

*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*

*Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time—February 23, 2025*

**LOVE**

*YOUR ENEMIES*

**DO GOOD**

*TO THOSE WHO HATE YOU*

**BLESS**

*THOSE WHO CURSE YOU*

**PRAY**

*FOR THOSE WHO MISTREAT YOU*

**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**

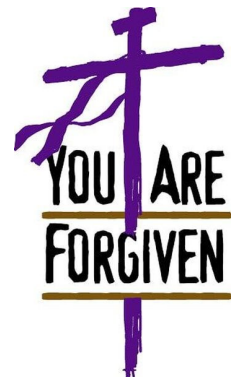
Please contact the Parish Center ***at least one year in advance*** of the intended date of the wedding. A priest or deacon of the parish will interview you, set the wedding date and help you register for the required marriage preparation program. Marriage Preparation is held in the parish three times 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, February 24, 2025**

9AM Pietra Barretta

**Tuesday, February 25, 2025**

9AM Robert Wendelken

**Wednesday, February 26, 2025**

9AM Mary Jane Palma

**Thursday, February 27, 2025**

9AM Mary Logan

**Friday, February 28, 2025**

9AM Michael Capozzo

**Saturday, March 1, 2025**9AM Giuseppe Barretta  
5PM Pamela Anne Gallogly  
Judith Rawdon**Sunday, March 2, 2025**8AM Parishioners of Sacred Heart  
10AM Eileen Ward  
12PM Eileen Ward  
5PM John Molloy*In our thoughts and prayers.*

<i>Taylor Agurto</i>	<i>Violeta Quiskamp</i>
<i>Joanne Angelastro</i>	<i>Jack Palamaro</i>
<i>Milan Baranek</i>	<i>Peter Palamaro, Jr.</i>
<i>Joanna Battaglia</i>	<i>Eileen Pio</i>
<i>Mary Berberich</i>	<i>Carl &amp; Joanna Pope</i>
<i>John Brennan</i>	<i>Flo Puff</i>
<i>Richard Bustamante</i>	<i>Ann Rhoads</i>
<i>Elizabeth Campbell</i>	<i>Vincenza Rini</i>
<i>Joan Cavanagh</i>	<i>Tess Rivera</i>
<i>Matthew Cavanaugh</i>	<i>Mr &amp; Mrs. Romano</i>
<i>Gloria Chirico</i>	<i>Michael Ryan</i>
<i>Roland Costen</i>	<i>Benny Sarnelli</i>
<i>Baby Kaylee</i>	<i>Elizabeth Sheehan Bourke</i>
<i>Lisa DelCampo</i>	<i>Julian Sherman</i>
<i>Eddie DelCampo</i>	<i>Randall Sinz</i>
<i>Yolanda DeLustro</i>	<i>Madeline Soregaroli</i>
<i>Melvin Douglas</i>	<i>Mary Sweeney</i>
<i>Matthew Dwyer</i>	<i>Clark Sun</i>
<i>Bill Fife</i>	<i>Robbie Urban</i>
<i>Gerardo Franzese</i>	<i>Christopher Vaccacio</i>
<i>Veronique Hall</i>	<i>Anthony Villarreal</i>
<i>Gloria Hannifin</i>	<i>Mariah Villarreal</i>
<i>Carl Hetzel</i>	<i>Nelson Villafflor</i>
<i>Alex Hubiera</i>	<i>Aidan Walden</i>
<i>Robert Ziminski</i>	<i>Lynn Ward</i>
<i>William Maroney</i>	<i>Christine Weigand</i>
<i>Richard McCoy</i>	<i>John Witzbocker</i>
<i>Murray Family</i>	<i>Rosemarie Ziminski</i>
<i>Violeta Quiskamp</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 to extend the prayers for the following month.

### Pope's Prayer Intention February

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

### 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, Jennie & Christopher Maniscalco, 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, Ann & Steve Petroglia, Frank, Eleanor & Jimmy Gill, Jerry Catalano, Sr. Marie Vianney Gallagher, 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, Joe & Charlotte Francomano, Thomas Gallagher, Emma Gallagher, Mary Jane Palma



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

Mary Jane Palma  
Kevin C. Kelly  
Catherine Smithok  
Maryann De Angelis  
Janice Nardo  
Herb Staudter  
Louis Simonetti



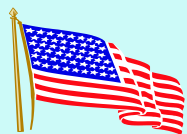
**Anointing of the Sick**  
Friday, March 7, 2025

**First Saturday Mass**  
9am, March 1, 2025  
Rosary at 8:30am

### WEEKLY COLLECTION INFORMATION February 16, 2025

Attendance	906
Envelopes	343
Collection	\$12,832.00
Online Giving	\$1025.43
YTD	\$ 457,594.80

Thank you for your support  
of our parish!



## 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.*



***Ready, Set, Go ...***

***to Sacred Heart CYO Track  
Registration!***

***Open to all Girls in Kindergarten  
through Grade 8***

***& Boys in Grades 1 through 8***

Registration is \$150 with a full uniform (shorts, shirt & sweatshirt) or \$100 if no uniform is needed. Practices begin in April and are held Thursday evenings at Calhoun High School.

Grades K – 3 practice from 6:00 – 6:45 p.m.  
and grades 4 – 8 from 6:45 – 7:30 p.m.

Track meets are in May and June (some on Saturdays and some on Sundays).

Girls' Track Coaches: Susan Carroll  
(516)223-3651 & Rich Spencer

Boys' Track Coaches: Joe Lynch,  
Grades 4 - 8- (917) 344-9224

& Laura Battiloro,  
Grades 1 - 3 – (516)668-6067

Please follow the link for online registration.

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Form/748c5452-8a6b-48e9-8485-e667e479dcc6](https://www.wesharegiving.org/App/Form/748c5452-8a6b-48e9-8485-e667e479dcc6)





Additional volunteers are needed to help make sandwiches on Tuesday mornings at 9:30am in the school cafeteria.  
 Jelly & Peanut butter donations gratefully excepted.

**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 2/26, 3/26, 4/30, 5/28, 6/25

Dear Parishioners,

The Pantry is keeping busy. We are looking for some volunteers, especially on Wednesday. Our hours are from 10:00 to 1:00. If you would be interested, please give us a call.

The Bereavement ministry is looking for people who can accompany a family during the wake and funeral process, as well as people that would like to help chair a weekly meeting for the bereaved. Training will be provided. There has been an increased demand for Eucharistic Ministers to the homebound. Please consider volunteering to bring communion to those who cannot travel to Mass. Training will be in April. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

The needs of the pantry are:

- |                   |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Tuna fish         | Canned chicken    | Cookies           |
| Toilet paper      | Paper towels      | Cleaning products |
| Pancake mix       | Syrup             | Butter            |
| Children's cereal | Yogurt            | Peanut butter     |
| Children's snacks | Laundry detergent | Marinara sauce    |
| Rice              | Snacks            | Jelly             |
| Juice boxes       |                   |                   |



**Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**



February 23: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary time  
 In today's Gospel Jesus gives us the challenge to: "Love your enemies... Give to everyone who asks of you... Do to others as you would have them do to you... Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

If you or someone you know needs assistance, please call 516-379-1376 or email us at [SVDP@sacredheartnm.org](mailto:SVDP@sacredheartnm.org).



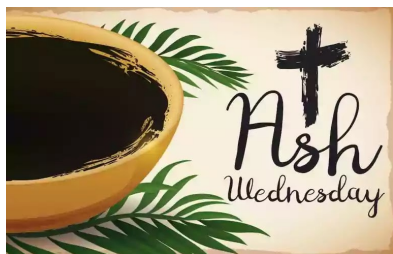
We are all familiar with the practice of receiving ashes on Ash Wednesday, which this year is **March 5th**. The ashes are a sign of the public penance to which we are all called during the Lenten season.

As we promise to repent and believe in the Gospel, the ashes are a sign of our commitment to the journey of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, a journey which ends with the new life of baptism and baptismal renewal during Easter Time. Penitential acts are undertaken as a community, as together we journey to the cross and resurrection.

The ashes used on Ash Wednesday are the ashes from palms saved from Palm Sunday the previous year, which have been burned.

We ask you to bring old palms from your home and deposit them in the baskets which will be available in the church next weekend. These palms will then be burned and used as ashes on Ash Wednesday.

+++++



Wednesday, March 5, 2025

Ashes will be distributed at the following Masses & Services:

**9am Mass, 12pm Mass**

**4pm Word Service , 7:00pm Mass**

There are no Faith Formation classes on Ash Wednesday. Students should go to church with an adult for ashes at their scheduled class time.

# ASH WEDNESDAY

## LENT BEGINS

### WHAT IS LENT?

The 40-day period from Ash Wednesday and before Easter Sunday. It is marked by praying, fasting, abstinence, and other acts of penance.

PRAYING (🙏) FASTING (🍴) ABSTINENCE (🐷)



### WHAT IS FASTING?



One meal a day, and two smaller meals which if added together would not exceed one full meal

### WHAT IS ABSTINENCE?



Abstinence is refraining from eating meat. Meat is considered to be the flesh and organs of mammals and fowl.

### DAYS OF FAST?

- Ash Wednesday
- Good Friday

### DAYS OF ABSTINENCE?

- Ash Wednesday
- All Fridays of Lent
- Good Friday

### WHO ARE REQUIRED?

Catholics from age < 18 to 59 >



The sick are excused from fasting

### WHO ARE REQUIRED?

Mandatory for everyone

older than **14** years old

Source: Code of Canon Law

## SUNDAY CONNECTION—LOYOLA PRESS

### Gospel Reading

*Luke 6:27-38*

Jesus teaches his disciples to be merciful as God is merciful.

### Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's gospel reading is a continuation of the teaching that began in last Sunday's gospel. We continue to hear Jesus' Sermon on the Plain. Recall that in Luke's Gospel, this teaching is addressed to Jesus' disciples. This is in contrast to the parallel found in Matthew's Gospel, the Sermon on the Mount, in which Jesus' words are addressed to both the disciples and to the crowds.

These words from Jesus' teaching are familiar to us. They constitute the crux and the challenge of what it means to be a disciple: Love your enemies, turn the other cheek, give to those who ask, do unto others, lend without expecting repayment, judge not lest you be judged.

There are several similarities between Luke's and Matthew's report of Jesus' great teaching. Both begin with the Beatitudes. Matthew includes nearly all the content that Luke does; the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's Gospel is longer than Luke's Sermon on the Plain. There are, however, differences in language and nuance. For example, Matthew presents this portion of the teaching as a contrast between Jesus' teaching and the teachings of the law and the prophets. This is in keeping with Matthew's concern to address his predominantly Jewish audience. It is likely that Luke omits this contrast because it was unnecessary for the Gentile believers for whom Luke is writing.

Another point of contrast between Matthew and Luke's presentation is the terminology. In Luke, Jesus contrasts the behavior of his followers with the behavior of "sinners." In Matthew, Jesus contrasts the behavior desired with the behavior of tax collectors and Gentiles. Matthew concludes the teaching about love of enemies with the admonition to be perfect as God is perfect; Luke concludes by emphasizing God's mercy.

In both Gospels, Jesus' words challenge those who would follow him to be more like God. God loves us beyond our expectations, beyond anything we can possibly imagine. In response to God's love, we are to love as God loves, beyond expectations and with a depth beyond imagining.



# 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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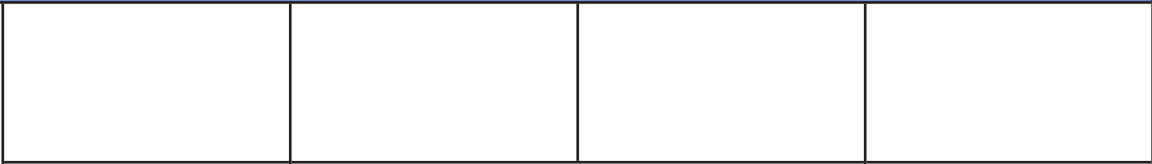
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