

*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*

Here is the
LAMB OF GOD
who takes away the sin
of the world!
John 1:29



January 15, 2023

Pastoral Staff

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

Parish Center**516-379-1356****Parish Center Hours:**

Mon.—Fri. 9am—12pm & 1pm -4pm

Parish Outreach

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

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

Faith Formation Coordinator Grades 1-5

Mrs. Cecilia Bradley cbradleyshrep@gmail.com

Website: Sacredheartnm.org**Music Director**

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

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.

January 8, 2023**Attendance:** 1232**Envelopes:** 445**Collection:** 17,679.00**Year to Date:** 1,124,203.00



Monday, January 16, 2023

9AM Jerry Catalano

Tuesday, January 17, 2023

9AM Marie Gentile

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

9AM Rosemarie & Ron DiGangi
(Living)

Thursday, January 19, 2023

9AM Carol Paladino

Friday, January 20, 2023

9AM Raymond Carleo

Saturday, January 21, 2023

5PM Marie Gadaleta
Vaccacio Family

Sunday, January 22, 2023

8AM Ann & Ed Hansen
10AM Parishioners of Sacred Heart
12PM Kay Eschmann
5PM Evelyn Donovan

In our thoughts and prayers.

<i>Taylor Agurto</i>	<i>Marco Ireland</i>
<i>Joanne Angelastro</i>	<i>Barbara Jenkins</i>
<i>Milan Baranek</i>	<i>Gail Kmitis</i>
<i>Edward Bennett</i>	<i>Brian Mohr</i>
<i>Mary Berberich</i>	<i>Jack McGreevy</i>
<i>Dylan Buckley</i>	<i>Katherine McGreevy</i>
<i>Carol Byer</i>	<i>John McMullin</i>
<i>Ed Beyer</i>	<i>Taylor Oshan</i>
<i>John Brennan</i>	<i>Jack Palamaro</i>
<i>Joanne Campbell</i>	<i>Peter Palamaro, Jr.</i>
<i>Baby Jack</i>	<i>Eileen Pio</i>
<i>Baby Kaylee</i>	<i>John Primavera</i>
<i>Joan Cavanagh</i>	<i>Flo Puff</i>
<i>Dolores Costello</i>	<i>Ginesia Reale</i>
<i>Evelio Del Campo</i>	<i>Tara C. Rebhan</i>
<i>Lisa DelCampo</i>	<i>Ann Rhoads</i>
<i>Anthony DeLuca</i>	<i>John Rocco</i>
<i>AJ DeLuca</i>	<i>Randall Sinz</i>
<i>John De Luca</i>	<i>Mary Sweeney</i>
<i>DiMatteo Family</i>	<i>Herb Staudter</i>
<i>Betty DiNicola</i>	<i>Theresa Vacchio</i>
<i>Eileen Dobrinkat</i>	<i>Nelson Villafior</i>
<i>Matthew Dwyer</i>	<i>Aidan Walden</i>
<i>Harold Flay</i>	<i>John Weber</i>
<i>Robert Galvin</i>	<i>Alyssa Zangari</i>
<i>Veronique Hall</i>	<i>Rosemarie Ziminski</i>
<i>Gloria Hannifin</i>	<i>Robert Ziminski</i>
<i>Pat Hesse</i>	
<i>Sr. Marie Vianney Gallagher</i>	

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.

In the Gospel after Jesus was baptized, John testified saying, "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove...and remain upon him."

As you make a donation to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, know that you are a sign of God's Spirit of love to those who are suffering.

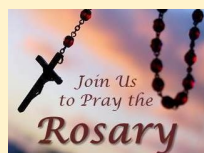
Thank you to all of our parishioners for their support in 2022.
Your generosity will help us help our neighbors in the New Year.

*"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*

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.



*Let us remember all our parishioners who have been called home to our Loving God.
We especially remember
Harold Flay
Sebastian Mazzola
Vito Mongelli*



Every weekday morning
at 8:30am

SACRED HEART CONTRIBUTION TAX LETTERS

Tax letters for the 2022 tax year will be prepared upon request only. Requests can be made by calling the Parish Center:
516-379-1356.

The letters will be sent out after February 7th.
Thank you for your cooperation.



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

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
Helen & Joseph Tartarka, Teresa & Joseph Sullivan
Jerry Catalano*



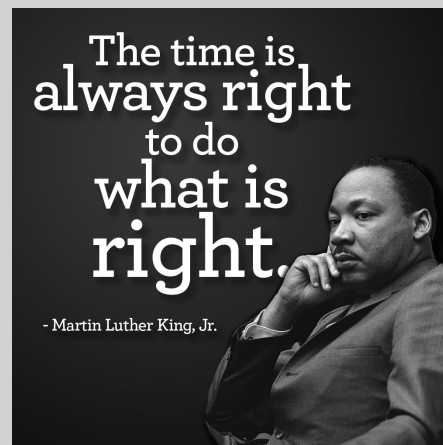
**The next Anointing of the Sick is
Friday, February 3, 2023**

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 Parish Center is closed on Monday,
January 16, 2023

PARISH OUTREACH

This morning my friend from Peanut Butter and Jelly approached me to hand me her "Walking Money". My friend Ethel walks a lot, she just loves to walk in all kinds of weather. Many times while she is out and about she will spot a coin or two and puts them in a special jar when she gets back home. Once a year she counts it all up and makes a donation to Outreach. This year she came up with \$24.68, rounded it up and handed me a \$25.00 donation. What a beautiful person she is! A random act of kindness can go a long way!

We are looking for a driver to deliver the peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to Freeport once a week. The sandwiches are made on Tuesdays and are usually done by 10 or 10:30. If anyone would like to take this on it would be very much appreciated!

This weeks' shopping list includes: snacks for kids, dish soap, detergent, butter, regular coffee, razors and anything else that you'd like to donate.



ALL VOLUNTEERS MUST HAVE A BACKGROUND CHECK AND VIRTUS. PLEASE USE THE INFORMATION BELOW TO CHECK TO MAKE SURE YOUR ACCOUNT IS ACTIVE.

Background Screening Update

The Office for the Protection of Children and Young People:

The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (The Charter) promulgated by the Bishops of the United States in 2002 outlines specific practices and guidelines providing standards of safety in parishes and dioceses throughout the United States. As directed in The Charter, the Diocese of Rockville Centre requires all employees, clergy, and volunteers to complete three requirements within thirty days of employment or volunteering:

1. Attend Protecting God's Children Program (Virtus)
2. Sign the Codes of Conduct;
3. Complete a background screen application. The Diocese requires all those who remain in active ministry be rescreened at 5 yr. intervals. volunteers/employees.

A Word on Background Screening of Volunteers:

The Office for the Protection of Children and Young People (OFPCYP) has streamlined the volunteer application process enabling volunteers to complete the three safe environment requirements in one step. Individuals wishing to volunteer in a parish or school:

1. Register to attend a Protecting God's Children class and create a Virtus account on the Virtus website: www.Virtus.org
2. Electronically acknowledge the Diocesan Code of Conduct- provided during the Virtus registration process.
3. Follow the instructions to complete the Sterling Volunteers background screening application background offered during the Virtus registration process.

Active Volunteers:

If you are active in a parish ministry, have already attended Virtus and have been background screened you may be at – or beyond- the *Syr. rescreening requirement*. If this is the case, you will receive an email from *Sterling Volunteers* asking you to complete the background screening application on-line. You may access the background screening application by following the prompt in the email or logging into your Virtus account. ***Please be aware-this is not a scam nor has your e-mail been hacked.*** The OFPCYP has been working with your parish to update the Safe Environment records and noted it is time for you to be rescreened. You may also be prompted to electronically resign the Code of Conduct when you log into your Virtus account.

Edit Your Virtus Account:

To access your Virtus account: www.Virtus.org You will need your Username and Password. If you need assistance, please contact Virtus: 1-888-847-8870 or helpdesk@virtus.org. Once in your account, review your account information-particularly your e-mail address. If your account requires updating, please hit the TOOLBOX tab at the top of the screen. On the left side of your screen in the green column click "Update My Account" You will be able to make the necessary changes-please remember to hit the SAVE button at the bottom of the screen.

Questions or concerns: mmcmahon@drvc.org; amendoza-cantos@drvc.org; jwinter@drvc.org; pditomasso@drvc.org

Thank you to all who continue to serve in a ministry during these extremely challenging days.



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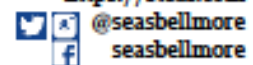
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is filled with new and innovative technologies and communications. We integrate clubs and extracurricular activities that enhance the curriculum and fulfill our mission. At SEAS we trust in our Faith, Family, and Academic Program. Our students are safe, happy and well educated. We prepare students for Catholic High School based on the principles of Respect, Responsibility and Reverence.



Scan QR code to schedule a personal tour during Open House on January 29th or at time that fits your family's schedule!



For more information visit us online:
<https://steas.com>





DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

January 16, 2023

Dear Friends in Christ:

Each year, our nation celebrates National Religious Freedom Day on January 16th. In 1992, Congress authorized the President to request to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to join together to celebrate their religious freedom and to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. Since 1993, each President of the United States has proclaimed January 16th to be National Religious Freedom Day.

January 16th has been designated National Religious Freedom Day because it marks the anniversary of the passage of Thomas Jefferson's *Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom* by the Virginia General Assembly on January 16, 1786. This statute was a precursor to the First Amendment of the United States Constitution which, as we know, enshrines the freedom of religion as a right which is guaranteed by the Bill of Rights. In his statute, Jefferson states that "all men shall be free to profess ... their opinion in matters of religion, and that the same shall in no wise diminish, enlarge, or affect their civil capacities."¹ He concludes that any attempt to repeal or limit this statute "would be an infringement of natural right."²

Dignitatis humanae, the Second Vatican Council's 1965 Declaration on Religious Liberty, echoes Jefferson's sentiments and states that "the right to religious freedom has its foundation not in the subjective attitude of the individual but in his very nature."³ Elsewhere, the Declaration notes that "it is wrong for a public authority to compel its citizens by force or fear or any other means to profess or repudiate any religion."⁴ The similarity between the sentiments of Jefferson and *Dignitatis humanae* should not surprise us when we realize that American bishops and churchmen, including Father John Courtney Murray, were instrumental in incorporating the American experience of church-state relations into the declaration on religious liberty.⁵

Despite the time-honored assertion of religious freedom as a right guaranteed to all Americans, we have seen in recent years numerous attempts to curb or narrow the scope of religious liberty and freedom of conscience. The current Federal Administration's advocacy of a so-called "Super Rule," which is now awaiting final promulgation, threatens to egregiously and unjustly force Catholic medical institutions to be involved in procedures which are contrary to Church teaching and natural law. These would include abortion, sterilizations, in vitro fertilization, and transgender

¹ W.W. Hening, ed., *Statutes at Large of Virginia*, vol. 12 (1823): 84-86.

² *Ibid.*

³ Second Vatican Council, *Dignitatis humanae*, December 7, 1965: AAS 58 (1966) 929-946, 2.

⁴ *Ibid.*, 6.

⁵ See Robert T. Kennedy, "The Declaration on Religious Liberty Thirty Years Later: Challenges to the Church-State Relationship in the United States," *The Jurist* 55 (1995) 487.

surgeries, even on minors. As diocesan bishop, it is my obligation to uphold and protect Catholic moral teaching, and our Catholic institutions will not participate in anything that forces healthcare workers to violate their consciences or the dignity of the human person.

The recent passage of the Respect for Marriage Act marks another threat to religious liberty. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has rightly called the Act “misnamed.”⁶ A statement released by the USCCB, notes that the Act’s “rejection of timeless truths about marriage is evident on its face and in its purpose.”⁷ As the largest non-governmental provider of social services in the United States, the Church has a vested interest in ensuring the protection of religious liberty. The supposed protections for religious liberty in the Act are insufficient, and the USCCB statement concludes that if it is passed, “the amended Act will put the ministries of the Catholic Church, people of faith, and other Americans who uphold a traditional meaning of marriage at greater risk of government discrimination.”⁸

This year, January 16 also marks the date when our country honors the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. King once stated that “the church must be reminded once again that it is not to be the master or the servant of the state, but the conscience of the state. It must be the guide and the critic of the state – never its tool.”⁹ As we celebrate National Religious Freedom Day this January 16th, let us pray for the preservation and protection of this God-given right:

Bless us, O heavenly Father,
in our vigilance for the gift of religious liberty.
Give us the strength of mind and heart
to readily defend our freedoms when they are threatened;
give us courage in making our voices heard
on behalf of the rights of your Church
and the freedom of conscience of all people of faith.
Amen.¹⁰

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Rockville Centre

⁶ Timothy Cardinal Dolan and Bishop Robert Barron to Senators and Representatives, November 23, 2022. United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington D.C.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., “A Knock at Midnight” (sermon, Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Cincinnati, OH, June 11, 1967).

¹⁰ See “Prayer for the Protection of Religious Liberty,” United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (2012), Washington D.C.

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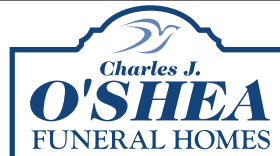
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