

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Masses For The Week

Week of December 19 - December 25

Mon. - December 19

6:30 AM Elizabeth Marrinan

9:00 AM Deceased members of the
Robinson & Wupper families

Tues. - December 20

6:30 AM James Clare

9:00 AM Teresa Hennessy

Wed. - December 21

6:30 AM Patricia Fenton

9:00 AM Rosemarie Aquilone

Thurs. - December 22

6:30 AM Irene Strasser

9:00 AM Agnes Schmitt

Fri. - December 23

6:30 AM Elizabeth Smith

9:00 AM Cornelius Brosnan

Sat. - December 24 Christmas Eve

8:00 AM Anthony Condrill

4:00 PM Church-For the People of Our Parish

4:00 PM HFC- For the People of Our Parish

6:00 PM For the People of Our Parish

10:00 PM For the People of Our Parish

Midnight For the People of Our Parish

Sun. - December 25 The Nativity of the Lord

7:00 AM For the People of Our Parish

9:00 AM For the People of Our Parish

10:30 AM For the People of Our Parish

12:00 PM For the People of Our Parish

Bread & Wine

The *Eucharistic Bread & Wine* for the week will be in loving memory of Eleanor Dale.

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton 2011

New Altar Servers - Congratulations to all our St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Students who have been newly installed as Altar Servers at all of our parishes.

Christmas Concert - Our Kindergarten through third grades will have a Christmas concert on Monday, December 19th during the school day.

Christmas Card Raffle - is going on now. Each card is sold for \$10 and you can win up to \$200 daily for 31 days. If your card number is drawn in the daily lottery, you win. What a great gift for grandparents, teachers, babysitters, anyone would love 31 chances to win cash! Contact Alicia Mazza at (631)221- 4501 for information.

Weekly Financial Reports

12/11/11 Sunday Collection:	\$ 19,069
12/12/10 Sunday Collection:	\$ 18,066
Parish Families Registered	4,962
# Envelopes Mailed	1,717
# Envelopes Used	815
#Envelopes (12/12/10)	814

2011 Catholic Ministries Appeal

Goal Amount: \$ 102,623

Total Pledged: \$ 121,724

“Congratulations” St. Barnabas for going over goal!

Total Payments Received: \$ 116,039

Total # of Pledges: 625

Catholic Ministries Appeal

One Faith, One Hope, Many Gifts

Thank you for your generous support of the 2011 Catholic Ministries Appeal. Please remember that all new pledges must be in by December 31st and all your current pledges must be paid by January 31st for the 2011 appeal. Paying your pledges ensures that the parish can benefit from its full 2011 rebate.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 24th, Christmas Eve

4:00 PM, 6:00 PM, 10:00 PM and Midnight

Mass will be celebrated in both the Church and the Holy Family Chapel at 4:00 PM. Each year the 4:00 PM Masses on Christmas Eve are overcrowded. Our experience is that all available seating is taken by 3:15 PM for both Masses. Please do not reserve seats for others. This is not permitted.

Sunday, December 25th, Christmas Day

7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM & 12 Noon

There will be no Mass at 10:15 AM or 5:00 PM on Christmas Day.

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Masses for New Years Day

The Feast of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Saturday, December 31st

5:00 PM and 7:30 PM

Sunday, January 1st

7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM & 12 Noon

10:15 AM Family Mass in the Holy Family Chapel

There will be no 5:00 PM Mass on

Sunday, January 1st.

Defensive Driving Class

A course for Insurance and Point Reduction

Saturday, January 7th, 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM in the school cafeteria. \$45 per person. To register call (631)360-9720.

Please Pray For The Repose Of The Souls Of The Recently Deceased

Theodore A. Venturini, Anne Joan Manzolillo and John Roesler

December 18, 2011

My dear Parishioners,

How blessed we were last Sunday evening with the gift of our parish's LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE. This prayer is so rich with the scriptures of Advent and Christmas and the songs and carols of these liturgical seasons.

As I offered thanks to Bill Dione and our wonderful parish choir and musicians, I failed to mention our wonderful and as important LECTORS who so beautifully proclaimed God's Word to us. I wish to apologize for this omission and now publicly thank the eight lectors of our Lessons and Carols Service: Sister William Noreen, Carol Carney, Sister Eleanor, Ruth Vitucci, Terri Pinto, Veronica Medina, Clare Sproule and Sister Angela.

In response to parishioners requesting a copy of the quote I closed last Sunday's homily with from Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, I'm happy to include it here:

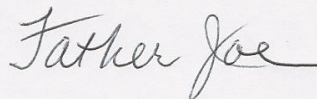
"Love to pray..feel often during the day the need for prayer, and take trouble to pray. Prayer enlarges the heart until it is capable of containing God's gift of Himself. Let us all become a true and fruitful branch on the vine Jesus, by accepting Him in our lives as it pleases Him to come: as the Truth to be told, as the Life to be lived, as the Love to be loved, as the Way to be walked, as the Joy to be given, as the Peace to be spread as the Sacrifice to be offered, in our families and our neighbors." Quote from Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta from her book: A GIFT FOR GOD.

I, again, thank you as we become familiar with our new responses. I do think that the one we seem to be having some difficulty with is **AND WITH YOUR SPIRIT**. Perhaps, because this response is prayed five times at every Mass, we're finding it more difficult to adjust to these new words. Maybe just holding the pew card will help us to pray the new response at their appropriate moments. I know I slip back into the old forms and need to go slow and think with the new words as I pray them. Thanks for all your good efforts.

Just a note that we will be hearing confessions on Saturday, Dec. 24, Christmas eve from **10 AM until 12 NOON only**. (we will not be hearing confessions during the usual Saturday hour of 12:30 to 1:30 on Dec. 24.) The three priests of the parish will be hearing confessions. We will be using the two confessionals and one priest will be set up in the sanctuary.

Continued Advent grace and blessings be with you as we fast approach our beautiful Feast of Christmas.

Much love and God bless,



Rectory Office

The rectory office will be open from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Saturday, December 24th. The office will be closed on Sunday, December 25th and Monday, December 26th in observance of Christmas and on Sunday, January 1st and Monday, January 2nd in observance of New Year's Day.

Bellmore Knights of Columbus

The council on Bellmore Avenue is selling Christmas trees, wreaths and grave blankets Sunday, 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM and on weekdays from 6:00 PM to 9:30 PM.

Sanctuary Lamp Candle

The *Sanctuary Lamp Candle* will be lit this week in loving memory of the Esposito and Ryan Families.

Anointing of the Sick

The Sacrament of the Sick will be celebrated on Saturday, December 24th after the 8:00 AM Mass. The anointing of the sick is a sacrament that strengthens those who are ill, facing surgery, those who are disabled and those in special need of God's healing touch due to chronic physical difficulties. Those wishing to receive the sacrament should sit in the front rows of the church.

IT IS COMING...
Something BIG is happening...
 a place for Catholics in high school!



A new youth group is starting at St. Barnabas in the new year! Need info? Want to volunteer?
 Please email Tom Acemoglu at "t.acemoglu@gmail.com" or call St. Barnabas Rectory at 785-0054 and leave your message for Tom

In Your Prayers Remember the Sick

Ray Brusgole, Hannah Hussey, Dolores O'Kane,
 Jacob Daniel Haubeil, Charles Dean, Jr., Marie Megna,
 Louise Bernhart, Peter Srsich, Ellen Chite, Susan Bachel,
 Lance Cpl. Kevin P. Vaughan, Kristin O'Halloran,
 Michelle DiGangi, Virginia Schuler, Linda Porelli,
 Deacon Thomas Coleman, Ann Schnapper, Joseph Ryan,
 Victoria Ronga, Mary Cotroneo, Jeanette Sullivan,
 Chanse Rhodes, Bernard Witkofski, Jennifer Pluth,
 Donald Davis Regina Dvorak, Paul Prisenza,
 Maria Schettino, Louise Russo, Stephania Castaldo,
 Bill McNally, Judith Lynch, Christopher Brown,
 Peggy Bickham, Dolores Meadows, Grace Margaret,
 and all the sick of the parish.

Word of Life

In the eyes of the world those who are in the last stages of life are somehow diminished in their humanity and should be eliminated. We must see them through God's eyes and recognize that each and every person is created in his image and likeness and that we are all connected to God and to each other. We are our brother's keeper and our sister's helper. Cain who forgot he was his brother's keeper ended up becoming his executioner. "Thou shall not kill" is God's law and it is written in our hearts by our Creator.

*~Cardinal Sean O'Malley,
 Archbishop of Boston,*

Homily, Red Mass, Sept. 19, 2011

Seminary of the Immaculate Conception

40 West Neck Road, Huntington, NY

Offers the following graduate degrees:

Master of Arts in Theology

Master of the Arts in Pastoral Studies

Spring Semester Begins January 30th and Registration closes January 25th. For information contact the Academic Office, (631)423-0483 x 112 or 147 or visit our website at www.icseminary.edu.

Children's Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 18th at 3:00 PM in the Church
 Please join us as we come together to celebrate and experience the true meaning and wonder of the very first Christmas through the eyes, voices and hearts of our children! Just a reminder - children in the presentation need to be signed in at the Holy Family Chapel by 2:00 PM. Refreshments to follow in the Holy Family Chapel.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confessions are heard on the following date and time in the Church:

Saturday, December 24th; 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
(note time change)

Christmas Wafers

In certain traditions a blessed wafer is shared among family members at the beginning of the evening meal on Christmas. This wafer calls to mind the advent of the real "Bread of Life" who came among us over 2,000 years ago. You may obtain the blessed wafers at the rectory. The free will offering is for Parish Outreach.

Advent Wreath Candle

The *Advent Wreath Candle* will be lit this week in memory of Robert Paratore.

Christmas Flowers

Remember your loved ones, living and deceased, at Christmas by having Poinsettias placed on the altar in their honor. Please drop this form off at the rectory or in the collection basket. The offering is \$15.

In Memory of: _____
 Requested by: _____

Christmas 2011

My dear Parishioners,

Wishing you Christ's peace, joy and love, I greet you on this beautiful feast of Christmas!

What a divine compliment we are paid at Christmas as our God chooses to become one of us in the birth of His Son, Jesus Christ!

It is God's hope for us, that as we celebrate at Christmas His Word – Jesus – taking on our human flesh, we might see and love in each other all the love and goodness God sees and loves in us.

It is always a joy for me to write you as I now do, to commend you and to thank you for the MANY ways YOU continue to be endless sources of hope for so many. In my prayer for you, I can never stop thanking God for you as you bring to life the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our parish family and neighboring communities.

YOU are truly the bright lights of Christmas! May God's Light that shines so brightly through you continue to shine brightly throughout our NEW YEAR 2012.

Your special Christmas gift to St. Barnabas the Apostle Parish helps us in so many ways. Christmas, our special time of joy and thanksgiving, is the perfect time to show our gratitude to God for His abundant love as we make our Christmas offerings to our parish family.

I look forward to our celebrations of the Christmas Liturgy and I pray God's choicest blessings upon you FOR ALL THAT YOU DO!

Much love, God bless and "MERRY CHRISTMAS!"



Rev. Joseph C. Coschignano



Pray for Our Armed Forces

Keep in your prayers all the women and men who currently serve in our military.

US Army: PFC David Calame, Jr., Second Lt. Nicole Gonzalez, PFC Justin Oney, Chaplain Lt. Col. Paul Hurley, SPEC Kevin A. Bauer, Sgt. First Class Kevin Lipari, First Lt. Charles Felker, CAPT Eric Reid, CAPT Richard Kilcoyne, Lt. Jack Kilcoyne, SPFC Sean Luhman, PFC Thomas A. Kiley, PFC Andrew Crowley III, PFC Ryan Quackenbush, Lt. Col. Joseph Pagnotta, Lt. Richard Joseph Holahan, Private Nicholas Ouellette.

Natl. Guard: Major James McLean

US Navy: ST3 Thomas Kerley, Seaman 1st Class Michael Murray, Petty Off. PT3 Edward F. Faulkner, CPO Charles Metrango, Seaman Brian Kopp, Ensign Brendan Connors, SR Tirna Hughes, HM3 Philip LeSueur.

US Marines: Cpl. William D. Loughran, IV, Sgt. William MacKenzie, Lance Cpl. Jordan M. O'Donoghue, Major Luke T. Holian, Lance Cpl. Christopher Counts, Lance Cpl. Timothy J. Pastor, Gunnery Sgt. Scott Murray, Lance Cpl. Matthew Duggan, Lance Cpl. Kevin P. Vaughan, PFC Richard Kelley

US Air Force: Lt. Col. George E. Loughran, Lt. McLean G. Bethea, Master Sgt. David Hance

US Army Reserves: Sgt. Eric S. Loughran, Capt. Oliver Schrang

US Merchant Marine: Midshipman Erich Stumpel

Thank You

The parents and students of the 6th grade class at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Regional School would like to thank the parishioners of St. Barnabas for supporting our bake sale last weekend. We raised over \$700 that will go towards our upcoming Nature's Classroom trip.

Caolan & Liam Joy along with their parents would like to thank all of the parishioners who purchased CDs last weekend. Over 125 CD's were sold and the proceeds will be used for the St. Agnes Cathedral Choirs upcoming pilgrimage to Italy where they will perform for Pope Benedict XVI.

Friendly Seniors Meeting

Tuesday, December 20th, 1:00 PM, Holy Family Chapel.

Protecting God's People

Together we protect the children of God and all God's people. We are the eyes and ears of the outreach of the Church to care for and protect all God's people. As the signs in the subway read "If you see something, say something" could well be the motto of our program to care for our children. For your information, the Diocesan Abuse hot line is 594-9063. For information on the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People you can contact Mrs. Eileen Puglisi at the diocesan office. 678-5800 ext. 573 or our pastor.

December 18, 2011

Bulletin Article #7 Responsible Stewardship

Title for All Articles:

Building a Stronger Catholic Elementary Education

Ongoing Series on the Strategic Plan: Vision for the Future

The Diocese of Rockville Centre released a Strategic Plan for Catholic Elementary Education on September 22, 2011, outlining the goals and actions that will provide a future for Catholic elementary schools on Long Island that is fiscally secure, academically excellent and fully engaged in promoting the Catholic faith and values. This plan may be accessed through the diocesan website, www.drvc.org.

Responsible Stewardship

The Diocese of Rockville Centre is committed to supporting Catholic elementary schools that are academically excellent and spiritually engaging as well as affordable and accessible. All of us are called to collaborate in this mission by working to make the best use of the talent and treasure available to us.

We are entrusted with the stewardship of our schools, which the United States Conference of Bishops has called “a vital part of the teaching mission of the Church.” Our Strategic Plan reaffirms our commitment to our schools as an apostolic ministry of the Catholic Church.

“The Catholic Church needs Catholic schools and society needs Catholic schools,” said Ursuline Sister Joanne Callahan, superintendent of schools. “We need to look at how we can be really strong for the next generation.”

The Strategic Plan calls for many individuals to continue their role as stewards and for others to become engaged. Those include:

- The Tomorrow’s Hope Foundation will continue its vital mission of insuring the excellence and continuance of Catholic schools on Long Island by increasing awareness of the value of Catholic education and providing scholarship and program funding to meet the needs of students and schools.
- Alumni will be invited to become more engaged in the life of their schools, and schools will work to engage alumni by hosting special events for them or finding other ways to get them involved.
- All parishes will continue to contribute to the ministry of Catholic education because schools are a crucial pathway for faith formation.

We all share responsibility for passing on strong Catholic schools to the next generation; we all are stewards in this task.

“We must never forget: Jesus Christ is the reason there are Catholic schools,” wrote the Most Reverend J. Peter Sartain, bishop, Roman Catholic Diocese of Joliet, Ill. “We must be about moving from ‘I’ to ‘we’: each of us has concerns about our parish and our school. But from today forward we must have concern for ‘our’ parishes and ‘our’ schools. If we do not, no amount of planning we do will successfully guide us to fulfill the true goal of Catholic education.”

In the coming weeks, we will provide more information about the Strategic Plan and our vision for the future of Catholic elementary schools in our Diocese. By working together – religious and laity, principals and teachers, parents and students – we can achieve our shared goal of creating a secure future for our schools.

Reorganization of Catholic Schools

Last week Bishop Murphy announced that six schools will close in June 2012 and two strategic collaborations will be initiated. The difficult decision to close certain schools is the result of a thorough analysis of the viability of each school as part of the implementation process of the Strategic Plan for Catholic elementary schools that was announced in September, 2011. The Bishop’s Advisory Committee completed an evaluation of each school’s ability to provide and sustain into the foreseeable future, a quality education program. Given the decline in school-age population and the economic climate on Long Island, the Catholic schools, like many public school districts, must face the harsh reality that we no longer need as many buildings as in the past. We are very hopeful about the future of Catholic school education in the Diocese of Rockville Centre and remain committed to quality Catholic education on Long Island. We ask for your prayers for all those affected by these decisions-the administrators, faculty, current and former families and students, and all who have supported Catholic schools. Our regional school of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton will remain open.