgy. We were fortunate to have them with us once again. All too often we take these ministers for granted, but our liturgies would not be complete without them.

I also want to thank our counters. Each week they spend the morning (and sometimes longer) making sure all the envelopes are opened and all your generous donations are accounted for. They are a very dedicated group of men and women to whom I am very grateful.

All the efforts of our staff and ministers would not be complete without our parishioners and visitors. I hope you felt the spirit that is Sacred Heart. I am eternally grateful for your continued support of our parish. You give of your time, talent and prayers and I don't want you to think it is ever taken for granted. I truly appreciate all you do for our parish.

My wish for each of you is a new year filled with good health, happiness and peace.

Fr. Stephen





Our students wrapped up 2022 with some Christmas fun! The 3rd grade did some STEM Christmas activities that included the gingerbread man and designing a parachute for Santa. The entire school community got in their last minute shopping at our annual SEAS Christmas Boutique. We wish you and your families all the best in 2023!

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA!



SUNDAY CONNECTION—JANUARY 1, 2023

First Reading

Numbers 6:22-27

God gives a blessing for the Israelites.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 67:2-3,5,6,8

All the people sing praises to God.

Second Reading

Galatians 4:4-7

God sent his Son to make us children of God.

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:16-21

The shepherds find Jesus in a manger in Bethlehem.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's reading is a continuation from the Gospel proclaimed at the Christmas Mass at midnight. In it the shepherds act upon the message they receive from the angel and go to find Jesus in the manger in Bethlehem. In their visit to the manger, the shepherds find things just as the angel had said. The shepherds' visit, therefore, is a moment of fulfillment, manifestation, and the beginning of the salvation we receive through Christ.

In the context of today's Solemnity, this reading also helps us focus on Mary as the Mother of God. The reading tells us at least three things about Mary as a mother. First, Mary is described as a reflective person, keeping the reports of the shepherds in her heart. Second, we are reminded of how obedient Mary was to God when she named the baby *Jesus* as the angel Gabriel had directed. Third, this reading shows Mary and Joseph faithfully observing their Jewish tradition by having Jesus circumcised.

Mary's faithfulness to God is evident in all three of these things. Her reflection upon the events in her life indicates that she was a person of prayer. This prayer made possible her obedience to God and God's will, even if the outcome was not clear. Finally, her faithfulness to a community of faith grounded her relationship with God and enabled her to participate in God's plan of salvation.

Because of Mary's faithfulness to God, she was able to receive the gift of God's Son and accept her role in God's plan for salvation. By doing so, she models for us the path of discipleship and is also called Mother of the Church.

Our call to discipleship also includes these three aspects. First, discipleship means prayer and reflection on the events of our lives that we might see God's presence and work in our lives. Second, discipleship means obedience to God and God's will. Third, discipleship includes fidelity to a community of faith.

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