

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. Nasir Gulfam, Associate Pastor  
 Deacon Charles Kammerer  
 Deacon John Heverin

**Coordinator of Parish Social Ministry**

Mrs. Ann Heverin  
 Outreach Office: 516-379-6123  
 Monday—Thursday 10am-1:00pm  
 parishoutreach@sacredheartnm.org

**Faith Formation Coordinator Grades 3-6**

Mrs. Cecilia Bradley cbradleyshrep@gmail.com

**Pastoral Associate/Faith Formation Coordinator Grades 2, 7 & 8**

Miss Carol Tannehill ctannehillshc@gmail.com

**Director of Liturgical Music**

Mrs. Jeanne Nunez

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

Mon.—Fri. 9am—12pm & 1pm—4pm  
 (June/July/ August: Friday 9am—12pm)

Mrs. Mary Katz—Finance Administrator  
 Mrs. Ingrid Samperi—Administrative Assistant  
 Mrs. Janet Muller—Parish Receptionist (Tues/Thurs)  
 Mr. Matt O'Brien—Maintenance Director  
 St. Vincent de Paul Society: 516-379-1376  
 SVDP@sacredheartnm.org

**Parish Website:**  
**Sacredheartnm.org**

**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. First time parents need to attend a baptism class. They are held on the last Monday of each month in the Parish Center 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.



**Eucharistic Adoration** Wednesday, 12pm-4pm

**Monday, December 23, 2024**

9AM Marjorie Cardinale

**Tuesday, December 24, 2024**

9AM John & Anna McManus, Jr.  
 4PM(church) Santo, Ida & Julie Luberto  
 4PM (gym) Jennifer Civitanova  
 10PM Gail Kmitis

**Wednesday, December 25, 2024****The Nativity of the Lord**

8AM Marguerite Bosco  
 10AM Rev. Msgr. Francis Gaeta  
 12PM (church) James Vaccacio  
 12PM (gym) Momo Tjoa

**Thursday, December 26, 2024**

9AM James Friel

**Friday, December 27, 2024**

9AM Jaclyn Ramirez

**Saturday, December 28, 2024**

5PM Catherine Melley  
 Josephine Richter  
 Edward A. Irving

**Sunday, December 29, 2024**

8AM Parishioners of Sacred Heart  
 10AM Ginesia Reale  
 12PM Kevin Murphy  
 5PM James Kostulas

*In our thoughts and prayers.*

<i>Taylor Agurto</i>	<i>William Maroney</i>
<i>Joanne Angelastro</i>	<i>Barry McCoy</i>
<i>Milan Baranek</i>	<i>Murray Family</i>
<i>Joanna Battaglia</i>	<i>Violeta Quiskamp</i>
<i>Mary Berberich</i>	<i>Jack Palamaro</i>
<i>John Brennan</i>	<i>Peter Palamaro, Jr.</i>
<i>Richard Bustamante</i>	<i>Eileen Pio</i>
<i>Elizabeth Campbell</i>	<i>Ann Polhemus</i>
<i>Joan Cavanagh</i>	<i>Carl &amp; Joanna Pope</i>
<i>Matthew Cavanaugh</i>	<i>Flo Puff</i>
<i>Gloria Chirico</i>	<i>Tara Rebhan</i>
<i>Baby Jack</i>	<i>Ann Rhoads</i>
<i>Baby Kaylee</i>	<i>Vincenza Rini</i>
<i>Marjorie Cirello</i>	<i>Mr &amp; Mrs. Romano</i>
<i>Cristiano Claros</i>	<i>Michael Ryan</i>
<i>Julio Curra</i>	<i>Virginia Sandas</i>
<i>Lisa DelCampo</i>	<i>Benny Sarnelli</i>
<i>Eddie DelCampo</i>	<i>Elizabeth Sheehan Bourke</i>
<i>Yolanda DeLustro</i>	<i>Randall Sinz</i>
<i>Matthew Dwyer</i>	<i>Jacqueline Sinz</i>
<i>Bill Fife</i>	<i>Robert Stanco</i>
<i>Gerardo Franzese</i>	<i>Mary Sweeney</i>
<i>Robert Galvin</i>	<i>Herb Staudter</i>
<i>Frank Guertin</i>	<i>Clark Sun</i>
<i>Veronique Hall</i>	<i>Christopher Vaccacio</i>
<i>Gloria Hannifin</i>	<i>Nelson Villafflor</i>
<i>Carl Hetzel</i>	<i>Aidan Walden</i>
<i>Alex Hubiera</i>	<i>Lynn Ward</i>
<i>Josephine Ingardi</i>	<i>Christine Weigand</i>
<i>Barbara Jenkins</i>	<i>John Witzbocker</i>
<i>Robert Ziminski</i>	<i>Rosemarie Ziminski</i>
<i>Sr. Marie Vianney Gallagher</i>	<i>Robert Ziminski</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

## Ministry of Praise Pope's Prayer Intention for December

### For pilgrims of hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.



Let us remember all our parishioners who have been called home to our Loving God.

## Sacred Heart Purgatorial Society

Marianne Collins, Patricia A. Bove, Caroline & Francis Cacossa, Margaret E. Riordan, Joan Fisk, Everett Corum, Jr., James J. Stasi, Maureen & Robert Murphy, 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, Andy Marincsak Cecelia & Albert Bardwil, Virginia Marquardt, Michael & Philomena, Peruggia Ronald Gandini, Edward J. Lunden, Elizabeth & John Chambers, Frank, Eleanor & Jimmy Gill, Jerry Catalano, Ida Guadagno, Catherine Darienzo Clare & Walter Shorak, Sr. Adeline Haig, Ginesia Reale, John D. Maxworthy, Patricia Grecco, Larry Gray, Jim Artura, Jim Vaccacio, Anne Rogan, Rev. Joseph D'Angelo Rosemarie Pergolizzi, Antonio Rosselli



*The Bread & Wine for the week  
of December 22, 2024*

*Have been donated by  
Cardinale Family  
in memory of  
Marjorie Cardinale*

**Anointing of the Sick**  
Friday, January 3, 2025

**First Saturday Mass**  
9am, January 4, 2025

Rosary at 8:30am

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**  
**New Members Welcome**  
Learn to crochet or knit.

Come join us on the last  
Wednesday of the month at 2pm  
in the Parish Center  
1/29, 2/26, 3/26, 4/30, 5/28, 6/25



## PARISHIONERS IN THE ARMED FORCES

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

Captain Dennis Tariche, US Army, Germany  
 Lt. Jack Tariche USMC, Okinawa  
 Sgt. 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.  
 Lt. Colonel 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  
 Lt. Michael Napolitano U.S. Navy  
 John Devoti Lt. Col. U.S.M.C.  
 2nd Lieutenant Jordan Paladino- US Army  
 L CPL Frank DeTrano, U.S.M.C.

### 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.*



### Christmas Mass Schedule

#### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday, December 21st: 5pm  
 Blessing of Creche after Mass

Sunday, December 22nd:  
 8am, 10am, 12pm & 5pm

#### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

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

Wednesday, December 25th:  
 8am (church), 10am (church)  
 12pm (church), 12pm (gym)  
 There is no 5pm Mass on  
 Christmas Day

#### NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 31st:  
 5pm

Wednesday, January 1st:  
 9am and 12pm  
 There is no evening Mass on  
 New Year's Day

The Parish Office is closed  
 12/24, 12/25, 12/26 & 12/27  
 and will reopen  
 Monday, December 30th

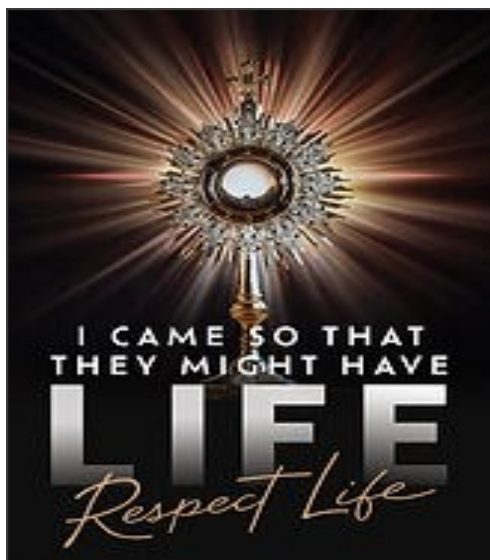


As the Universal Church looks toward the Jubilee Year 2025 (the 2,025th anniversary of the Incarnation of our Lord), the USCCB is thrilled to support the Holy Father in this **"event of great spiritual, ecclesial, and social significance in the life of the Church."**

Pope Francis stated in his February 2022 letter announcing the Jubilee 2025: "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire..."

The Jubilee Year will offer the faithful opportunities to participate in various jubilee events at the Vatican and in their own dioceses. The great tradition of opening the Holy Door will begin when Pope Francis opens the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica on December 24, 2024. Other holy doors will be opened at the Rome basilicas of St. John Lateran, St. Mary Major and St. Paul Outside the Walls. For pilgrims who cannot travel to Rome, bishops around the world are expected to designate their cathedrals or a popular Catholic shrine as special places of prayer for Holy Year pilgrims, offering opportunities for reconciliation, indulgences and other events intended to strengthen and revive faith.

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**Holy Hour for Life**  
**Tuesday,**  
**December 17, 2024**  
**7pm in the church**



## Christmas Flower Memorials

Toby Daly	Antonio & Lena Daddino
Lee Daly	Vinnie Caldarro
Jean Eriksen	Vera Dempsey
Kenneth Eriksen	Ethlyn Wright
John Mazza	Luther Wright
Mariah Porlow	Jerome Herzog
Anne Donohue	Mildred & George Bloom
Thomas Donohue	Frank D. Saviano
Alda McGovern	Teresa Celona
Ronald Seggio	Harry Nicholaou
Joe Seggio	Frank Sarrentino
Anna Seggio	Sarrantino Family
Ronald Reinhardt	Galeotafiore Family
John Sherman	Edward M. Irving
Richard T. Brazenor	Florence & Joseph Costello
Joseph & Anna Pizzicara	Edward A. Irving & Helen Irving
Robert & Irene Brazenor	Dolores Costello
Jonoathan Chawla	Claire Piccirillo
Rocco Marone	Dolores Novello
Esther Marone	Turnbull Family
Joseph Savino	Dec. Members of Brostek Family
Salvatore Savino	Dec. Members of Stipkowski Family
Betty Ann White	O'Brien Family
Nancy Savino	Rossi Family
Ann Moretti	John H. Stender
Fanny Longo	Thomas L. Clark
Nathan Bilella	Corinne J. Clark
Rose Bilella	Violet & John Wagke
Kevin Murphy	Grube Family
Pat & Jim Richardson	Ralph Giglio
Adel & Luigi DeSantis	William & Louise Rottkamp
Carmela & Vito Scarola	Marion Napolitano
Carmela & Anthony DeSantis	Lester H. Smith
Diane & Isaie DeSantis	Susan & Ronald Anderson
Theresa & Edward Cullum	Danny & Margaret McGrory
Joseph Edward Cullum, Jr.	Terry McGrory
Susab Martha Overton	Patrick Garland
Alfred Joseph Anderson	Christina Mcgrory
	Vincent Manzo



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

## Christmas 2024

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

**Merry Christmas to you and your families!**

Last Christmas, we celebrated the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that glorious and historic night when St. Francis of Assisi arranged the first Nativity creche scene in a small cave outside the Italian village of Greccio in Italy.

St. Francis was inspired to do this after visiting the historical place of Christ's birth on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land – the humble stable in a Bethlehem cave.

The large creche set in St. Peter's Square last year commemorated this 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary by having the figure of St. Francis of Assisi expressing adoration, awe and wonder across the Crib from Mary and Joseph.

Last September, we celebrated the 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Francis receiving the gift of the "stigmata" – the mystical wounds of Christ in his hands, feet and side. In 2026, we will celebrate the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Francis' death.

There is always a powerful connection between the Manger Crib and the Golgotha Cross of our Savior. St. Francis of Assisi lived this connection so powerfully.

In *Admirabile Signum*, Pope Francis writes: "Indeed, the place where this first nativity scene was enacted expresses and evokes these sentiments...from the time of its Franciscan origins, the nativity scene has invited us to 'feel' and 'touch' the poverty that God's Son took upon himself in the Incarnation. Implicitly, it summons us to follow him along the path of humility, poverty and self-denial that leads from the manger of Bethlehem to the Cross. It asks us to meet him and serve him by showing mercy to those of our brothers and sisters in great need (cf. Matthew 25:31-46)." (3)

As we spiritually draw near to Bethlehem at the end of this year, we pray for those who suffer in the Holy Land and the Middle East, in Ukraine and all war-torn areas of the world.

We pray too for the persecuted Church around the world and we pray for religious liberty in our country and in all countries.

**St. Francis of Assisi understood the problems of the world and more than 800 years later, after he created the first creche, he is still close to the Church and to the world.**

**Many of you have seen the bronze statue of Atlas directly across from St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City.**

**It was created by the sculptor Lee Lawrie and installed in 1937. The sculpture portrays the mythical ancient Greek Titan Atlas holding the burden of the heavens on his shoulder.**

**St. Francis of Assisi is no myth, but at times he has been compared with Atlas in how, through the centuries, he carried the burdens of the Church on his shoulders with his radical and pure Gospel witness.**

**In fact, Pope Innocent III, after meeting St. Francis, had a dream that St. Francis was holding up St. John Lateran Basilica, the visible sign and symbol of the universal Church, amidst the storms and earthquakes of history and crisis.**

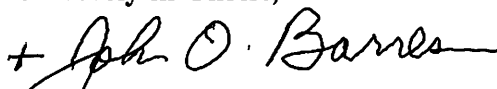
**Configured to Christ crucified and having lived daily with the stigmatic wounds of Christ, St. Francis helps to animate and inspire the mission of mercy of the Catholic Church through the centuries.**

**St. Francis of Assisi intercedes for each of us at every moment to help rebuild the Biblical and Eucharistic evangelizing mission of the Church that Jesus Himself founded on Long Island and beyond.**

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your families!**

**May the Light and Love of the Christ Child animate and guide our global Catholic Missionary Spirit this Christmas and throughout the New Year.**

**Sincerely in Christ,**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John O. Barres". The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning.

**Most Reverend John O. Barres  
Bishop of Rockville Centre**



# THE CHURCH

## Organizations & Ministries

<b>Ministry</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
Altar Linens	Ingrid Samperi	frontdesk@sacredheartnm.org
Altar Servers		Parish Center: 516-379-1356
Baptism Preparation	Deacon Charlie	deaconcharles@sacredheartnm.org
	Deacon John	deaconjohn@sacredheartnm.org
Bereavement	Shirley Douglas	shirdoug530@yahoo.com
Bible Camp	Joanne Clarke	jojolf24@yahoo.com
Catholic Daughters	Marie Reale	marg12453@gmail.com
CYO	Ray Murphy	rm1693@aol.com
Eucharistic Ministers	Liz Saviano	elizcsav@gmail.com
Faith Formation	Cecilia Bradley (Grades 1,3-6)	cbradleyshrep@gmail.com
	Carol Tannehill (Grades 2, 7 & 8)	ctannehillshc@gmail.com
Knights of Columbus	Skip Luberto	Sharpens1@optonline.net
Ladies Auxiliary	Barbara Massaro	(516) 826-6577
Lectors	Alison Casey	queenali67@aol.com
Liturgical Environment	Anne Engelhart	annkengelhart@gmail.com
Men's Group	Deacon Charlie	deaconcharles@sacredheartnm.org
Ministry of Consolation	Shirley Douglas	shirdoug530@yahoo.com
Music Ministry	Jeanne Nunez	
OCIA	Shirley Douglas	shirdoug530@yahoo.com
	Ginny Daly	gdaly11@gmail.com
Outreach	Ann Heverin	parishoutreach@sacredheartnm.org
Over 50 Club	Mary DeSantis	(516) 378-1335
PB&J Group	Diedre Soehner	parishoutreach@sacredheartnm.org
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Marie Gandini	gandinime@gmail.com
Pre-Cana	Deacon John	deaconjohn@sacredheartnm.org
Rosary Society	Joanne Bivona	Parish Center: 516-379-1356
Scripture Study	Shirley Douglas	shirdoug530@yahoo.com
St. Vincent de Paul	Francine Fennessey	svdp@sacredheartnm.org
Ushers	Jim Costello	cosjam@gmail.com

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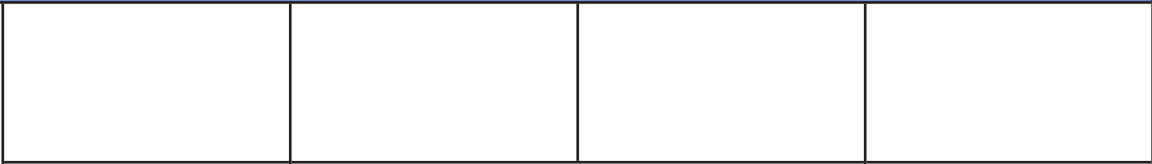
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