

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*



*You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test.”  
When the devil had finished every temptation,  
he departed from him for a time.*

March 6, 2022  
First Sunday of Lent

**Pastoral Staff**

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

**Parish Outreach**

Mrs. Tanya Kasprzyk, Coordinator  
 Outreach Office: 516-379-6123  
 Monday—Thursday 10am-1:30pm

**Faith Formation Coordinator Grades 1-5**

Mrs. Cecilia Bradley  
 cbradleyshrep@gmail.com

**Pastoral Associate/Faith Formation Coordinator Grades 6-8**

Miss Carol Tannehill ctannehillshc@gmail.com

**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. Jean Buonocore - Admin. Assistant ext. 21  
 Mrs. Mary Katz - Finance Administrator ext. 16  
 Mrs. Ingrid Samperi Receptionist ext. 10  
 Mr. Matt O'Brien - Maintenance Director ext. 14

\*\* Please visit our Parish Facebook Page: ***Roman Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart***\*\*

*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 @ [DunmoreDoc@gmail.com](mailto:DunmoreDoc@gmail.com) 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 due to temporary or chronic illness, and would like to receive the Sacraments of Communion, Reconciliation and/or Anointing of the Sick, please call the Parish Center.

**Sunday, February 27, 2022**

**Mass Attendance:** 1078  
**Envelopes used:** 308  
**Collection:** \$9,961.00  
**(Fiscal) Year to Date:** \$419,238.00



**Prayer:** More time given to prayer during Lent will draw us closer to the Lord. We might pray especially for the grace to live out our baptismal promises more fully.

**Fasting:** Fasting is one of the most ancient practices linked to Lent. Vatican II called us to renew the observance of the ancient paschal fast: Abstaining from meat traditionally linked us to the poor, who could seldom afford meat for their meals. That should be the goal we set for ourselves: a sparse and simple meal.

**Almsgiving:** Almsgiving is a sign of our care for those in need and an expression of our gratitude for all that God has given to us.

These forty days of Lent, O Lord, to you we fast and pray..." We all know that Lent has 40 days, but it may cause us to wonder about the significance of the number 40.

In the Bible, the number 40 is symbolic and represents a significant period of time during which an individual's faith is tested. What is Lent? It is a significant period of time during which *our* faith is tested. Another word for test is *examination* or *assessment*. During Lent, we assess where we are in terms of our commitment to the Lord.

Back to the number 40. Whenever we see the number 40 in the Bible, we are being alerted to symbolic significance. The Catholic Church does not adhere to a literal translation of the Bible but recognizes that the truth of the Bible is expressed in many forms, including figurative language. If not, it would be an incredible coincidence that everything during biblical times took either 40 days and nights or 40 years!

During Lent we abstain from meat on Fridays. If you have a meatless recipe to share, email it to [ctannehillshc@gmail.com](mailto:ctannehillshc@gmail.com) and we'll publish them in the bulletin each week.

### **CAMELIZED ONION, RED PEPPER AND ZUCCHINI FRITTATA**

- 1 white onion, thinly sliced
  - 1 medium red bell pepper, diced
  - 1 1/2 cups zucchini, diced
  - 6 large eggs
  - 1/4 cup Parmesan cheese, grated
  - 2 tsp olive oil
- salt and fresh pepper, to taste

#### **Directions**

Preheat oven to 400F. Over medium-low heat, heat oil in a 10-inch skillet.

Stir in onion and cook until slightly brown, about 10 minutes. Add peppers and cook 5 more minutes, then add zucchini. Season with salt and pepper and cook 3 more minutes stirring occasionally.

In a medium bowl whisk eggs, Parmesan, salt and pepper.

Add eggs to the skillet making sure eggs cover all the vegetables. When the edges begin to set (about 2 minutes) move skillet to oven.

Cook about 10-15 minutes, or until frittata is completely cooked.

Serve warm, cut into 4 pieces.

**Monday, March 7, 2022**

9AM Edward &amp; Mary Walsh

**Tuesday, March 8, 2022**

9AM Elizabeth Salomone

**Wednesday, March 9, 2022**

9AM Vincenzo Furino

**Thursday, March 10, 2022**

9AM Ronald Gandini

**Friday, March 11, 2022**

9AM Marc Arezzi

**Saturday, March 12, 2022**5PM Edward Kennedy  
Felicia Marchesella  
Richard Brown  
Patricia O'Boyle**Sunday, March 13, 2022**8AM Carl Jones  
10AM Parishioners of Sacred Heart  
12PM Terry McGrory  
5PM Caroline Smith McNamara*In our thoughts and prayers.*

<i>Taylor Agurto</i>	<i>Gail Kmitis</i>
<i>Joanne Angelastro</i>	<i>Jeff Kravitz</i>
<i>Milan Baranek</i>	<i>Jackie Kraemer</i>
<i>Edward Bennett</i>	<i>Christine Kropp</i>
<i>Mary Berberich</i>	<i>Deborah Kruse</i>
<i>John Brennan</i>	<i>Virginia Marquardt</i>
<i>Richard Bustamante</i>	<i>Brian Mohr</i>
<i>Joanne Campbell</i>	<i>Jack McGreevy</i>
<i>Baby Jack</i>	<i>Katherine McGreevy</i>
<i>Baby Kaylee</i>	<i>Paul McMullin</i>
<i>Marjorie Cirello</i>	<i>Taylor Oshan</i>
<i>Dolores Costello</i>	<i>Jack Palamaro</i>
<i>Julio Curra</i>	<i>Peter Palamaro, Jr.</i>
<i>Betty DiNicola</i>	<i>Eileen Pio</i>
<i>Yolanda DeLustro</i>	<i>Flo Puff</i>
<i>Eileen Dobrinkat</i>	<i>Ginesia Reale</i>
<i>Matthew Dwyer</i>	<i>John Rocco</i>
<i>Bill Fife</i>	<i>Debbie Ryan</i>
<i>Gerardo Franzese</i>	<i>Randall Sinz</i>
<i>Matilde Franzese</i>	<i>Maria Sposato</i>
<i>Robert Galvin</i>	<i>Ann M. Sullivan</i>
<i>Sr. Marie Vianney Gallagher</i>	<i>Mary Sweeney</i>
<i>Annmarie Guertin</i>	<i>Theresa Vacchio</i>
<i>Frank Guertin</i>	<i>Nelson Villafflor</i>
<i>Veronique Hall</i>	<i>Aidan Walden</i>
<i>Gloria Hannifin</i>	<i>Rosemarie Ziminski</i>
<i>Pat Hesse</i>	<i>Robert Ziminski</i>
<i>Barbara Jenkins</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.

**The Promises of Our Lord  
to Saint Margaret Mary  
For Souls Devoted to His Sacred Heart**

I will give them all the graces necessary for their state of life.

I will give them peace in their families.

I will console them in all their troubles.

I will be their refuge in life and especially in death.

I will abundantly bless all their undertakings.

Sinners shall find in my Heart the source and infinite ocean of mercy.

Tepid souls shall become fervent.

Fervent souls shall rise speedily to great perfection.

I will bless those places wherein the image of My Sacred Heart shall be exposed and venerated.

I will give to priests the power to touch the most hardened hearts.

Persons who propagate this devotion shall have their names eternally written in my Heart.

In the excess of the mercy of my Heart, I promise you that my all powerful love will grant to all those who receive Communion on the First Fridays, for nine consecutive months, the grace of final repentance: they will not die in my displeasure, nor without receiving the sacraments and my Heart will be their secure refuge in that last hour.



*Let us remember all our parishioners who have been called home to our Loving God. We especially remember  
Vencenza Cucuzzo  
Vito Cataldo  
Maria Sposato*



**This weekend**, members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul known as "Vincentians" will speak briefly at each Mass. They are called by their patron, St. Vincent de Paul, "to extend mercy toward others, so that there can be no one in need, whom you meet without helping." There is much need on Long Island, and yet great generosity among us. Please listen carefully to their brief message—God may be calling you to put your faith into action with this rewarding Gospel response to help our neighbors in need, especially during the Season of Lent! Please join us for one hour on **Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup>** in the **Fr. Martin room** of the school at **6:30 pm** for more information.

**Ministry of Praise**

**Pope's Prayer Intention  
March 2022**

**A Christian Response to Bioethical Challenges**

We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and

If you would like to donate the Altar Flowers or Bread and Wine in memory of a loved one, please contact Ingrid at the Parish Center: 379-1356



We are NOT meeting until March 28th. Be safe and stay healthy.

### “STOCK MARKET SWEEPS”

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Here is your chance to participate in raising funds for Fr. Reilly Council Knights of Columbus of the Merrick's and win money in the bargain. We are asking you to buy (OR SELL) for \$100 each. Each “TICKET” has a stamped number from 000-999. The numbers are only valid if they have been paid for prior to each Friday's weekly closing.

Each number is good for 26 weeks (only .38 per week) from Friday, March 4, 2022, through Friday, August 26, 2022. The weekly winner of \$100 will be determined by the last 3 digits of the weekly closing of DOW-JONES 30 Industrial Stock Average.

(For example: if the DOW-JONES weekly closing was 2347.62, the winner that week would be the holder of ticket 762). Since the DOW-JONES moves up or down each day, the winning number may vary each week. Look in the newspaper or TV news for the closing average each Friday. You will be notified if you are a WINNER. Don't forget, you can win more than one week and ‘SELLERS’ of winning tickets receive \$100.00.

For tickets please contact

Lou Otarola, PGK

516-375-1581

### Lent: A Time For Giving

This year Sacred Heart Parish invites all our children to participate in our Lenten Activity:  
**KIDS HELPING KIDS**

Each week during Lent we are asking the children to bring an item to be donated to Parish Outreach.

These 'kid friendly' items are a great way for families to talk about how even the youngest parishioners can make a difference to someone in need in our very own neighborhood.

**Week 1 (3/6):** lunch box snacks

**Week 2; (3/13):** fruit gummies

**Week 3 (3/20):** juice boxes

**Week 4 (3/27):** pancake mix

**Week 5 (4/3):** syrup

**Week 6 (April 10th):**  
Easter Basket treats

Please put your donations in the box in the church lobby each week when you come to Mass.



## 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.

### 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 Eschmanns, 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 & Philomena Peruggia  
 Ronald Gandini*



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Lent 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Lent is a journey from the desert of death to the springs of new life. We follow Jesus into the wilderness of the desert to renew our baptismal covenant with the Father. During this sacred time, we die to sin, and washed clean from our self-centeredness and attachment to the world, rise to divine grace and love. As we enter this privileged season, let us reflect once more on the three means we employ during this forty-day journey of penance and conversion: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

*Prayer.* Prayer is most simply a conversation with God, and St. Paul reminds us that this conversation must be continual. The Apostle to the Gentiles enjoins us to “pray at all times” (Eph 6:18), “pray without ceasing” (1 Thess 5:17), and “be constant in prayer” (Rom 12:12). To pray this way requires effort. It demands silence, artful listening, and remaining in the presence of God. This Lent we remember two powerful ways we enter into this holy conversation: by sitting in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament and through *lectio divina*, a prayerful reading of Sacred Scripture.

*Fasting.* The Church Fathers speak extensively on the power of fasting to break sin and open our hearts to the grace of God. Saint Peter Chrysologus writes: “Fasting is the soul of prayer, mercy is the lifeblood of fasting. So if you pray, fast; if you fast, show mercy; if you want your petition to be heard, hear the petition of others. If you do not close your ear to others, you open God’s ear to yourself” (*Sermo* 43: PL 52, 320, 322). Let us remember, too, that bodily fasting is useless unless it is joined with spiritual fasting, that is, fasting from our passions.

*Almsgiving.* Scripture brings the three marks of our Lenten journey together and puts the emphasis on the last: “Prayer and fasting are good, but better than either is almsgiving accompanied by righteousness ... It is better to give alms than to store up gold; for almsgiving saves one from death and expiates every sin. Those who regularly give alms shall enjoy a full life” (Tob 12:8-9). Almsgiving is better because it points to charity. We remember we are not only to give materially to those in need but also give of ourselves as we love God and neighbor.

Last October, Pope Francis invited the Church into a synod on synodality. The Holy Father wants the Church to journey together in a multi-year process listening to each other, hearing the Word and celebrating the Eucharist. As we journey towards Easter, let us be united in mind and spirit. May the spiritual exercises of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving prepare us for Easter and an experience of the power of God, which “dispels wickedness, washes faults away, restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to mourners, drives out hatred, fosters concord, and brings down the mighty” (*The Easter Proclamation - Exsultet*). Then, alive in Christ, we can go forward evangelizing, as Pope Francis would want, with *parrhesia*: “Boldness, enthusiasm, the freedom to speak out, [and] apostolic fervor” (*Gaudete et Exsultate* 129).

May the loving presence of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who remained faithful to her son at the foot of the cross, protect and sustain us in our Lenten journey.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend John O. Barres  
Bishop of Rockville Centre



**The Stations of the Cross will be prayed each Friday in Lent at 7:30pm in the church. All are encouraged to attend.**

The Way of the Cross, also known as the Stations of the Cross, are a way to pray and meditate on Christ's sacrifice for us. It is divided into fourteen stations from the time He was condemned to his burial. This devotion has been long encouraged by the church, and is especially useful during Lent and Good Friday.

The devotion, highly recommended by the Church, was developed during the Crusades when the knights and pilgrims began to follow the route of Christ's way to Calvary. This devotion spread throughout Europe and was promulgated by the Franciscan friars in the 14th and 15th centuries.

These scenes from the Way of the Cross have provided inspiration for many of the world's greatest works of visual art.

*Our Lady's Rosary Makers Ministry*

Please join us on  
**Saturday,  
 March 19, 2022  
 12:45pm-2:00pm**



**North Merrick Library Community Room**  
 1691 Meadowbrook Road, N. Merrick  
 All supplies will be provided.  
 No experience required.

**ANY QUESTIONS?**  
 Please call Jane @ 516-771-8469



We meet every Tuesday at 9:30 in the cafeteria of the school building. Please bring 2 loaves of bread. We are in need of PEANUT BUTTER, jelly and sandwich bags.

We can also use boxes and disposable table cloths. Many thanks to all that donate their time and energy. Volunteers are always welcome. Please bring a copy of your Covid immunization record as this is a Parish requirement. Maureen Paladino  
 516-984-8419  
 Call or text with any questions.

**FRANCES BLAKE 300 CLUB**

Twice a year, in February and September, one lucky member of the Frances Blake 300 Club has a chance to receive a check for \$1,000. In each of the other ten months of the year Club members have 13 chances to win a prize ranging from \$15 to \$300. New members are always welcome. Membership is \$30 for 6 months. That's only \$5 a month!

For more information, please call Jean at the Pastoral Center (379-1356 ext. 21).

**Lillian Margas (#231) won the Grand Prize in the February drawing.**



The next meeting is Tuesday, March 15th at 1:30pm in the school cafeteria. We will be collecting the money for our trip on Wednesday, April 6th to the Wind Creek Casino in Bethlehem, PA.

Please try to attend, we will also be presenting upcoming trips for you to enjoy. As always, we invite our parishioners to join in the fun! For further information, please call Mary @ 516-378-1335.

## Sacred Heart's Lenten Giving, Not Giving Up Program

Please join Outreach as we collect items for a different group each week that honors & supports our Catholic values & shared respect for life in all it's stages & circumstances. Please leave your donations in the kitchen before Mass or bring to Outreach during the week.

**Week One** Sunday, March 6th- **Infantil Baby Formula**— this is the only formula they need  
To benefit **The Life Center**

**Week Two** Sunday, March 13th- **Diapers** newborn to size 6 and wipes  
To benefit **Regina Community Based Services**

**Week Three** Sunday, March 20th- **Laundry detergent pods and Keurig K-Cups**  
To benefit **Hope House Ministries**

**Week Four** Sunday, March 27th- **Reusable grocery bags & brown paper lunch bags**  
To benefit **The INN**

**Week Five** Sunday, April 3rd- **Cleaning products & paper towels**  
To benefit **Catholic Charities Special Needs Housing for Families with HIV**

**Week Six** Sunday, April 10th- **Art supplies for teenagers**  
To benefit **Catholic Charities NYSARY Program for at risk youth**

If you would like to volunteer to deliver the Lenten offerings please contact Tanya.

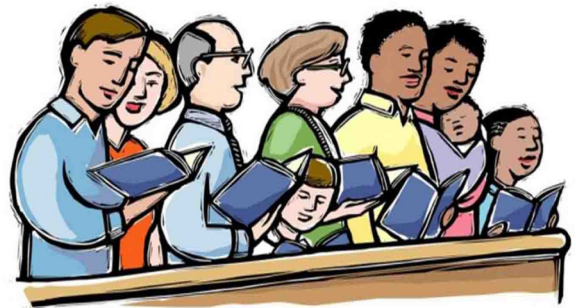
**Thank you for your support of our Pantry & seasonal projects.**

“Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross is nothing else than the culmination of the way he lived his entire life. Moved by his example, we want to enter fully into the fabric of society, sharing the lives of all, listening to their concerns, helping them materially and spiritually in their needs, rejoicing with those who rejoice, weeping with those who weep; arm in arm with others, we are committed to building a new world.” -Pope Francis (11/24/13)

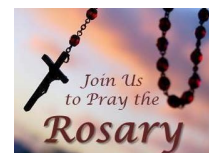
# FAMILY MASS

Join us each Sunday for our  
Family Mass at 10am.

**Children & Family Homily**



**The family that prays together,  
stays together!**



Every weekday morning  
at 8:30am



**The next Anointing of the Sick is  
Friday, April 1, 2022**

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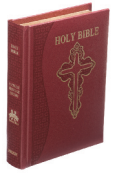


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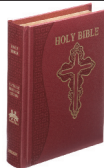
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