

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Pastoral Staff
Rev. Stephen Brigandi, Pastor
Rev. Joseph Scolaro, Weekend Assistant

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

Pastoral Associate
Faith Formation Coordinator

Miss Carol Tannehill ctannehillshc@gmail.com

Director of Liturgical Music

Mrs. Jeanne Nunez musiccoordinator@sacredheartnm.org

Parish Center 516-379-1356

Parish Center Hours:

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

Mrs. Mary Katz—Parish Business Manager
 Mrs. Janet Muller—Parish Receptionist
 Mr. Matthew 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 1, 2025**

9AM Beverlie Benevento

Tuesday, December 2, 2025

9AM Maria Proce

Wednesday, December 3, 2025

9AM Jacki Logan

Thursday, December 4, 2025

9AM Parishioners of Sacred Heart

Friday, December 5, 2025

9AM Purgatorial Society

Saturday, December 6, 2025

9AM Raymond J. Carleo, Jr.
5PM Rose & John Hasselberger
 Christopher T. Holmes
 Juan Bonifacio E. Marino
 Nicholas Bianco

Sunday, December 7, 2025

8AM Zelda Foster
10AM Santo, Ida & Julie Luberto
12PM Parishioners of Sacred Heart
5PM Robert Francis Dunn
 Harold McMillan

In our thoughts and prayers.

Brenda Andujar	William Maroney
Taylor Agurto	Ginger Marzano
Milan Baranek	Murray Family
Kerri Bennett	Jack Palamaro
Rich Best	Peter Palamaro, Jr.
Rafael Bosch	Eileen Pio
Victoria Bosch	Carl & Joanna Pope
Joanne Brazenor	Tara C. Rebhan
John Brennan	Vincenza Rini
Richard Bustamante	Tess Rivera
Elizabeth Campbell	Michael Ryan
Stan Cadet	Ann Sarantino
Matthew Cavanagh	Benny Sarnelli
Joan Cavanagh	Elizabeth Sheehan Bourke
Gloria Chirico	Julian Sherman
Carmine Colasanto	Randall Sinz
Baby Kaylee	Madeline Soregaroli
Lisa DelCampo	Mary Sweeney
Eddie DelCampo	MaryJane Steinberg
Yolanda DeLustro	Paul Stern
Melvin Douglas	Cathy Turbek
Matthew Dwyer	Robbie Urban
Helen Dresner	Christopher Vaccacio
Derrick Edwin	Anthony Villarreal
Gloria Hannifin	Mariah Villarreal
Carl Hetzel	Aidan Walden
Alex Hubiera	Kenneth White
Phyllis Hughes	Christine Weigand
Phil Lattanzio	John Witzencoeker
Justin Maciorowski	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, please call 516-379-1376 or email SVDP@sacredheartnm.org

First Sunday of Advent

There is an Advent spirit in the heart of every human person. It is one of longing, of yearning for a fulfillment that somehow lies beyond ourselves; for we long for the coming of the Lord.

As you put your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box, your heart will discover the true meaning of Christmas as you help those who are suffering and poor to long for the coming of the Lord.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Christmas Card Raffle

Support our regional school by purchasing a Christmas card raffle for \$10. Each card equals 31 opportunities to win cash up to \$2,500. Great stocking stuffers.

Contact main office of school at 516-785-5709 to purchase through December 23rd.



Our PB&J group is seeking new members. sandwiches are made Tuesday mornings after the 9am Mass. Donations of peanut butter, jelly and bread is always appreciated.



Let us remember all our parishioners who have been called home to our loving God. We especially remember Steve Melley Carmela LaRocca



Anointing of the Sick
Friday, December 5, 2025

First Saturday Mass
9am, December 6, 2025
Rosary at 8:30am



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesdays from 12pm-4pm



BULLETIN DEADLINES

Unless noted below, the deadline is 12pm Monday.

- 12/21: Wednesday: 12/10 12pm
- 12/28: Thursday: 12/18 12pm
- 1/4/26: 12/22/25 @ 12pm



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. 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.*

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, 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, Richard 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, Sal Napolitano, Joe & Charlotte Francomano, Thomas Gallagher, Emma Gallagher, Mary Jane Palma, Brian Anthony Tavoulaareas, Anna Carotenuto,, Lucy DeRose, Sheila Hackett Alma Boursiquot, Joan Kennedy, Edward Kennedy, Marie Faust*

Pope's Prayer Intention: December

For Christians in areas of conflict
Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.



The word “Advent” comes from the Latin word “*adventus*,” which means “*a coming, approach, arrival*.” When we expect guests to arrive at our homes, we turn the lights on; we anticipate their arrival and welcome them with joy. In Advent, we prepare our homes and churches as we joyfully anticipate His arrival, and the light also gets brighter as we near Christmas day, the day on which the *Light of the World* was born. St. Gregory of Nyssa wrote,

“Today, the darkness begins to grow shorter and the light to lengthen, as the hours of light become fewer. [...] Do you see that the beams of light are more intense and the sun higher than it has been? Realize that the true light is now here and, through the rays of the Gospel, is illuminating the whole earth.”

The circular shape of the Advent wreath symbolizes God’s infinite love for us – it is never-ending, just like the true Light of the World, Jesus, who leads us into eternal life with Him. The materials of the Advent wreath similarly lead us to reflect on the everlasting nature of God; traditionally, Advent wreaths have been made of evergreen leaves, such as pine or fir, which maintain their green color beyond the season in which they are collected. Nowadays, there are many modern interpretations of Advent wreaths that still help us celebrate the traditional meaning of the wreath: preparing the way for the Light of the World, Jesus.

“Once in our world, a stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world.” – C.S. Lewis

It is only fitting that the first candle on the Advent wreath represents **Hope** – the first Sunday of Advent not only leads us to anticipate the birth of Christ but celebrate the beginning of a new liturgical season as well. The first candle is **purple**, the primary color of Advent and a color symbolizing royalty. Sometimes called the “**Prophecy Candle**,” the first candle harkens us back to Isaiah’s foretelling of the birth of Christ and all of the promises God gave us in the Old Testament that would be fulfilled by the birth of Jesus. This Advent, light the first candle on **Sunday, November 30, 2025**.

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Advent!

Many of you have asked for a Mass Intention for a loved one during the Christmas Season. Unfortunately we are unable to accommodate all the requests due to the limited number of Masses. Once again this year I decided to add a **Christmas Novena**. This will enable the parish to remember your loved ones in a special way during the Christmas Season. Beginning December 25th and continuing through New Year's, your loved ones will be remembered at Mass each day. An envelope for this Christmas Novena is included with your most recent envelopes. If you choose, please fill in the names of your deceased family and friends and drop it in the collection with whatever donation you wish. These envelopes will be placed on the altar for the duration of the Novena. All the names that were remembered in our Christmas Novena will be listed in a special bulletin insert on Sunday, January 11, 2026.

Bambinelli Sunday! I invite all our children to bring the baby Jesus from their creches to the Family Mass on Sunday, December 21st for a special blessing.

I invite all of you to join us for our Tree Lighting, Creche Blessing and drawing of our Christmas Raffle after the 5pm Mass on Saturday, December 13th.

I am grateful that there are so many good things happening in our parish! Please know each of you remain in my prayers.

Fr. Stephen

*O house of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the Lord!*

Giving Tree

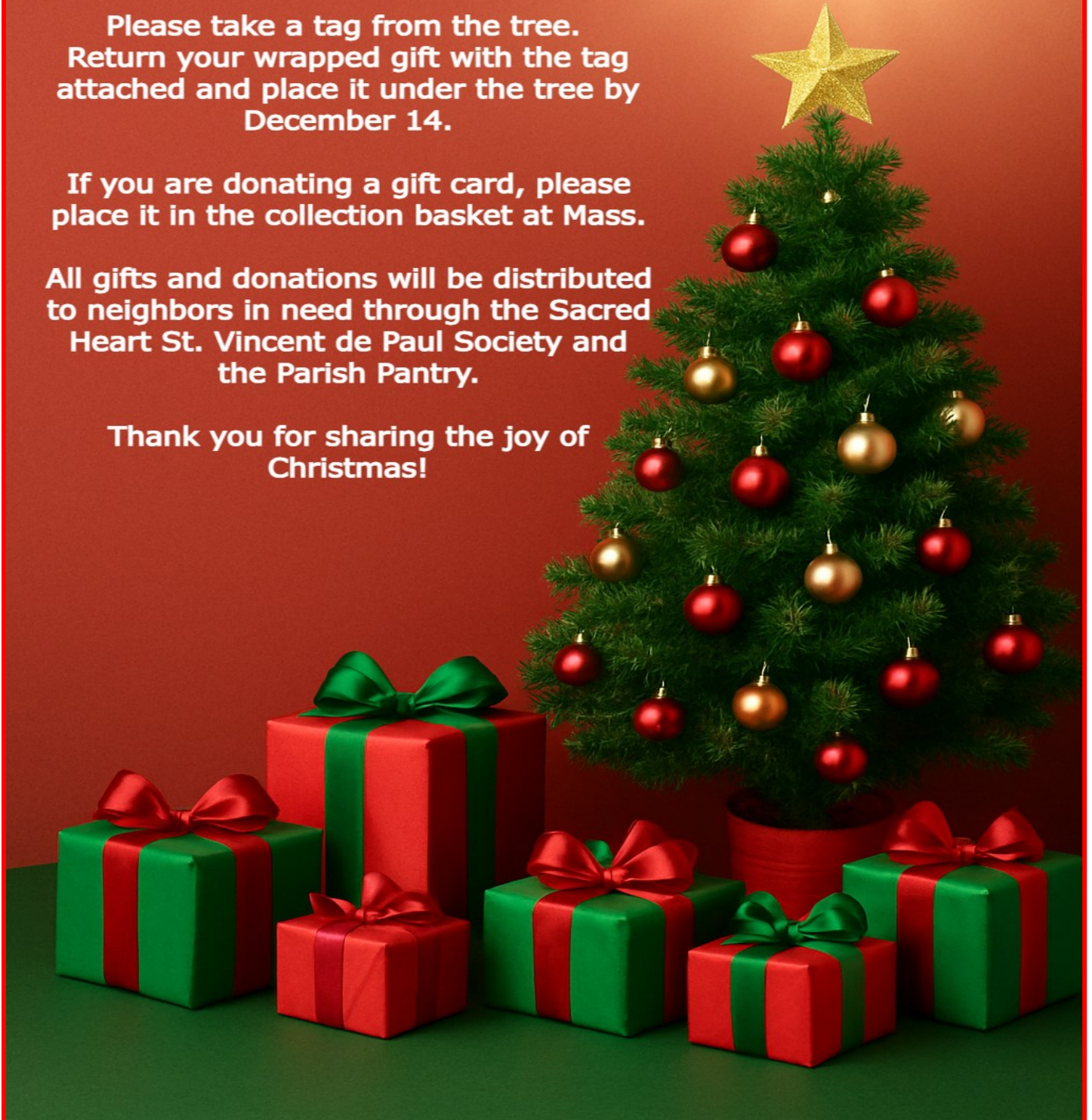
Our annual Giving Tree will be set up on Thanksgiving Weekend.

Please take a tag from the tree.
Return your wrapped gift with the tag attached and place it under the tree by December 14.

If you are donating a gift card, please place it in the collection basket at Mass.

All gifts and donations will be distributed to neighbors in need through the Sacred Heart St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Parish Pantry.

Thank you for sharing the joy of Christmas!





This Thanksgiving so many of our neighbors in need had a wonderful meal thanks to your generosity. With your continued help, we will serve many of our neighbors for Christmas as well.

A special thank you to our Faith Formation students for their donations.

Jesus asks us to do for others because in doing so we do for Him. In doing this we continue the work of Jesus.

Your spirit of kindness and giving to others has continued the work of Jesus here in our parish and beyond. For that I am truly grateful.

Ann, Parish Outreach

The Immaculate Conception

How is Mary a parallel of Eve? Adam and Eve were both created immaculate--without original sin or its stain. They fell from grace, and through them mankind was bound to sin. Christ and Mary were also conceived immaculately. Through them mankind was redeemed from sin. Christ is thus the New Adam, and Mary the New Eve.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is Monday December 8th

Mass is celebrated at 9am, 12pm and 7pm.

There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after the 12pm Mass until the 7pm Mass

The Parish Center is closed on December 8, 2025.

Holiday Community

DRIVE

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2153 POTTER AVE

MERRICK, NY 11756

TEL: 516-754-4089

FAX: 516-754-4089



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NEEDED**

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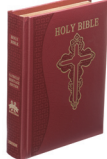
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