

Catholic Church Community of

# St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge, NY 11788-4221

December 25, 2022

The Nativity of the Lord



#### Parish Mission Statement:

*St. Thomas More Roman Catholic Church is a parish community striving to share the Spirit of Love through Prayer, Worship, the Sacraments, the Teachings of the Church, and our concern for others through Christian Stewardship.*

#### Contact Numbers

##### Rectory

631-234-5551

FAX 631-234-6412

##### Religious Ed

631-234-0397

FAX 631-234-1199

##### Outreach

631-234-3149

FAX 631-234-1199

**Website:** <https://stmli.org>

##### Social Media

Facebook: StThomasMoreHauppauge

Instagram: stm\_church

To receive texts or emails  
from us just text

**Spiritoflove** to 84576 or  
sign up @

[StThomasMore29.flocknote.com](https://StThomasMore29.flocknote.com)

## ***Masses for this coming week***

**December 25, 2022**  
**The Nativity of the Lord**  
**Isaiah 9:1-6**  
**Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13**  
**Timothy 2:11-14**  
**Luke 2:1-14**

## ***Growing through the Sunday Scriptures***

**January 1, 2023**  
**The Solemnity of Mary**  
**Numbers 6:22-27**  
**Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8**  
**Galatians 4:4-7**  
**Luke 2:16-21**

### **Saturday, December 24**

#### ***(Anticipated Mass for Sunday)***

3:30pm—Christmas Flower Donors and  
 Christmas Mass Remembrance

5:30pm—Christmas Flower Donors and  
 Christmas Mass Remembrance

10:30pm—Christmas Flower Donors and  
 Christmas Mass Remembrance

### **Sunday, December 25—The Nativity of the Lord**

8am—Christmas Flower Donors and  
 Christmas Mass Remembrance

9:30am—Christmas Flower Donors and  
 Christmas Mass Remembrance

11:30am—Christmas Flower Donors and  
 Christmas Mass Remembrance

### **Monday, December 26—Saint Stephen**

9am—Mickelson & Williams Family *by Barbara  
 Mickelson*

### **Tuesday, December 27—St. John, Apostle and Evangelist**

9am—Louise Pondt *by Marie Utter*

### **Wednesday, December 28—The Holy Innocents**

9am—Edward J. McAllister Jr. *by his loving family*

### **Thursday, December 29**

9am—Judith E. Lentino *by her parents*

### **Friday, December 30—The Holy Family of Jesus**

9am—Msgr. Francis Midura *by Barbara Mickelson*

### **Saturday, December 31**

#### ***(Anticipated Mass for Sunday)***

5:00pm—Robert F. Barnett *by Marie & Jim Marsala*  
 Mary F. Scimeca *by The Scimeca Family*

### **Sunday, January 1—The Solemnity of Mary**

8am—Claudine Dold *by Fintan & Margaret Stapleton*

9:30am—People of the Parish

11:30am—Joel Miller *by The Miller Family*

### **A reading from the Gospel according to Luke:**

The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them. When eight days were completed for his circumcision, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

### **Focus Questions:**

- 1) Mary reflected in her heart on all that happened to her surrounding Jesus' birth. What are you reflecting on these days?
- 2) How does the birth of Jesus make a difference in your life?
- 3) Mary was faithful to God and gave birth to Jesus. How do you show your faithfulness to God?

### **Family and children's question:**

Take the time to say the Hail Mary each night this week.



## FR. ANTONY'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

**Disciple: What's the difference between knowledge and enlightenment?**

Master: When you have knowledge, you use a torch to show the way. When you are enlightened, you become a torch. It is Christmas. It is the birth of Jesus, the light of the world empowering us to shine as light.

**The birth of Christ, known as Christmas, is not merely a yearly celebration** of the events that we **know** to have happened two millenniums back. Rather Christmas-celebration is a yearly life-opportunity to **illumine** us with the spiritual reality that what happened then can happen today, here in our midst. The birth of Jesus can happen now in our time because Jesus is Emmanuel which means 'God is with Us'. He who was with them is with us. He who was born in a manger is willing to be born in our home, in our joys and sorrows, in our work and rest, and in our ALL.

**Christmas is the feast of God-Jesus born as Baby-Jesus among us, as one of us.**

God-Jesus shared the divine blessing with every human being by becoming Human-Jesus. Also, the participants of the Christmas story, like Mary, Joseph, John the Baptist, Elizabeth, Shepherds, three wise people etc., cooperated with Human-Jesus in bringing the blessings to all people. They experienced and shared the blessings of God-Jesus. At this Christmas You and I can become persons sharing and spreading the divine experience through our human cooperation with God who has become one of us.

**You, the parish family of St. Thomas More, are God's cooperators for me, to experience God's blessings** personally in my life and pastorally in my ministry as a Pastor. I thank God for the gift of you. With your support and prayers, you make my ministry to become a manger where Jesus and His divine presence might shine for all parishioners. I am only a poor instrument of God trying through the support of parishioners like you to bring as much as possible, God's kingdom alive and meaningful in our parish. I thank each and every one you, my parishioners of the parish-family of St. Thomas More.

**Special thanks to all those volunteers** who helped decorate in and outside the church to make the Church look celebrative. They took a special interest in decorating with lights and wreaths, setting the Christmas trees, manger in front of the altar and at the niche in the Narthex. Choir members, Eucharistic ministers, Lectors, Altar-Linen cleaners, Children-Liturgy-Crew, Ushers, Knights, Columbiettes and other volunteers actively put their spirit to make our Christmas liturgically celebrative and meaningful. I wish and Pray: May this Christmas make your home His Manger. May your heart welcome Jesus the Emmanuel. May you be touched by the Newborn and be illumined. May you glow with joy and peace.

With love and prayers,

Fr. Antony



**Rectory Phone: 631-234-5551**

**Pastor**

Rev. Antony Asir *ext. 14*

**Deacons**

Deacon Matthew T.J. Surico  
 Deacon Edward R. Vigneaux  
 Deacon Robert D. Weisz

**Rectory Staff**

Dorothy Castaldo *ext. 11*  
 Theresa Recce *ext. 18*  
 Alex White *ext. 10*

**Religious Education—631-234-0397**

**Coordinator**

Mary Ellen Carroll *ext. 26*

**Religious Education Staff**

Joanne Anelli *ext. 21*  
 Linda Ronning *ext. 25*

**SOCIAL MEDIA & EMAIL**

**Websites**

[www.stmli.org](http://www.stmli.org)  
<https://stmlyouth.wixsite.com/stmlyouthhauppauge>

**Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/StThomasMoreHauppauge/>

**Instagram**

stm\_church  
 stmreligioused  
 stm\_yg

**Email**

Rectory: [rectory@stmli.org](mailto:rectory@stmli.org)  
 Mary Ellen Carroll: [mecarroll@optonline.net](mailto:mecarroll@optonline.net)  
 Outreach: [outreach@stmli.org](mailto:outreach@stmli.org)  
 Youth Ministry: [youthgroup@stmli.org](mailto:youthgroup@stmli.org)  
 Altar Servers Ministry: [altarservers@stmli.org](mailto:altarservers@stmli.org)  
 Personal Prayer: [SpiritualOrientations.com](http://SpiritualOrientations.com)  
 To contact a member of the Pastoral Council use the following  
 Barbara & Joe Fratamico at [BJFRAT@optonline.net](mailto:BJFRAT@optonline.net)



*Would you like to receive a daily spiritual reflection or updates of what's happening in our Parish?*  
**See above or go to**  
**StThomasMore29.flocknote.com**

**CALENDAR CLUB WINNERS**

*Here are the winners from December 25h to December 31st, 2022.*

**Congratulations!**

12/25/2022	881	Ron & Alice Pasie
12/26/2022	747	John & Marie Reddy
12/27/2022	221	Thomas McGowan
12/28/2022	782	Al & Eileen Weidig
12/29/2022	1035	Lydia & Paul Merget
12/30/2022	839	Diane Vallette
12/31/2022	1128	The Fine Family

**CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL 2022**

as of **December 12, 2022**

<b>Our Parish Goal</b>	<b>\$69,300.00</b>
<b>Pledges to date</b>	<b>\$34,018.00</b>
<b>Percentage of Goal</b>	<b>49.09%</b>



**2nd Announcement**

**Bridget McBrien & Nicholas Circharo**

**Starting November 1st**  
**Rectory Office Hours**  
**Monday-Friday**  
**9:30 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.**

If in need of the immediate attention of a priest during non-office hours please call **(631) 234-5551** and choose **option 4**

*All other calls received after office hours will be returned the next business day.*



### Young At Heart

#### Next Meeting

Friday, January 13th

**New Members Welcome**

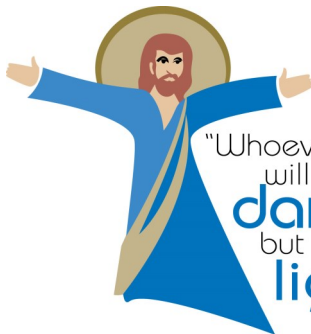
Questions contact Anna @ 631-234-0714



#### Altar Bread and Wine Memorial

To arrange the memorial for the Altar Bread and Wine, please call the Rectory at 631-234-5551. Donation for the week is \$50. A card will be sent to the family.

### Have you been called by Name?



"Whoever follows me will **never** walk in **darkness**, but will have the **light of life**."  
JOHN 8:12

Come and Follow Jesus and his teachings!! If you are missing any or all of your Sacraments or are converting from another religion, come on an incredible journey of faith, love and community which is the Catholic Church. **Contact RCIA** by calling the rectory at 631-234-5551.

### Courtesy Announcements

The Parish of Good Shepherd in Holbrook presents **The Christmas Presepio**. Come visit this traditional Neapolitan Nativity and enjoy some quiet moments. Located in the Chapel of Good Shepherd Church. **It is one of the largest of its kind in the world and contains many thousands of figures, buildings, miniature and relics.** Open every day from 9:00am-9:00pm. (Closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.)

The Nativity is **open until January 15, 2023.**

All are welcome! **1370 Grundy Avenue, Holbrook, 631-588-7689.**

**The Smithtown Adult Basic Education Program** at the Joseph M. Barton District Building, 26 New York Ave, Smithtown is federally funded to provide **English as a Second Language, Adult Basic Education, High School Equivalency and Citizenship Preparation as well as Technology Skills, Health & Financial Literacy, and Workforce Preparation** during the day and evening. **Free classes** are open to all Suffolk residents. For further questions, please call **631-382-2182.**



### Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from the Children's Liturgy Crew

Come meet the 3 Kings at the 9:30 Family Mass on the Epiphany (January 8th)

**We will resume January 15th.**

### Please Join Us

Children's Liturgy of the **Word**



**Every Week**

**9:30 am Family Mass**

## PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Ethan Bernstein	Andrew Lynch
Jessie Bernstein	Troy A. Maida,
Joseph Blaugrund	William Maley
Anthony Broncatello	Thomas Migliara
John Burk	Tim Morris
Collin Busto	Adam Moumine
Collin J. Crean	John Nachtman
Eddie Cullum	Kaitlyn Nachtman
Eric Cullum	Thomas Nichols
David Cussen	Adam Papaizai
Capt. Sean Michael Dolan	Michael Poist
P. J. Erskin	Michael Polanski
Timothy Fallon	Kyle Rathje
Major Michael Fantauzzi	Antonia Marie Rivera
J.T. Foltz	Ann Karen Sanchez
Mike Foltz	Justin Schneider
Michael Gioia	Christopher Sidor
Carl F. Greiner	Christopher Singer
Philip Gudone	Ryan Smith
John Michael Haffner	Anthony Troise
Matthew L. Hamann	Michael White
Sean Hendrikson	
Tylor J. Hickey	
John Karies	
Joseph Kirsch	
Michael Knipper	
Dylan Kowalski	
Thomas LaFemina	
Alex Lombardi	
Andrew Lombardi	
Lt. Clint Lorange	
Scott Lovelock	



## CIRCLE OF WOMEN

It is the mission of the Circle of Women Book Group to focus on the spiritual influence of contemporary writing that facilitates our own reflections of God's action in our daily lives.

Our next meeting is on **January 9, 2023** at **2:30 p.m.** Our book for discussion will be: **Mercy Street** by *Jennifer Haigh*.  
Facilitator: Joan Shea

For further info. and/or to register, call Marilyn at 631-234-5805 or Joan at 631-234-1739

## SUPPORT COLLECTION

Collection of December 18, 2022 \$7,673.00

Envelope users: Please enter the amount of your donation in the space provided on the envelope. This will greatly help us when counting the collection and for recording your contribution.

St. Thomas More Parish needs your support now more than ever! Join the parishioners who are using Faith Direct for automated giving to St. Thomas More Parish.

Faith Direct offers a safe and secure way to donate to our parish in this time of uncertainty. There is no cost to you, and the program provides a great benefit to our parish.

Sign up today by visiting [faith.direct/NY227](http://faith.direct/NY227), or text 'Enroll' to 631-250-8141. You can also make a one-time gift by texting a dollar amount to the same number.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family. God Bless You,

Fr. Antony

## CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY MASS TIMES



**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24TH**  
3:30PM  
5:30PM  
10:30PM

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25TH**  
8AM  
9:30AM  
11:30AM



## PRAY FOR THE SICK

Marsha Augustyn, Caiola Family, John Caliendo, Linda Cook, Nick Conzo, Joey Cullum, Catherine DeSola, Marianne Deszcz, Michael Fiorentino, Richard Fiorentino, Barbara Foberg, Patty Golembiewski, Geri Grincavitch, Richard Gutmann, M.L. Harvey, Linda Heller, Jean Herlihy, Monica Kanischak, Joseph Lagomarsine, Frank Macchio, Ellen Murphy, Al Pankus, Donald Parisi, Aodan Reddy, Helen Reichert, Lorraine Rouse, Greg Sandbichler, Margi Schwarting, John Spadaro, Lorraine White, Mark Zlatniski.

*Please see the cutout in the bulletin and kindly submit your requests.*

*The previous listing expired on September 30, 2022  
The new listing will expire on March 31, 2023*



During these difficult times, as a family of faith, we turn to our Heavenly Father in prayer. You are invited to submit your prayer intentions and those of your family. All prayer intentions will be placed in a basket near the altar in St Thomas More before each Mass. The basket will serve as a silent reminder that we are united in faith, hope and love as we lift one another up in prayer and support, while placing our trust in the Lord.

*“For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy.”*

*St. Therese of Lisieux*



## PRAY FOR THE DECEASED

Rosalind Warmuth, Donald Marsh, George J. Reuter, Timothy Druckenmiller, Thomas Holt, Mary Lou Wilk, our deceased loved ones and our deceased service men and women.

**USING FAITH DIRECT?** - It's quick and easy! Consider having automatic deductions from either your checking or savings or use a credit card to Support St. Thomas More each week. With Faith Direct, there is no fee to you! Please visit the Faith Direct website at [www.FaithDirect.net](http://www.FaithDirect.net) to sign up: our church code is **NY227**. You may also use the form located where you obtain the bulletin or text the word ENROLL to 631-250-8141. We thank you for your support.

**UPDATING CREDIT CARD INFORMATION**—If you get a new card or a renewal card, make sure that this information is communicated to Faith Direct.

**CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES**—If you do not receive weekly envelopes and would like them mailed to you, please use the cut out that is in the bulletin and indicate that you wish to receive them on a regular basis. Usually it takes about two weeks for your request to be completed.

### MAINTENANCE COLLECTION

We thank you for your support of our parish project to maintain our parish facilities. If you would like to help, please use a maintenance envelope where you obtain the bulletin.

**USED CELL PHONES**—We thank everyone for giving us their old cell phones. We forward them to a convent that recycles them and uses the proceeds for the poor.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**—You can check online for any updates at <http://calendar.yahoo.com/stmreled>.

### IMPORTANT DRVC INFORMATION

Information regarding a new deadline to file proofs of claims for victims of sexual abuse who were over 18 or older when the alleged conduct occurred and the forms to use can be found at the Diocese's bankruptcy website and scrolling down the page. The website can be found at: <https://dm.epiq11.com/drvc>

# *St. Thomas More Parish Social Ministry* **OUTREACH**

“It’s not how much we give but how much love we put into giving.”

~Mother Teresa



Outreach will be closed from Monday December 26th through Monday January 2nd

We wish you a blessed Christmas filled with the peace and love of our newborn Savior!  
May you and your family have a happy and healthy New Year!

*Please reach out to Parish Outreach if you are, or know of someone in need of support. Keep our elderly neighbors in mind and let us know if there is anyone you would like us to reach out to.*

*Please do not leave any other items such as clothing or household items in the donation bins. Clothing can be placed in the St. Vincent de Paul box at the back right corner of the parking lot.*

*Please contact Outreach regarding other donations.*

## **ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

Today we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, hearing the words of the angel “Do not be afraid, for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy.” Today and throughout the new year, may we take care of our suffering brothers and sisters, bringing hope, not fear.

Your generosity allows our conference of SVdP to meet the needs of our neighbors.  
Please continue to support our ministry.

To contact us, call 631-648-2760 or e-mail [svdp.stm@aol.com](mailto:svdp.stm@aol.com)





### **CHURCH MINISTRIES**

#### **THINKING ABOUT BECOMING A LITURGICAL MINISTER OR WANT TO SHARE YOUR TALENTS?**

Please complete the following form:  
I would like to volunteer in the following parish ministry:

- Altar Server             Hospitality
- Usher                     Greeter
- RCIA                      Liturgy with Children
- Lector                  Eucharistic Minister
- Consolation Ministry
- Rosary Altar Society     Pre-Cana
- Caring for Altar Plants  FOCCUS
- Landscaping/Planting  Choir
- Banner Committee

Name::

Address:

Phone:

*Please return to the Rectory for processing.*

### **PRAYING FOR THE SICK — Adding a name Request —**

**PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING TO THE PARISH LISTING OF THOSE WHO ARE ILL:**

**Name of person (s) who is (are) ill:**

Relationship to the person who is ill:

Person making the Request:

**TODAY’S DATE:**

*(Please place in collection basket or drop off at the Rectory)*

### **REGISTRATION and/or ENVELOPE REQUEST**

NAME(s):

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

E-MAIL:

I/we would like to register in the parish.

Please send contribution envelopes.

I am already registered in the parish but do not receive contribution envelopes. I would like to receive them.

Other \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Please return in collection or return to Church Office)*

### **CALENDAR CLUB 2023**

**I/we would like to join St. Thomas More’s Calendar Club for 2023**

NAME(s)

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

- ONE number for \$25 **OR**
- FIVE numbers for \$100

*(If you return your form and payment by Sunday, December, 18, 2022, you will receive a total of SIX numbers for \$100).*

I would like to give Calendar Club numbers as Gifts. I am attaching a separate page indicating the names and addresses of individuals who will receive gifts.

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

*(Please return form to Rectory Office or place in Collection Basket marking envelope CALENDAR CLUB 2023).*

# St. Thomas More Employment Services

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE

**NEW – Target:** Holiday employment. Multiple locations.

Go to: [www.target.com/careers](http://www.target.com/careers)

**Eastern Suffolk Boces:** School Psychologists, Registered Nurses, Speech and Language Teachers.

Send resume to <https://esboces.recruitfront.com/>

**Shoreham-Wading River CSD:** F/T & P/T positions: Cooks, Monitors, Substitute Guards

Send resume to: [bheyward@swr.k12.ny.us](mailto:bheyward@swr.k12.ny.us)

**Dollar Tree:** Text DOLLAR to 58046 or go to: [DollarTree.com/careers](http://DollarTree.com/careers)

**Stony Brook Medical Center:** Clinical and support staff positions available.

Go to: <https://www.stonybrookmedicine.edu/careers>

**Northwell Health:** Many positions still available at multiple locations.

Go to: <https://jobs.northwell.edu/job-search-results/>

**FedEx Office: Local positions available.**

Go to: <https://careers.fedex.com/office/jobs>

**Newsday:** Newspaper Delivery Opportunities. See ad in Sunday's paper for locations and contact information.

**Newsday:** Multiple positions available.

Go to: <https://newsday.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/Newsday>

or send an email to: [NewsdayHR@Newsday.com](mailto:NewsdayHR@Newsday.com)

**Pet Smart:** F/T, P/T, Seasonal.

Go to: <https://careers.petsmart.com/>

**Educational Bus Transportation:** Drivers Needed. Call: 631-789-2300

**Dunkin':** Positions available at many locations.

Go to: <https://www.dunkindonuts.com/en/careers>

**McDonald's:** Many **LOCAL** positions available.

Go to: [mchire.com](http://mchire.com) or inquire within.

**CVS Health:** Many local positions available.

Go to: <https://jobs.cvshealth.com/>

**United Parcel Service (UPS):** Drivers & warehouse personnel needed. Farmingville.

Go to: [www.upsjobs.com](http://www.upsjobs.com)

**Catholic Charities of Long Island:** Many F/T, P/T and hourly positions available.

Go to: [www.catholiccharities.cc/careers](http://www.catholiccharities.cc/careers)

**BJ's:** Local jobs available. Go to: [BJs.com/careers](http://BJs.com/careers)

**Suffolk Transportation Services:** Drivers, Driver Assistants and Mechanic jobs available.

Go to: <http://applynow.suffolkbus.com/jobs>

**Walmart:** Positions available.

Go to: [www.careers.walmart.com](http://www.careers.walmart.com)

**Catholic Health Services:** Many positions available - health care and non-health care positions.

Go to: <https://jobs.chsli.org/>

**Nassau County:** Many P/T and F/T positions available.

Go to: [www.nassaucountyny.gov/3341/Employment](http://www.nassaucountyny.gov/3341/Employment)

**Suffolk County:** Many P/T and F/T positions available.

Go to: [www.suffolkcountyny.gov/employment](http://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/employment) or call: 631-853-6540

**United States Postal Service (USPS):** Many career opportunities available.

Go to: [www.usps.com/careers](http://www.usps.com/careers)

If your business or your employer would like to be included in the available job postings that we will be listing please send an email to John White at: [jmtwhite@optonline.net](mailto:jmtwhite@optonline.net)

Please include the position title, the location of the job, and contact information (either yours or the employer's).

# Are You Being Called to Serve as a Deacon?

By virtue of Baptism, we are called to holiness—the lay faithful as well as bishops, priests, and deacons.

**But have you felt called to serve in a much deeper and committed way?**

If you are a man between the ages of 30 and 59, who feels that you are being called to ordained ministry as a deacon in the Church, you are invited to come for an **Evening of Prayer and Discernment** with other men of faith to discuss and explore that very question.

There is no cost to the evening—just your time and openness.

**COME TO ANY ONE OF THESE MEETINGS -**

**PREPARED - to LISTEN, to PRAY, to REFLECT,  
to DISCERN where God is calling you!**

**EVENINGS** are being offered conveniently at **THREE LOCATIONS.**

7:00PM, Tuesday, January 10—*St. Joseph Ronkonkoma, 45 Church Street*

7:00PM, Wednesday, January 11—*Maria Regina Seaford, 3945 Jerusalem Avenue*

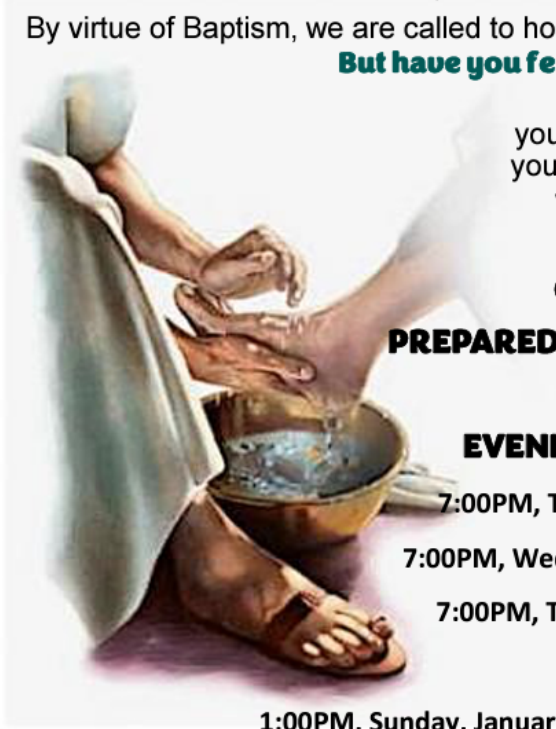
7:00PM, Thursday, January 19—*St. Aidan Williston Park, 505 Willis Avenue*

with an **EARLY WEEKEND OPTION** to be held at

1:00PM, Sunday, January 15 —*St. John the Evangelist Center Moriches, 25 Ocean Avenue*

RSVP by Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, to 631-423-0483 Ext. 179 or by email to [diaconateformation@drvc.org](mailto:diaconateformation@drvc.org)

**We thank you and look forward to being with you.**



6th and 7th graders with signs of the Advent (Christmas) season.



# Holy Hour

"New Life in Christ"

**Adoration & Benediction  
led by Deacon Matt!**



**Contemporary music  
by Alex and Noelle!**

**Tuesday, January 3rd at 7:00pm**



# The Knights of Columbus & Columbiette's annual Christmas Dinner!



## 4th Week of Advent 9:30am mass!



*All are invited to the*  
**St. Patrick School Open House**  
**Sunday, January 29th**  
**from 1:00 to 3:00 PM**

***Come and see all our school has to offer!***



**Catholic Schools**  
**Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.**



***Situated on 19 beautiful acres, St. Patrick School provides a Catholic Education for students in nursery through eighth grade. The school adheres to New York State/Common Core Learning Standards and guidelines provided by Diocese of Rockville Centre.***

- *Founding member of the Catholic Middle School Athletic Association, competing in numerous sports with other Catholic schools.*
- *Offers a wide range of extracurricular activities*
- *Utilizes a number of engaging educational technologies used including iPads, laptop computers, desktop computers, 3D document cameras, SmartBoards in all classrooms, LittleBits robotics, etc.*
- *State-of-the-art security system*
- *Facilities include: Fully equipped gymnasium, media center, art and music room, and playground areas*
- *Provides sacramental preparation. Students attend First Friday Holy Day Masses as a school community*
- *Hot lunch provided daily by certified, licensed cooks*
- *On-site before and after care available*

***For more information, visit [spssmith.org](http://spssmith.org)***

# YG - Preparing for Christmas!

December 18th, 2022



Getting the Outreach donations.



Delivering the Outreach donations.



Our Advent ornaments!



Learning different Advent traditions around the world..

**Upcoming Meetings**  
Sundays 12:30-2:30



*Jan. 8th-New Year*  
*Jan. 15th- TBD*





**DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?**

**YOU'RE INVITED TO TRY ALPHA AT STM**

**EXPLORE LIFE...FAITH...MEANING**

**ALPHA:** an opportunity to explore the Christian faith in a friendly, open, and informal environment.

**ALPHA:** go on a personal journey which can lead to a personal encounter with Jesus.

**ALPHA:** ask questions, share ideas, build friendships, and experience the love of God through the power of the Holy Spirit.

- gather once a week for a delicious dinner and dessert. And IT'S FREE!
- watch a short video featuring inspiring stories and interviews about faith
- have a conversation with your group members about questions related to our faith
- take time to take care of your spirit with the gift of **ALPHA**
- bring a friend or make some new ones
- come try the introductory session on January 12th

For more information or to sign up, call (631-234-0397) or email us at [alpha2023@stmli.org](mailto:alpha2023@stmli.org)

**ALPHA** begins January 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm





DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Christmas 2022

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

Merry Christmas to you and your families!

In union with our Holy Father Pope Francis, and in a non-judgmental spirit of mercy, humility and charity, I invite everyone who will be present at our Christmas Masses, or watching our Christmas Masses via the Catholic Faith Network or CBS, or not present at all: If your life has been far from the Catholic Mass and the Eucharist, I invite you with Pope Francis to return.

I invite you to experience the power and liberation of Christ's mercy and forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance and to cross the bridge into the full practice of your Catholic Faith through a radical fidelity to the Sunday Mass and an ever-deepening love for the Holy Eucharist.

Perhaps you are not a Catholic and yet have some mysterious attraction to the Catholic Mass and the Eucharist.

You are not alone! Many saints – I think of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, the pioneering American Catholic educator and convert – had the same experience and were drawn to enter the Church through their intuitive experience of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist in our parish churches! Be open to the Eucharistic movement of the Holy Spirit in your life!

Our celebration of Christmas 2022 occurs this year as every Catholic diocese, every Catholic parish, every Catholic hospital, university, and institution in the United States is engaged in an evangelizing ***Eucharistic Revival***.

What do we mean by the phrase "Eucharistic Revival" and why is it so important for our celebration of Christmas?

What does a love for the Eucharist and an openness to being a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Eucharistic missionary have to do with our celebration of Christmas 2022?

Pope Francis points out the relationship between the Birth of Christ and the Holy Eucharist and the Mass. The very word Bethlehem means "house of Bread."

Pope Francis states: "Bethlehem is the turning point that alters the course of history. There God, in the *house of bread*, is born in a *manger*. It is as if he wanted to say: 'Here I am, as your food.' He does not take, but gives us to eat; he does not give us a mere thing, but his very self. In Bethlehem, we discover that God does not take life, but gives it. To us, who from birth are used to taking and eating, Jesus begins to say: 'Take and eat. This is my body.' (Matthew 26:26) The tiny body of the Child of Bethlehem speaks to us of a new way to live our lives: not by devouring and hoarding, but by sharing and giving. God makes himself small so that he can be our food. By feeding on him, the bread of life,

we can be *reborn in love*, and break the spiral of grasping and greed. From the ‘house of bread,’ Jesus brings us back home, so that we can become God’s family, brothers and sisters to our neighbors. Standing before the manger, we understand that the food of life is not material riches but love, not gluttony but charity, not ostentation but simplicity. The Lord knows that we need to be fed daily. That is why he offered himself to us every day of his life: from the manger in Bethlehem to the Upper Room in Jerusalem. Today too, on the altar, he becomes bread broken for us; he knocks at our door, to enter and eat with us (cf. Revelation 3:20). At Christmas, we on earth receive Jesus, the bread from heaven. It is a bread that never grows stale, but enables us even now to have a foretaste of eternal life.”<sup>1</sup>

Eucharistic Revival, in the words of Pope St. John Paul II, is a rediscovery of “Eucharistic Amazement” and Eucharistic Devotion.

Eucharistic Revival means that we understand deeply that every Mass has a cosmic significance, and every Mass is celebrated on the Altar of the world – the Altar of Ukraine and every war torn and injustice-ridden area of our world.

Eucharistic Revival is an effective catechesis of the theology and spirituality of the Catholic Mass that moves the hearts, minds, souls and imaginations of the People of God.

Eucharistic Revival in our Catholic schools means the cultivation of a radical fidelity to the Sunday Catholic Mass on the part of our teachers, our staff and our families.

Eucharistic Revival is a rekindling of Pope Benedict XVI’s insight that every period of Church reform and effective Catholic evangelization and mission throughout history can be traced to a rediscovery of the Real Presence of Jesus Christ, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist.<sup>2</sup>

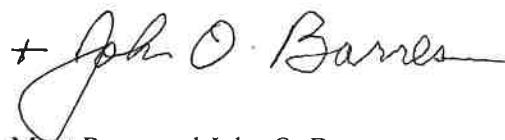
As we celebrate the birth of Christ and his rebirth in our hearts and families at Christmas, we pray for a renewal of our faith in Christ’s Eucharistic presence.

We pray that each of us could be Divine Mercy instruments of bringing many, many people back to a full fidelity to the Eucharist and the Catholic Mass.

As we celebrate Christmas, we are being called to be intentional, compassionate, understanding and listening Eucharistic missionaries.

Merry Christmas to you and your families! May the love of the Christ child and the love of the Holy Family light your remaining steps on earth and light your path to Heaven and Eternal Life.

Sincerely in Christ,

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

Most Reverend John O. Barres  
Bishop of Rockville Centre

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<sup>1</sup> Pope Francis Homily for Midnight Mass, Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord, December 25, 2018.

<sup>2</sup> See Pope Benedict XVI’s 2017 Apostolic Exhortation *Sacramentum Caritatis* 6: “Every great reform has in some way been linked to the rediscovery of belief in the Lord’s eucharistic presence among his people.”

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

# Calendar Club 2023

Please fill this form out and return to the Rectory, or put in the basket in an envelope in labeled "Calendar Club 2023".

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Each number is \$25, or five for \$100. Purchase as many as you'd like!

**Early Bird Special! Return your form by Sunday, December 11th and you will get six numbers for \$100!**

Total amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are gifting numbers, please record the name(s) and address of those people below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE