A voice of one crying out in the desert: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His paths.”
### St. Barnabas the Apostle

#### Second Week of Advent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Mass Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, December 11</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 AM</td>
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<td>For the Intentions of Andrew Till</td>
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<td>9:00 AM</td>
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<td>Joseph Sorvillo</td>
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<td>Rosemary Grandwilliams</td>
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<td>Mary Calarco and Winston Lamb</td>
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<td>Corrine McCann</td>
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<td>Marie and Lenny Sanfilippo</td>
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<td>Fr. Paul Landolfi</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday, December 12</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Our Lady of Guadalupe</strong></td>
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<td>6:30 AM</td>
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<td>Frank Brennan</td>
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<td>9:00 AM</td>
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<td>Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Guadalupe</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday, December 13</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>St. Lucy</strong></td>
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<td>6:30 AM</td>
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<td>Charlie and Ann Klika</td>
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<td>9:00 AM</td>
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<td>Paul Lyons</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday, December 14</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Saint John of the Cross</strong></td>
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<td>6:30 AM</td>
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<td>Anthony Restituito and Joseph Sorvillo</td>
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<td>9:00 AM</td>
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<td>Vera Carlson</td>
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<td>John and Bridie Cronin</td>
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<td><strong>Friday, December 15</strong></td>
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<td>6:30 AM</td>
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<td>Irene Carey</td>
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<td>9:00 AM</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Resnick</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday, December 16</strong></td>
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<td>8:00 AM</td>
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<td>Donato, Grazia and Nicola Lamberti</td>
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<td>Fr. Adrian</td>
<td>4:30 PM</td>
<td>Bryan and Eileen Carney</td>
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<td>John Doherty</td>
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<td>John Ryan</td>
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<td>Intentions of Kay Gavaghan</td>
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<td>David Addison</td>
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<td>Anthony Derasmo</td>
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<td>Fr. Charles</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Joseph Procopio</td>
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<td>Teresa Procopio</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday, December 17</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Third Sunday of Advent</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fr. Adrian</td>
<td>7:00 AM</td>
<td>Rev. Theodore King</td>
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<td>Fr. Kevin</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>John V. Luksch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fr. Charles</td>
<td>10:15 AM</td>
<td>Patricia Fenton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fr. Adrian</td>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>Charlie and Ann Klika</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fr. Kevin</td>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>For the People of Our Parish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fr. Charles</td>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>James Clare</td>
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</table>
Come experience the true meaning of the very first Christmas. We are fortunate to have children of all ages participate in this performance from middle and high school ages to little ones who are first time angels and shepherds. Why not join us? Everyone is welcome! Let us join together as a faith filled community to celebrate the joy of the very First Christmas.

Lyn Politi at stbarnabasfamilyliturgy@gmail.com
Isn’t it striking how Mark begins his gospel? There’s no angel Gabriel, no Mary and Joseph, no shepherds or chorus of heavenly angels, as we have in Luke’s Gospel. Mark gives us none of that. He simply declares, ‘The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God.’ Mark makes it clear the good news has everything to do with Jesus.

The next thing we know, we’re not at a manger, we’re out in the wilderness listening to a prophet who is wearing strange clothes and eating the bizarre diet of the ancient prophet Elijah. That prophet in the wilderness proclaims that God is about to do something new. His name was John the Baptist.

The people of God had waited a long time for God to do something to deliver them—we heard it last week: ‘O Lord, why don’t you rip open the heavens and come down and save us!’ Their world was a mess — politically, religiously, economically. It felt like a wilderness, a frightening, terrifying wilderness. A time, perhaps, like ours? Oh, yes, even in our sophisticated times we have political, religious and economic anxieties. Everyone is yelling at everyone else, no one is listening. Could it be that underneath our anxieties, there is the same kind of fear and uncertainty, the same chaos, as people experienced when John the Baptist came on the scene, and when Mark wrote his gospel? That restlessness with a world where there is so much injustice, and so little peace. That weariness, as we make the same old preparations for yet another Christmas, and we know in our soul that, once again, all our frantic scrambling to get ready, all our decorating, all our feasting with families and friends, and our annual visit to Church, will not fill that emptiness inside, and we’ll be more than ready to put it all away again on the 26th of December.

John is the voice crying out in the wilderness, announcing that God is going to turn everything upside-down, especially our tired, old way of muddling through life. His message was bold and straightforward: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord! Repent!’ In this age when Christmas is nothing, in the eyes of the world, but yet another excuse to indulge ourselves, when we want to act as if we are our own gods and don’t need to answer to anyone, there’s a voice, shouting out in the wilderness, ‘Repent!’ Turn around! It reminds us to get on the right pathway, to return to God, to listen to God’s voice and open ourselves up to doing God’s will! Do you hear that voice? Do you hear that voice, crying in the wilderness of this world?
We Pray for our Deceased
Eileen Powers

Advent Wreath Candles
The Second Candle on the Advent Wreath
is lit in loving memory of Louis Scheibler

Bread and Wine
Is presented for the living and deceased members
of the Scanlon and McLaughlin families
from the Spillane family

Sanctuary Lamp
Is lit in memory of the DelCamp and Finnen Families

We Pray for Our Sick
Denise Carnabucci, Sharon Wick, Christopher Minix, Charles
Young, Don Davis, Patrick Hoyne, Meghan Alice Roach,
Stephen Rich, Eugene Ryan, Kristin O’Halloran, Patricia
Merget, John Nalick, Jacob Daniel Haubeil, Kevin Keegan,
Christina Sumperl, Terrie Manderson, Dorothy Giammona, Faith
Leahy, Dr. Lawton Manderson, Linda Nalick, Dolores Tribolli,
Daniel Stryker, John Vasaturo, Elizabeth Maiorana, Marc
Berenson, John Errico, Margaret Meenan, Ed Messmer, Dotty
Sostack, Gail Carey, Nicolette Natale, Mike Guzman, Stephen
Lawlor, Kevin O’Keefe, Aaron Mooney, Shannon Fay, James
Gillen, Sr., Phyllis Ignieri, Joseph DeFrancisi, James Lodato,
Albertina Hughes, Rosemarie Forte, Bridget Reichert, Sophia
Buzio, Joanne Santarsiero, John Fontana, Diana Menendez,
Barry Green, Frank O’Regan, Dr. Michael Tamburo, Baby Lucas
Spina, Baby Allison Grzan, Babies Grayson & Gavin Pierre,
William Galluccio, Millie Torchia, Diane Buscemi, Adele
Dzienius, Vivian Hiel, Dawn Aliberti, Frank Meenan, Michael
Pulitano, Michael Paraninfo, Babies Mickey and Neil Murray.

The Week at a Glance

Sunday:
9:00 AM  L 3 & 4 attending
10:15 AM  Baptism Class,
          Holy Family Chapel
3:00 PM   Christmas Pageant,
          Church
7:30 PM   Al-Anon, School

Monday:
7:00 PM   SEAS Christmas
          Concert, Church
7:30 PM   Charismatic Prayer
          Group, HFC

Tuesday:
9:00 AM   Grade 6 attending
7:00 PM   Tony Bellizzi
          Talk on Parenthood
          Holy Family Chapel
7:30 PM   Respect Life, Rectory

Wednesday:
7:00 PM   CHOSEN L8, HFC
7:30 PM   Reconciliation Service
7:30 PM   Al-Anon, Rectory
7:30 PM   RCIA, Convent

Thursday:
7:00 PM   CHOSEN L8, HFC
7:30 PM   Reconciliation Service
7:00 PM   Bible Study, Rectory

Friday:
1:30 PM   Lectio Divina, Rectory
7:00 PM   Lectio Divina, Rectory

Saturday:
8:30 AM   Men’s Group, HFC
11:30 AM   Baptisms, Church
12:30 PM   Confessions, Church

Our Finances
12/4/16: $ 17,596  12/3/17: $ 17,565
Parish Families Registered: 4,997
Envelopes Mailed: 1,218
Used 12/4/16: 612  12/3/17: 606
Nov. 18 & 19 Mass Attendance: 1,747

Catholic Ministries Appeal
Goal: $106,400  Donors: 530
Pledged: $122,237  Received: $118,459

Special Collections
This Weekend  Retirement Fund for Religious
Saint Barnabas the Apostle

REVERSE RAFFLE

Only 300 tickets to be Sold
Great odds>>> 1 in 300 chance to win the big prize!
Last ticket pulled is the BIG WINNER

GRAND PRIZE OF $5,000

TEN - $500 PRIZES
TWO - $1,000 PRIZES

Each ticket costs $100 and entitles you to admission for two to the Drawing/Cocktail Party (must be 18 or older to purchase and/or attend)

All proceeds will support renovations to St. Barnabas Convent Building

Saturday, April 21, 2018 8:00pm
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School cafeteria
Doors open at 7:30
Drawing starts at 8:00pm
Beer, wine, soda and hors d’oeuvres
Winner need not be present to win

In the event that less than 300 tickets are sold, the prizes will be prorated accordingly (the prize amounts will be decreased relative to the total dollars collected).

Tickets will be available for purchase at the rectory beginning the week of December 11, 2017. Cash or checks made payable to “Saint Barnabas” will be accepted.

REVERSE RAFFLE TICKET REQUEST

Name: ____________________________ Telephone #: ___________________ Number of tickets: ____
Address: __________________________________________________________

Number of adults attending the party on Saturday, April 21st ______0 ______1 ______2
Welcome Our New Parishioners

Mr. & Mrs. Dean Angell
Mr. Brian Dillon
Ms. Lucia Magnoli
Ms. Rosemarie Milevski-Hawd
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Mundy
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Paul
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Schepps
Ms. Lisa Tesoriero
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Zientavski

Retirement Fund for Religious

Elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests need your help. Many served for years in Catholic schools, hospitals, and parishes - often for little to no pay. Now there is a shortage in retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides funding for medications, nursing care, and more. Please give to those who have given a lifetime. This weekend, the Diocese of Rockville Centre will participate in the National Religious Retirement Annual Collection for senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests. Our parishioners have always been most generous to the retired religious collection that we conducted for many years. Our hope is that they will continue to support this worthy collection on behalf of the religious men and women who have devoted their lives to serving us.

Be an Angel

Gift-giving and gift-receiving are meant to remind us of the real meaning behind our celebration of Christmas - God’s priceless gift of His Son, Jesus. And since the time that Mary and Joseph wandered homeless into Bethlehem, providing for the needy has always been a Christmas tradition. So, again this year, our parish will make Angel Tags available; each angel carrying the name of a gift needed by someone in our community. You are invited to take home an angel or two during the next couple of weekends, and bring your gifts to the church lobby. A special collection box will be placed beside Mary’s Shrine for gift cards, or you may bring them to the rectory. Please securely attach your Angel Tags, but do not wrap the gifts, as we will have wrap and ribbon available to go with them. The gifts will be...
distributed the week of December 11th, so please try to deliver them before then. God bless your generosity...and through it may Jesus be born once more in all of our hearts this Christmas.

Social Ministry Advent Giving
As we journey together this Advent Season, Social Ministry invites you to participate in our weekly Advent Giving Program. By donating just ONE item each Sunday of Advent, it would help fill our pantry shelves and provide for our needy families. Many thanks and blessings during this holy season.

- **2nd Sunday of Advent (Dec 10th)** - Dishwashing liquid, laundry detergent
- **3rd Sunday of Advent (Dec 17th)** - Paper towels, tissues, napkins
- **4th Sunday of Advent (Dec 24th)** - Toothpaste, bar soap, shampoo/conditioner

Advent & Christmas Masses
This year the Fourth Sunday of Advent falls on December 24th. All Catholics are required to attend Mass, as usual, for the Fourth Sunday of Advent. Masses are held for the Fourth Sunday of Advent on Saturday, December 23rd at 4:30 PM & 7:00 PM, and Sunday, December 24th at 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM and 12:00 noon.

Our Christmas Eve schedule of Masses begins at 4:00 PM with Masses in the Upper Church and in the Holy Family Chapel. The other times of Mass for Christmas Eve are: 6:00 PM, 10:00 PM and Midnight.

On Monday, December 25th, Christmas Day, Masses are celebrated at 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM and 12:00 noon.

Mary, Mother of God: New Year’s Day
Because this Solemnity falls on January 1st, a Monday, it is not a holy day of obligation this year. Nevertheless, Catholics should be encouraged to attend Mass. Mass will be celebrated on January 1st at 6:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM and 12 noon. This day concludes the Christmas octave.

Epiphany: Sunday January 7, 2018
Homes may be blessed and doors of homes “chalked” with the inscription 20+C+M+B+18 (“Christus mansionem bendicat”). The ritual will be published in our bulletin.

Baptism of the Lord: Monday January 8, 2018
The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is celebrated on Monday, January 8, 2018. It is not a holy day of obligation, but simply marks the end of the Christmas season. Mass will be celebrated at 6:30 AM and 9:00 AM. Ordinary time begins the next day.
Christmas Candles
The candles beside the altar at Christmas may be memorialized. The offering of $50 may be made at the rectory.

Christmas Wafers
In some traditions a blessed wafer is shared among family members at the beginning of the meal at Christmas to recall the real “Bread of Life” who came among us over 2,000 years ago. The blessed wafers are available at the rectory. Your free will offering will be donated to Parish Outreach.

Eucharistic Ministers to the Homebound
Please pick up your poinsettias for your home visits at the rectory December 14th and 15th between the hours of 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM and the 16th from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Please keep in mind that the rectory is closed for lunch from 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM.

Eucharistic Ministers
The sign up sheets for the Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year’s Day Masses are available in the sacristy.

Pre Cana Schedule - Winter 2018
Opening: 6:00 PM Sunday, January 28th Holy Family Chapel
FOCCUS Online: January 29th - February 2nd
FOCCUS Review: February 5th - February 9th
In Home Sessions: February 11th - March 16th
Closing: 5:00 PM Mass - Sunday, March 18th followed by refreshments.

Charismatic Prayer Group
Our meetings are held every Monday evening in the Holy Family Chapel from 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM. Coffee and cake are served after every meeting. Please join us. For more information, call Ellen O’Malley at 221-0574.

Remember your loved ones at Christmas by having Poinsettias placed on the sanctuary in their honor. The offering is $15.

In Memory of ____________________________________________________
Name ____________________________________________________________
Envelope Number _______ Amount $__________________

A Catholic Parish in Bellmore, New York, Since 1912
**Prayer Shawl Ministry**
The St. Barnabas Prayer Shawl Ministry knits and crochets shawls and lap blankets for parishioners who are in the hospital or nursing home, or suffering in some way, and might draw comfort from receiving the prayer shawl. If you know of anyone who would benefit from a shawl or blanket please contact the rectory at 785-0054 and we will gladly provide you with one.

**St. Barnabas Rosary Makers**
The St. Barnabas Rosary Makers are dedicated to promoting the mission of our Blessed Mother which is the message of the Rosary. Our goal is to teach and spread this sacred devotion, first by making rosaries, and then sending them to different countries throughout the world. We are looking to invite new members to join our group. The next meeting date is December 20th at 7:00 PM in the school cafeteria. Please note, we will not be meeting every Wednesday as previously scheduled.

**March for Life 2018**
Save the Date! March for Life 2018 - January 19, 2018. This year’s theme is “Love Saves Lives.” Join us on our bus trip to Washington, DC as we join hundreds of thousands of Americans in a peace pilgrimage on behalf of the unborn. It’s an experience that you’ll never forget! Details to follow in the coming weeks. For more information please contact Vin Murray at 781-7846.

**Birthright**
Pregnant? Need Help? Birthright has a 24 - hour hotline for anyone needing assistance and loving support during pregnancy. Call (800) 550-4900. The following locations have direct numbers: Wantagh 785-4070; Islip (631) 277-3888; Hampton Bays (631) 728-8900; Southold (631) 876-5138; and Rocky Point (631) 821-9727.

**St. Vincent de Paul**
In today’s Gospel, John the Baptist urges us to “Prepare the way of the Lord.” We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our hearts, in our family and to reach out to those in need. Open your heart, by some gesture of generosity to a poor person who until now has been outside the circle of those you help. Have you someone in mind who before Christmas will feel less hungry, less alone, less unloved because of some gesture on your party? Please keep the poor and needy in your prayers.

**Talbot House**
Are you or someone you know having family or interpersonal problems due to drinking alcohol or using drugs? Catholic Charities, Talbot House, a Chemical Dependence Crisis Center located in Bohemia provides withdrawal and stabilization services on a voluntary basis to males and females over the age of 18, who are seeking to stop and/or withdraw from alcohol and/or other drug use. The medical and clinical staff at Talbot House will assess the kind of care the person needs, to begin his/her journey in recovery. For more information, please call (631) 589-4144. Talbot House staff is available 24/7. Each call is confidential. Talbot House is a NO fee for service program.

**Good Shepherd Hospice**
Good Shepherd Hospice is proud to share that a new hospice inpatient unit will open at Mercy Medical Center in Rockville Centre in the Summer of 2018. We are excited to continue our mission to provide compassionate, comprehensive and family-focused care.
care to patients and families and offer this special service in Nassau County. Call (631) 465-6350 or visit goodshepherdhospice.chsli.org/ to learn more.

Job Opportunity
The Long Island Coalition for the Homeless is looking for a Housing Locator/Housing Resource Coordinator. This position will report to the Associate Director. Candidate must possess a Bachelor’s Degree in Human Services, Education, Communications or related field. Experience with providing service to the homeless population preferred. If interested, please contact LICH at (631) 464-4314.

Holy Trinity Driver’s Ed
Spring Driver Education begins February 1, 2018. There are still openings available in classes before and after school and on Saturdays. The application and schedule are available at holytrinityhs.org. If you have questions, please call 433-2900 or email drivered@holytrinityhs.org.

Catholics for Freedom of Religion
The 12 Myths of Christmas:
Myth - Public school students aren’t allowed to sing or play Christmas Carols.
Fact - Students CAN sing and perform religious Christmas carols along with secular ones. The purpose is to teach about our society’s cultural and religious heritage and allow students to perform a full range of music, poetry and drama.
Myth - Teachers and students are banned from saying “Merry Christmas.”
Fact - The Supreme Court stated that teachers and students do not shed their right of free speech at the schoolhouse gate. Saying a simple greeting does not violate the First Amendment Establishment Clause.
Myth - Public schools cannot display religious Christmas symbols.
Fact - A public school is free to display a Nativity scene among other forms of religious and secular seasonal expression with the purpose of depicting the origins of the holiday.
Myth - Students cannot hand out invitations to a Christmas party held at their church.
Fact - When students are allowed to pass out invitations to birthday parties and other events, the courts have ruled that the First Amendment free speech rights are guaranteed to even young students.

News Alert: The Little Sisters of the Poor are returning to court to defend themselves against lawsuits from Pennsylvania and California that seek to take away the nuns’ recently received conscience exemption from the Health and Human Services (HHS) rule. In October, HHS had rolled back the Affordable Care Act’s federal mandate that employers must provide abortion-inducing drugs and contraception in their health insurance plans.

The Men of the Way of Light
In today’s First reading and Gospel we are told to “Prepare the way of the Lord!” Join the members of the St. Barnabas Men’s Prayer Group on Saturday, December 16th as we discuss the ways we can prepare ourselves for the Christmas season. We will be meeting in the Nazareth Room in the lower church immediately after the 8:00 AM Mass. Please join us for Christian fellowship and spiritual renewal (and a bagel breakfast!). If you are interested in joining a men’s prayer group, but this time is not good for you, please contact us and let us know, as we are interested in putting together other prayer “cells” on different days. For more information contact Fred Kreuder at 987-5350 or email stbampg@aol.com and visit our FaceBook page - “The Way of Light - The St. Barnabas the Apostle Men’s Prayer Group.”
Celebrate the Birth of Jesus
Christian Music Ministry of America Christmas Party
2017 - all invited - desserts, mini-concert, sing-a-long
and great fellowship. Monday, December 11th from
7:30 PM - 9:30 PM at 1800 Walt Whitman Avenue,
Melville. There is no admission to attend, however
everyone is expected to bring a dessert, fruit or
vegetable plate. To register call or text Jean Tatum at
CCMA Office 425-4089 or email her at
footprintsjean1@gmail.com.

Regular Sacrificial Giving
You can contribute to St. Barnabas with on-line
banking and bill paying services. Call the rectory to
request the service. Send a check to St. Barnabas
with your weekly collection donation indicated.
Include your Name, Address & Envelope Number.

Each week this amount will be credited to your
account. This eliminates using weekly envelopes and
guarantees that your donation will be received.

Estate Planning
When preparing your estate plan, please consider a
bequest to The Parish of St. Barnabas, Bellmore. You
can make a contribution to support ongoing
operations of the Church or contribute to a particular
project. Your legal counsel can help you refine the
bequest language to suit your specific wishes for The
Parish of St. Barnabas. Thank you.

PLEASE NOTE
We have changed our email address
To place a notice in our Bulletin
email stbapostle@gmail.com.

DAILY VIDEO ADVENT REFLECTIONS
with Bishop John O. Barres
DECEMBER 3RD — DECEMBER 24TH
TO WATCH, VISIT: DRVC.ORG | TELECARETV.ORG | DRVC ON FACEBOOK
Come Join Us For a Joyful Start
To Your Christmas Season

Lessons and Carols

Sunday, Dec. 17, 2017 7:00 pm

Presented At
St. Barnabas R.C. Church
2320 Bedford Ave., Bellmore NY 11710

Featuring
The St. Barnabas Choir
William Dione, Music Director

Admission is Free

If you would like to bring a nonperishable food item
for our pantry’s Christmas baskets, please leave it
in the church lobby with our thanks!
“Pointers for Proclaimers: Proclaiming the Word Effectively”

By MSGR. JOSEPH DeGROCCO, D.MIN, Pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish in Lindenhurst.

As any Lector at Mass knows, a good proclamation of the Sacred Scriptures does not just happen by accident; it takes careful and prayerful preparation ahead of time. Some aspects of good preparation should be part-and-parcel of every Lector’s good habits and should more or less go without saying: beginning to prepare early enough in the week (preferably even the Monday before!) by reading over the readings in advance many times; praying over the readings as part of one’s prayer throughout the week; and being attentive to the basics of good public speaking techniques such as pacing, eye contact, and clear diction. Beyond those basics, however, allow me to point our four additional helpful hints for proclaiming the Word of God at Mass that might not be so obvious, but are just as vitally important.

Use the Notes from the Workbook for Lectors, Gospel Readers and Proclaimers of the Word.

There are any number of resources from various publishers in the “world of liturgy” that are meant to assist Lectors in their ministry, both published and online, but one of the best is the Workbook for Lectors, Gospel Readers and Proclaimers of the Word published by Liturgy Training Publications annually. Lectors would do well to take seriously the information provided by this (and similar resources). Such resources provide tips for pronunciation, tips to understand the flow of the reading, and background material (exegesis) about the reading itself — content and theology. It may not be obvious at first, but having such material as part of the Lector’s preparation really does make a difference. Listeners can tell the difference between a superficial reading of the selection when there is no background knowledge of the material and an indepth reading of the material when, in the conscious and subconscious mind of the reader, all kinds of contexts are understood and connections are made.

Practice Out Loud.

Anyone reading in public should always realize that going over it silently “in one’s head,” no matter how many times one might do this, is a poor substitute for actually practicing it out loud. Take the time to actually practice the reading out loud throughout the entire week. So what if your family members look at you like you are crazy? One out-loud practice all the way through is worth a dozen times reading it over in your head. Practice it out loud numerous times over the course of the week.

Have an Attitude -

Of course, to borrow from Saint Paul’s letter to the Philippians, chapter 2, a Lector’s attitude, spiritually, must be that of Christ’s — namely, of having the proper humility and reverence that one should have because one is serving as a vehicle for proclaiming nothing less than the Word of God. That is both awesome and humbling! On a human level, though, there is also a certain attitude that one must
have which is an attitude of confidence and assurance; it’s not one of pompousness or drawing attention to oneself, but it must be a certain self-possession that communicates to the assembly that something important and worthwhile is occurring in the proclamation of the Word. A mousy or reticent reading of the Word is no help to the liturgy. What is helpful is an attitude whereby, in the proper sense, the Lector commands the attention of the assembly by communicating with his or her physical presence and demeanor, not theatrical performance, but rather something akin to, “Hey, folks: I have something important to say — not because it’s about me, but because it’s God’s Word — and by golly you’re going to listen!” Some aspects (two sub-hints) of this attitude would be:

Not rushing things together - don’t start at “A reading from…” and just rush everything together until “The word of the Lord.” Pause after the opening; pause at the end of the reading before you say “The Word of the Lord.” Following the cues in the Workbook, give a brief pause or breath after a sentence or paragraph that deserves to “hang” there because of its importance. It’s not a race!

Don’t swallow up phrases - The most common example of this is when a lector garbles “The Word of the Lord” at the end of the reading, or tacks it on, without any pause, to the last sentence of the reading. Don’t lose this phrase; this is an important moment of calling for the assembly’s acceptance and affirmation of the Word just proclaimed. Say it boldly, looking right at the people, and “demand” a response back from them.

Proclaim and Announce; Don’t Read
This last point is connected with the idea of having “an attitude,” and it involves keeping in mind that proclaiming the Scriptures at Mass is more than just doing a public reading. Remember that God’s Word is living and active; just as at the beginning God created everything by speaking, as recounted in the Book of Genesis, so too in this speaking here and now is God’s Word creating something, by bringing about conversion and new life in the hearts and souls of the hearers. Therefore, the Lector must proclaim that such a living activity is taking place by a living Word. You as the Lector are an instrument in making something happen; God is using you as a vehicle. In that sense, you are “sacramental” - you are a Sacrament of the Word. That deserves a proclamation that is alive and engaging, not one that is just read with low energy in a flat way.

Liturgical Ministry Training
ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE OF WORSHIP 516-678-5800 x504

1. TRAINING FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION: required for all those who are beginning as Ministers. Session “A” is required of ALL Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Those who minister in hospitals, nursing homes and to homebound persons are required to attend Session “B” in addition to Session “A”. SESSION “A” MUST BE ATTENDED PRIOR TO SESSION “B”.

CONTACT FR. ADRIAN IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING AS A EUCHARISTIC MINISTER OR LECTOR

2.

TIMES AND PLACES FOR MINISTRY TRAINING:

In Nassau: EM “A” Session and Lectors
April 14, 2018; 9 AM – 1 PM
St. Agnes Parish Center, Rockville Centre

“B” Session for Extraordinary Ministers
April 21, 2018; 9 AM – 1 PM
St. Agnes Parish Center, Rockville Centre

EVENING SESSIONS for Extraordinary Ministers and Lectors at St. Elizabeth, Melville
Session “A” - Wednesday, May 16, 2018; 7:00 — 10 PM
Session “B” - Wednesday, May 23, 2018; 7:00 — 10 PM
2018 Multi-Parish Teen Retreat

March 16, 17, & 18

Huntington Seminary

Contact:
Kieran Maelia
St. Barnabas LifeTeen
(516) 785-0130
stbyouth17@gmail.com

Daily Rate: $50.00
2-Night Stay: $125
(Meals Included)
Reconciliation Service

Tonight, you have the amazing opportunity to encounter the infinite mercy and forgiveness of our heavenly Father. You can get right with God by having your sins forgiven and receiving his grace; you can make a new beginning in your relationship with him. God wants to lift the burden of whatever is weighing you down, whatever makes you feel you are not worthy of his love. He wants to lift that burden and embrace you with his infinite love.

Pope Francis said, “God never tires of forgiving our sins; it is we who tire of asking for forgiveness.” Do not be afraid to ask for God’s forgiveness. God created you out of love and wants to be in relationship with you now and forever in heaven. If you have been away from the Sacrament of Reconciliation for a long time or if you have some serious sins on your soul, do not hesitate to ask God for forgiveness. Make today the first day of eternity spent with your Father who loves you.

Level 7 December 20 or 21

Level 8 January 3 or 4

The 4 Confirmation Forms are due

• The Act of Contrition demonstrates our sorrow for our sins: "My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy."

• Penance is something we do or pray as a response to God’s mercy.
Many Catholics are starting to wake up to the awareness that there is much we do not know! We need ongoing religious education. Let’s set the record straight on some things that the Church still holds.

1) Sin, including Mortal Sin, still exists

Sin didn’t morph into “making mistakes.” Personal sin didn’t disappear. In fact sin even makes news headlines every day. In the Catechism of the Catholic Church, sections 1846-1876, the issue of sin, both venial and mortal, are defined in union with the constant teaching of the Church.

Since sin didn’t evaporate into the ether, neither did the necessity to address their effect and need for healing. Being in a state of mortal sin still excludes a person from the reception of the Eucharist until Confession has happened.

We have never taught that one has a right to the Eucharist in any old state. Never. In fact, if we did, that would point to a belief that the bread and wine must still be just bread and wine. We do not believe this either.

2) Sunday and Holy Day Masses are obligations

A Catholic in good standing, exempting those who are ill or taking care of someone who is ill, are obliged to worship God at Mass on every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation. That never changed. When one chooses to opt out of Mass in favor of sleeping in, sports, shopping or anything in this vein, one has found a god they think is more worthy of their time than the God.

That any Catholic would believe their faith life is just fine without Mass is delusional. To knowingly and willfully miss Mass is mortally sinful. To teach one’s children by word or example that Mass is optional is to teach your children how to mortally sin. This is a very serious matter.

3) The sanctity of human sexuality is still upheld

We view human sexuality as such a profound good that the Church advises against the abuse of human sexuality into a mere plaything. We have always had problems with the misuse of human sexuality and the devastation it brings.

Well, you may ask, what about those clerics who sexually preyed on their flocks? They did so in direct opposition to the teachings of the Church. The Church does not okay any use of human sexuality that goes against its very nature. I know this is not popular, but the Church has not changed its teachings about this. See Catechism sections 2331-2400.
4) Confession is still necessary for the forgiveness of Mortal Sin

Sin needs to be forgiven for the relationship between God and with His people to be restored. Mortal sin severs that relationship. Confession is the way we fix that. Whether one feels that is true or not, does not change that this is the constant teaching of the Church. See Catechism sections 1446-1470.

5) The Catholic faith is not a buffet where one picks and chooses what is okay and comfortable

The Catholic faith has the right to say that this is what we believe. It has the right to set the standard. We do so because this is what Christ taught. The point of faith is to challenge to greater heights, courage, and holiness. Every rule and teaching of the Church comes from what it means to love God and love our neighbor as ourselves. It is an integral whole. Once we start picking and choosing, we damage the whole. When people start picking and choosing, it becomes easier and easier to abandon faith altogether. Our need to learn is present, as is our need to have clear teaching.

Religious Education

We still have a few students that need either a one-on-one learning environment or a small group environment that need someone to work with them. Please call the Office of Christian Formation at 785-0130 to volunteer or to receive more information. We are also in need of Adult Volunteers to be Substitutes, Hall Monitors and Attendance/Lobby Aides for our Religious Education program. Please call the office to get more information.

Upcoming Dates:

Sunday, December 10: Level 3 and 4 – 9 AM Mass
Tuesday, December 12: “Parenthood” by Tony Bellizi 7:00 - 8:00 PM in the Holy Family Chapel
Wednesday, December 13: NO CLASSES
Sunday, December 17: Level 5 and 6 – 9:00 AM Mass
Tuesday, December 19: NO CLASSES
Thursday, December 21: NO CLASSES
NO CLASSES MONDAY, DECEMBER 25th THROUGH TUESDAY, JANUARY 2nd, 2018

'TIS (almost) THE SEASON

TO SIGN UP, VISIT BestAdventEver.com/BeautifulHope
If you wish to arrange a baptism, please contact the rectory at 785-0054. Once your request is received you will be invited to meet one of the priests. This meeting offers parents an opportunity to review the baptism ceremony and set the date. The meeting is more conversational than instructional. Forms need to be completed giving information on the parents, child’s date and place of birth, as well as the names and religious affiliation of the sponsors. At least one sponsor must be a practicing Catholic.

Baptisms are held on Saturday at 11:30 AM, and Sunday at 1:30 PM, when the Church is available.

If you wish to hold a private baptism you must bring a visiting priest to perform the baptism service. Private baptisms may be held on Saturday at 1:30 PM and 3:00 PM and on Sunday at 3:00 PM, if these times are available.

First time parents are required to attend a Baptism Class. Classes are held in the Holy Family Chapel on Agape Sunday, the second Sunday of the month. Crying babies and noisy children are welcome. We begin with Mass at 10:15 AM, when your baby will be welcomed to St. Barnabas, followed by refreshments and the class.

The dates for class are December 10, January 14, February 11, March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10, (10:30 Mass for July 8, August 12 and September 9).

May the Lord preserve the members of our Army, National Guard, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Merchant Marine, Coast Guard and Peace Corps from all harm.

**US ARMY:**

**NATIONAL GUARD:**

**US NAVY:**

**US MARINES:**

**US AIR FORCE:**
Capt. McLean G. Bethea, Rev. Major Timothy Hirten, Nicholas P. Wright,

**US MERCHANT MARINE:**
Lt. J.G. Eric Stumpel.

**US COAST GUARD:**

**US PEACE CORPS:**
Patrick Coons
Breakfast With Santa - The SEAS community came together again to celebrate the Annual Breakfast With Santa Event. The reason for the season was palatable as community members young and old shared a meal together, did crafts, wrote letters, and visited with Santa. A very big Thank you! to Debra Schwan, Laura Rugen, and all the parent volunteers whose tireless efforts make this event so special!

Christmas Card Raffle - Give the gift of chance!
Only $10 to play the WHOLE month of January!
Daily Prizes Range from $25-200
Winners are re-entered!
Contact the school office: 516-785-5709
We can deliver the Christmas Cards directly to you!
Parent & Child Program

Our Time is the perfect way for you and your child to become familiar with the classroom environment while singing songs, doing crafts, reading books, and celebrating God’s love together.

Class sessions are offered on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday from 10am to 11am from September thru June at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Regional School.

For more information or to enroll contact:
Sabina Lamb (516) 781-9834
Discover the hidden words.

Word Bank

JESUS    REPENT    JORDAN
JOHN     SPIRIT    RIVER
BAPTIZED GOD    DESERT
ROMAN    COUSIN    LOCUSTS
John wore clothing made of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

John baptized the people in the Jordan River.

Match the words and pictures.

- clothing
- belt
- locusts and honey

Count how many fish. 1 or 2? 3 or 4?
Advent Crossword Puzzle

Across
1. Famous saint, who is associated with Christmas, whose feast is celebrated during Advent
4. Popular evergreen family devotion used during Advent (2 words)
6. Church holiday right after Advent
7. “Our ______ of Guadalupe,” Catholic feast falling during Advent
8. Jesus’ cousin who prepared the way for Jesus (3 words)
11. Title of Jesus, meaning “anointed one,” and the name of an oratorio by Handel
13. Church season immediately before Advent (2 words)
14. Title of Jesus meaning “master”
15. Pinkish color used during the third Sunday of Advent
16. “Christ _______.”: Church holiday celebrated the Sunday before Advent (2 words)
17. Number of Sundays during the Advent season

Down
2. One of the major Old Testament prophets
3. Month when Advent usually begins
5. Liturgical color of the Advent season
8. Foster-father of Jesus
9. What the word “Advent” means
10. Advent Hymn: “O come, O come
    ____________
11. Mother of Jesus
12. “The Immaculate ________.”: Marian holiday that falls during the Advent season
John Prepares the Way

It is written in Isaiah the prophet:

To read Isaiah’s prophecy on the scroll below, fit the pieces into the puzzle.

John wore clothing made of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

Use the graph code to write the letters on the blanks.

And this was his message:

What did John do?
Circle the two letters in each line that come together in order in the alphabet. Write the first letter of each pair on the line.

1. DGBCWZ
2. KMSABT
3. LPQKAH
4. AEIOTU
5. DFMQJ
6. KSVXZA
7. BLNREF
8. AIKMD

Furry body covering
Happiness
Worn on head
Insect that makes honey
A camping shelter
Halt!

So ______ ______ _______ appeared in the wilderness.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

the forgiveness of sins.