ADVENT
A SEASON OF PREPARATION
ISAIAH 7:14
St. Barnabas the Apostle

First Week of Advent

Monday, December 3
Fr. Michael 6:30 AM
Fr. Kevin 9:00 AM
Saint Francis Xavier
Rose Marie Pietroforte
Elaine Rezny
Ana Klesitz
Kevin Shay
Cornelius Fitzsimons
Nicholas Pappalandro
Level 1 & 2 attending Mass

Tuesday, December 4
Fr. Kevin 6:30 AM
Fr. Adrian 9:00 AM
Helen and Forto Vella
Deceased Members of the Dorothy Healy Family

Wednesday, December 5
Fr. Adrian 6:30 AM
Fr. Michael 9:00 AM
Charlie and Ann Klika
Iolanda Dattilo

Thursday, December 6
Fr. Adrian 6:30 AM
Fr. Michael 9:00 AM
Carol Caputo
Roy Risberg

Friday, December 7
Fr. Kevin 6:30 AM
Fr. Adrian 9:00 AM
Fr. Michael 5:00 PM
Sr. Joseph Richard
Sean O’Connor
Vigil Mass for the Immaculate Conception
Elaine Rezny

Saturday, December 8
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Fr. Michael 8:00 AM
Fr. Adrian 10:30 AM
Fr. Adrian 4:30 PM
Christine Aluotto
Corrine McCann
John Preputnik
Intentions of Sr. Alice Johnson
Elaine Rezny
Sean O’Connor
Nicole McLaren
James Gillen, Sr.

Fr. Michael 7:00 PM
Vito Ottomano

Sunday, December 9
Second Sunday of Advent
Fr. Adrian 7:00 AM
Fr. Kevin 9:00 AM
Fr. Michael 10:15 AM
Fr. Kevin 10:30 AM
Fr. Michael 12:00 PM
Fr. Adrian 5:00 PM
For the People of Our Parish
Deceased Members of the Noll Family
Joseph Gleason, Jr.
Adeline and Peter Villella, Jr.
Katherine and Ann Vliet
Debra Berger
**What is Advent?**

A season of **hope, preparation, expectation & celebration**

Advent is made up of four weeks, divided into two periods:
1. **First Sunday of Advent** until December 16
   - Focus: Christ’s second coming at the end of time
2. December 17 to 24
   - Focus: Preparation for celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ

The **Advent Wreath** is a popular symbol used as the focus of prayer throughout the season.

The **first Sunday of Advent** marks the beginning of the liturgical year.

**Through prayer, spiritual reading, acts of charity, and participation in Eucharist,** Advent helps us to expand the meaning of our lives, so **that we are not ends in ourselves, but a people who seek Christ as our hopeful end and joyful fulfilment.**

**Our prayer at Advent is one of hope and love:**

*Come, Lord Jesus!*

**“Advent” (Latin)**

**Means**

*“a coming or arrival”*

Advent is more than the preparation for Christ’s birth. It also celebrates the three-fold coming of the Lord:
- **Remembering** the events that surrounded the Lord’s coming long ago
- **Celebrating** his coming among us today
- **Looking forward** to his final coming in glory

**Advent Reconciliation Services**
- Wednesday December 5th at 7:30 PM
- Thursday December 6th at 7:30 PM

**St. Barnabas Lessons & Carols**
- Sunday December 9th at 7:00 PM

**Children’s Christmas Pageant**
- Sunday December 16th at 3:00 PM

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**O God,**

As light comes from this candle, may the blessing of Jesus Christ come to us, warming our hearts and brightening our way. May Christ our Saviour bring life into the darkness of this world, and to us, as we wait for his coming. Amen.

*From CCCB’s Blessings and Prayers for the Home and Family*
Getting Ready

Advent means ‘coming’ and the readings for today focus on the Second Coming of Christ. There have been many who have tried to predict the second coming. In fact in the 19th century alone the dates announced for the Second Coming of Christ included, 1835, 1838, 1839, 1843, 1844, 1866, 1870, and 1873. Even in our era, each time there is a panic or a depression, or a war, somebody says, ‘It won’t be long now.’ In any event, the important thing about the Second Coming is not its timing or its nature, but what it teaches about our conduct. For one thing, it teaches us that we need to get ourselves ready to meet Christ at any moment. I was speaking to someone during the week who wanted to make a life confession. He was brought to this desire by the realization that he is now at the age that his parents died, and he wants to be prepared to meet the Lord if he should die soon. We, too, want to be ready and the time to prepare is now.

There is a fable which tells of three apprentice devils who came to earth to finish their apprenticeship. They were talking with Satan, the chief of the devils, about their plans to tempt and to ruin humanity. The first said, ‘I will tell them that there is no God.’ Satan answered, ‘You won’t delude many, for most know that there is a God.’ The second said, ‘I will tell them that there is no hell.’ Satan said, ‘You won’t deceive anyone that way; people know even now that there is hell to pay for sin.’ The third said, ‘I will tell them that there is plenty of time.’ ‘Go,’ said Satan, ‘and you will ruin people by the thousands.’ The most dangerous of all delusions is that there is plenty of time. We cannot dictate when or how Christ comes in future glory, but we make ourselves ready for it by opening our hearts to Him now. May He find us ready.
We Pray for Our Deceased
Amelia Culpepper
Natalie Sorvillo

Advent Wreath Candles
The First Candle on the Advent Wreath is lit in loving memory of Bill O’Malley.

Bread and Wine
Is presented in memory of Mary and Joseph McNulty from the Perno Family.

Flowers for the Blessed Mother
Are presented in loving memory of our Mom, Mary Cruz from her daughters Linda, Anita and Patty.

We Pray for Our Sick

Sisters of St. Barnabas
Intention
That during these days of Advent, we pray that we will hear the Lord, in the silence of our heart and that it may be the inspiration we all seek.

Our Finances
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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>11/18/18</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/19/17</td>
<td>$16,502</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/25/18</td>
<td>$15,146</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/26/17</td>
<td>$16,492</td>
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Families Registered: 5,083
Envelopes Mailed: 1,451

Used: 11/18/18: 564 11/25/18: 527
11/19/17: 587 11/26/17: 569

Catholic Ministries Appeal
Goal: $108,900  Donors: 485
Pledged: $112,655  Received: $109,939

Special Collections
This Weekend
Maintenance & Repair
To replace the boiler in the Convent

Convent Boiler Replacement
Thank you for your help to fund replacing the boiler in the Convent. Our goal is to raise $40,000. Today’s Maintenance and Repair collection will go towards this project and any private donations are also welcome. To date, we have raised 32% of our goal! As always, we thank you for your continued support and generosity. We will keep you posted as we approach our goal.

December 9th
Retirement Fund for Religious
Immaculate Conception
Mass on Friday, December 7th, at 5:00 PM and on Saturday, December 8th, at 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM.

Extraordinary Ministers & Lectors
The sign-up sheet for Christmas & New Year’s is available in the Sacristy. The 2019 Lector Workbooks are also available.

Altar Servers
The altar server schedule for December was sent by email. Thank you to all our servers. If you are available to serve at the Christmas Masses, please contact the Rectory Office at 785-0054. The Mass times are Monday, December 24th, Christmas Eve at 4:00 PM (Church), 4:00 PM (Holy Family Chapel), 6:00 PM, 10:00 PM and 12 Midnight. On Christmas Day, Mass is at 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM and 12 Noon. The follow-up training class for our new altar servers will be held on Thursday, December 6th at 4:30 PM or Thursday, December 13th at 5:30 PM. We hope our new altar servers can attend one class. Thank you.

RCIA News
This Sunday, December 2nd, during the 10:30 AM Mass, we will celebrate the Rite of Welcome for those adults in our parish who are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter. Assembling publicly for the first time, the candidates declare their intention to prepare for the Sacraments. The gathered community accepts them as persons who intend to become full members of the Church. Please welcome and pray for our catechumen Francesca Basso and our candidates for full communion: Jenna Pascarello and Dana Digrolamo.

The Week Ahead

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>Rite of Welcome</td>
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<td>7:30</td>
<td>Al-Anon, South Cafeteria</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>Charismatic Prayer Group, HFC</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Prayer Shawl Meeting, Rectory</td>
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<td>12:30</td>
<td>Friendly Seniors, HFC</td>
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<td>7:00</td>
<td>Parents Talk, HFC</td>
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<td>Catholic Daughters, School</td>
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<td>7:30</td>
<td>Bereavement Group, Rectory</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7:00</td>
<td>CHOSEN L7 Reconciliation, HFC</td>
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<td>7:00</td>
<td>Al-Anon, Rectory Room</td>
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<td>RCIA, Convent Room</td>
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<td>Choir, Church</td>
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<td>7:30</td>
<td>Parish Reconciliation</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>CHOSEN L7 Reconciliation, HFC</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>1:30</td>
<td>Lectio Divina, Rectory Room</td>
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<td>8:00</td>
<td>Adoration, Church</td>
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Banons of Marriage:
Alec Blieberg & Katie Mallon
Next Week’s Second Collection

Mass for the Anointing of the Sick
On Sunday, December 9th, the second Sunday of Advent, we will celebrate the Anointing of the Sick at the noon Mass. All who are sick are invited to participate in this beautiful sacrament. The church does have regulations regarding who may be anointed. First, the person seeking to be anointed must have a serious illness. The illness may be physical, spiritual or emotional but it must be of a serious nature. Secondly, the Church specifies that you have never been anointed for this condition previously. Once you are anointed for an illness, you may not be anointed again unless the condition worsens. Because one may not perceive the grace of God in one’s life does not mean that it has not been granted. One may be anointed because of age. Anyone who is 65 or older may be anointed once a year because of one’s age without a serious illness. If you have any further questions, please call the rectory. This is a beautiful communal celebration. Please invite a relative or friend, who may not come to Mass because of illness, to come to this special liturgy. Your assistance in getting them to Mass is a great grace.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
The next meeting of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Mother Seton #2413, will be held on Tuesday, December 4th at 7:00 PM in the School Cafeteria. After a short meeting, our annual Christmas party will be held. For further information please call Jackie at 781-7846.
Dear Ushers

I would like to begin by thanking you for your generous service. Your ministry is invaluable to the celebration of the Liturgy. The Holidays will soon be upon us. And the Ushers play a vital part in the Holy Day Liturgies as they do every Sunday. It helps if we can be as organized as possible before the holidays happen. There will be signup sheets for Ushers as there are for other Liturgical Ministries. Please put your name down where you will be serving. As the Mass schedule is not the same as regular Sundays, please be sure to wear your name badge. If you do not have one, please call the rectory for a replacement. The name badge will help you to identify Ushers you may not be familiar with. In attempting to greater organize the Ushers, we do need a list of all Ushers. Please sign your name to the Ushers List Book in the rear of the Church. We would like a minimum of six Ushers at every Mass. If you are an Usher at a Mass where there are fewer than six Ushers, please try to enlist volunteers to serve in a regular capacity at a Mass. We will also be asking for volunteers through the bulletin. Thank you again for your service.

Ushers Needed

Liturgical Ministers enhance the celebration of the Liturgy. This is true of all Liturgical Ministers, and is very true of the Ministry of Usher. Ushers not only collect the offerings of the community and present them at the time of the offertory, but they also welcome those who are gathering for the celebration and oversee the orderly celebration. They are indispensable for the orderly celebration of the Liturgy. At this time we are in need of additional men and women to volunteer for this ministry. If you are interested in serving St. Barnabas Parish in this capacity, please complete the following and return it to the rectory.

Name

I attend ____________________________ Mass

Phone#

Address

Email

Ushers Needed

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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 weekend of Advent it would be helpful to fill our pantry shelves and provide for our needy families. Many thanks and blessings during this holy season.

- **1st Sunday of Advent (December 2nd)** - coffee, hot chocolate, juice
- **2nd Sunday of Advent (December 9th)** - dishwashing liquid, laundry detergent
- **3rd Sunday of Advent (December 16th)** - paper towels, tissues, napkins
- **4th Sunday of Advent (December 23rd)** - toothpaste, bar soap, shampoo/conditioner

Donations can be left in the church lobby near the Tree of Life or brought to the rectory. Thank you.

Thank You from Social Ministry
A big, heartfelt thank you to all of our parishioners who made such generous donations to the Food Pantry for Thanksgiving. Your contributions helped us provide baskets for over 60 families in our area who are struggling and needed the help to make Thanksgiving a special day for them. We received turkeys, food, cash, checks and gift cards which went to these families providing them with foods from breakfast to dinner and many extras. A very special thank you to the volunteers who gave so generously of their time and helped in the sorting, assembling and distribution of food. We are also grateful to our regional school, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, our Religious Education Program, Catholic Daughters of America, Girl Scouts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Stew Leonard’s, King Kullen and Runyon's Restaurant, Ehrenman and Khan Pediatric Dentistry, Police Holy Name Society of Nassau County and the VFP 2770. With sincere thanks and many blessings to all.

Christmas Gift Giving
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 that time Mary and Joseph wandered homeless in Bethlehem, providing for the needy has been a Christmas tradition. So, again this year, our parish will make available Christmas tags, each carrying the name of a gift needed by someone in our community. You are invited to take home a tag or two during the next few weekends. A special collection box will be placed in the church for gift cards or you may bring them to the Rectory Office. Please securely attach your tag to the gift and leave unwrapped in the church lobby or Rectory Office. We ask that gifts be brought in by Friday, December 14th so we can distribute in time to our families. God bless you for your generosity...and through it may Jesus be born once more in all of our hearts this Christmas.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul
As we begin Advent, we are called to “wait” in joyful anticipation for the grace of Christmas to once again bless our lives. “What do we anticipate?” and “How do we wait?” The First Sunday of Advent, the Church’s New Year, ushers in a different way of waiting, of heightened anticipation. We Christians don’t wait for a What, or for a Whom. And that changes the character of our waiting. When Christ comes we can “stand erect” without fear, but with joyful anticipation of
our redemption. This is the Whom and What of our waiting! The mystery of Christmas is the celebration of the call of humanity to share that eternal life of God. May that faith with which we have been gifted, lift our minds anew to “the things that are above.” Please keep the poor and needy of the parish in your prayers so that they may celebrate the grace of God’s love this Christmas.

Celebration of Mary
Join the Friends of the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception for a Celebration of Mary at the Seminary located at 440 West Neck Road, Huntington, on her special feast day, Saturday, December 8th. Journey to the heart of Mary through Theology, Spirituality, and the Arts. Beginning with 10:00 AM Mass, celebrated by Bishop John O. Barres, the day will include lunch, presentations by Msgr. Peter Vaccari, Rector of St. Joseph’s Seminary; Brother Timothy Driscoll, SM, Kellenberg Memorial H.S., and the Cathedral Seminary Schola (Douglaston). Advance registration required. $40 per guest. Contact the Seminary Development Office at (631) 423-0483, ext. 102 or email bmalone@icsseminary.edu.

Marian Healing Mass
There will be a Healing Mass at the Church of St. Anastasia, 45-14 245th Street, Douglaston on Tuesday, December 11th at 7:00 PM. For more information, call (718) 631-4454.

St. Joseph Renewal Center
St. Joseph Renewal Center now in Bay Shore at Montfort Retreat Center sponsors a three-year program in the training of Spiritual Directors. The program involves a thirty-week retreat experience of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. This takes place during the first year, on a one-to-one with an experienced spiritual director. During year two, the participant attends a formal class once-a-week from September to May, in the year of study. Presentations are given on the topics of mystery, grace, religious experience, images of God, prayer, the psychology of spiritual development, the stages of spiritual development, the spirituality and life of St. Ignatius, feelings and emotions in prayer, the art of Christian listening, and discernment. Involved in year three, in the fall, the students participate in formal classes developing their knowledge and skills as a spiritual director, as well as being introduced to the essential presence of supervision in spiritual direction. In the spring semester, each new intern is expected to participate in a ten-week internship. During the internship, the intern directs two people, visits with them weekly and meets with their supervisor once a week.
Contact St. Joseph’s Retreat Center if you would like to be part of this individual and unique experience of one-on-one spiritual direction, with a man or woman who is in the final stages of formation in the Art of Spiritual Direction. There is no cost attached to your participation, only your faithful commitment to the ten-week experience. The internship is from February through April. Please call Sister Josephine Daspro, CSJ, D.Min. at (631) 647-8683, if you are interested in participating in the Internship in the Art of Spiritual Direction. In order to adequately prepare, you need to contact the office as soon as possible. The following program will also take place at St. Joseph Renewal Center at Montfort Spiritual
Center, 26 S. Saxon Ave., Bay Shore.
Advent Day of Prayer - Wednesday, December 12th from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM - “A Child brings JOY to a BROKEN WORLD” - Offering: $60 includes lunch. Presenter: Josephine Daspro, CSJ.

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

The Men of the Way of Light
Today, we celebrate the 1st Sunday of Advent. We officially begin our preparation for the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. What do these preparations entail? For most of us, this means decorating the house, shopping for just the right gifts for our loved ones, and perhaps making a donation to a local charity. But, we are called to be so much more! Last week, we celebrated the feast of Christ the King of the Universe! As brothers and sisters, we are princes and princesses! I challenge each of you to do something extraordinary this Advent! Get out of your comfort zone and trust God to guide your heart. Do something that would require real sacrifice! Make a real difference in someone’s life! Do something truly meaningful! There are so many in need around us, we have to just open our eyes to recognize the opportunities that God has put before us. Make this Christmas the true celebration of love it was always meant to be as God gives us the most precious gift of His Son! Need more reasons to do the extraordinary? Please attend our faith discussion group at our next meeting on Saturday, December 15th, immediately following the 8:00 AM Mass. We meet in the Nazareth Room of the Holy Family Chapel. Bagels and coffee served. Our meetings run until 10:30 AM. For more information, visit our FaceBook page or pick up one of our business cards displayed at the rear of the church.

Focus on Religious Freedom
A UC Berkley Student Senator is being forced to resign after abstaining from voting for a resolution that condemns this Administration for considering narrowing the legal definition of gender to match a person’s physical sex at birth. Isabella Chow, a junior, believes that voting for the resolution would
compromise her Christian faith. The Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFR), passed almost unanimously in 1993, is now under attack by certain members of Congress in an attempt to give secular values priority over religious freedoms. “As RFRA reaches its 25th anniversary, most Americans don’t know about this aggressive effort to amend the Religious Freedom Restoration Act into oblivion,” wrote former Rep. Ernest Istook.

Eucharistic Retreat
Join the Missionaries of The Most Holy Eucharist for a Eucharistic Retreat Day on Sunday, December 9th from 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington. The day includes Hot Breakfast and Lunch, Rosary, Spiritual Meditations, Holy Mass, Confession, Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction. You must register in advance - space is limited. Please email MostHolyEucharist@gmail.com or call (631) 896-0870. Please bring a $35 donation with you on the day of the retreat.

Benefit for Mercy Soup Kitchen
The renowned St. Joseph’s Choir will present a FREE BENEFIT CONCERT at St. Joseph’s Church in Babylon Village on Sunday, December 9th at 7:00 PM. They will perform selections from Handel’s MESSIAH and Vivaldi’s GLORIA directed by Dr. Marie Drohan and accompanied by soloist, trumpet harpsichord and the Sophisticated Strings. The concert will include other beautiful choral selections and will be preceded by a moving candlelight procession. St. Joseph’s R.C. Church is located on North Carll Avenue in Babylon Village, one block north of Main St. and two blocks south of the Babylon railroad station. Early arrival is recommended as the church is put in complete darkness promptly at 7:00 PM. Free-will offerings of cash or checks made payable to St. Joseph Church will be appreciated. Suggested donation is $20 per person or $40 per family.

Bake Sale
St. Andrew’s Church, 275 Ellison Avenue, Westbury is having a Christmas Bake sale on Saturday December 8th from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Cookies, breads, poppy seed, fruit and nut rolls, and more will be featured along with Pirohi and other Eastern European foods.

Part Time Outreach Position
A Western Nassau parish is seeking a Parish Social Ministry Coordinator. The PSM Coordinator will work with the volunteers (e.g., Core Workers) and SVDP conference members serving the clients who seek parish assistance through the food pantry and other support services. This is a part-time position. A Bachelor’s degree and some experience in PSM is preferred. Multi-lingual/bi-lingual a plus (Spanish and/or Creole). Please email cover letter and resume to: Malloy.Paula@CatholicCharities.CC.

Catholic Charities Employment
Direct Support Professionals needed. FT and PT evening, awake overnight and weekend shifts available. Many On Call opportunities as well. Seeking individuals who have a sincere desire to use their skills to help Developmentally Disabled Adults enhance their ability to lead self-determining lives and participate in the community. Essential functions include personal care, household maintenance, transporting/safeguarding residents
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:
Rev. Major Timothy Hirten, Nicholas P. Wright.

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

US COAST GUARD:
Lt. Robert M. Scaduto, Jr.

on community outings, coaching for skills development and administering meds. Experienced and non-experienced welcome to apply. Training provided. HS diploma/GED and a clean, valid NYS Driver’s License are needed to apply. To apply, send resume and cover letter via email or fax. Reference “DSP-parish bulletin” in the subject line. Fax to 733-7038 or email jobs@catholiccharities.cc.

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.

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.

To place a notice in our Bulletin, email stbapostle@gmail.com.

To place an advertisement on our cover call The Church Bulletin at (631) 249-4994.
The Parish of St. Barnabas the Apostle presents....

“The Story of the First Christmas”

Sunday, December 16th, 2018 at 3:00pm

Calling all angels, stars, townspeople, and shepherds, why not take some time this holiday season to let the joy of Christmas fill your heart! Come experience the true meaning of the very first Christmas. Children ages 3 and up are invited to participate in this memorable Advent presentation. 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. Practices will be held: Monday, December 3rd from 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM (meet in Upper Church) and Friday, December 14th from 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM, HFC. If you are interested in participating, simply join us on Monday or email Lyn Politi at stbarnabasfamilyliturgy@gmail.com
Come Join Us For a Joyful Start To Your Christmas Season

Lessons and Carols

Sunday, Dec. 9, 2018   7:00 p.m.

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!
ST. BARNABAS LEVEL 7 RETREAT
Level 7 Class
December 5th or 6th
Chapter 6
Why Be Catholic
Discovering the Church Jesus Founded

The Church makes the salvation story our story, here and now. Through the Church, we encounter Christ in the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist, in the other sacraments, and through other people. The Church is called the “bride of Christ” and the “body of Christ” because Jesus loves us and wants to unite himself to us (see CCC 789). While developing and maintaining a personal relationship with Christ is fundamental to our faith journey, we are reminded that to follow Christ is also to be in communion with others. It is not something we do alone—we have a personal relationship in context of our communal relationship. It is in and through the Church, Christ’s body, that we find that communion.

Conversation Starters
Why do you think it is important to be Catholic?
What makes the Catholic Faith unique?
Which of the four marks of the Catholic Church seems most important to you, and why? (The four marks are one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.) (See CCC 811-812.)

Level 8 Class
January 2nd or 3rd
Chapter 18
‘Are You Talking to Me’?
Getting to know God through Prayer

The purpose of this lesson is to instill a hunger in the heart of your teen to get to know God (and not simply about God) through prayer. As St. Therese of Lisieux observed in her Autobiography, “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” (CCC 2558). Our Catholic tradition has many different ways to approach God in prayer, including verbal prayer (both spontaneous and drawn from the treasury of the saints), meditation, and contemplation (see CCC 2700-2719). Through prayers of blessing and adoration, petition (also called supplication), intercession, thanksgiving, and praise, we experience God both through personal prayer and as a people of God, especially in the liturgy (see CCC 2626-2643).

Conversation Starters
Do you pray regularly? How and when?
Why is it important to pray every day and not just when you have a problem?
Get FORMED Advent Reflections for You and Your Whole Family

How will you prepare for Christmas? Enrich your Advent with daily reflections for you and your kids sent directly to your inbox! Walk with Dr. Tim Gray on a journey of renewal to ready your heart for the coming of Christ! Plus, add children’s reflections to your daily email, and Herald Entertainment’s beloved Brother Francis will help your kids get ready for Christmas with joyful songs and valuable lessons.

HAVEN’T SIGNED UP FOR YOUR FREE FORMED ACCOUNT?

▶ Register at stbarnabasny.formed.org

For more information, visit formed.org.
Advent means “arrival”. The Jewish people had been anticipating for centuries the arrival of the Messiah who would bring them a new deliverance, a new covenant, a new temple, and a new promised land. Advent invites us to joyfully and prayerfully anticipate the birth of the Messiah, Jesus Christ.

**Tips to Make the Most of Advent**

**Participate in the Prepare the Way Advent Video Study**
The themes for Advent are: 1) how God has saved His people in the past; 2) how God is saving His people in the present; 3) how Jesus Christ will ultimately come again in glory to judge the living and the dead. Episodes from the Symbolon series deliver beautiful and insightful teaching on each of these themes.

- Week I: The Story of Salvation
- Week II: Who is Jesus?
- Week III: The Paschal Mystery
- Week IV: The Last Things

**Display an Advent Wreath**
Display a wreath in your home, light the candle that corresponds to the week in Advent, watch Opening the Word to prepare for the Sunday readings, and use the guide for discussion and reflection.

- Opening the Word Year C (Advent through Epiphany)

**Bless Your Christmas Tree**
Read along to the animated storybook Kristoph and the First Christmas Tree and recite the blessing for your own Christmas Tree.

- Kristoph and the First Christmas Tree

**Celebrate the Feast of St. Nicholas with Your Children**
Watch Nicholas on December 5th and have your children place a shoe in the entryway before going to bed so they awake on the Feast of St. Nicholas with a shoe full of candy.

- Nicholas

**Commit to Daily Devotional Reading**
Commit to reading an excerpt from one of the following inspiring e-books every day during Advent and Christmas.

- Come, Lord Jesus: Meditations on the Art of Waiting - Mother Mary Francis
- Advent of the Heart - Alfred Delp
- Mary of Nazareth
- Brother Francis: O Holy Night
- The Story of the Nativity
- Hildegard’s Gift

**Read to Your Children**
Spend quality time reading to your children the charming story Christmas with Bernadette.

- Christmas with Bernadette

**Watch Only Religious Movies**
Advent is a great time to refrain from secular entertainment and fix our attention on the things of God.

- Mary of Nazareth
- Brother Francis: O Holy Night
- The Story of the Nativity
- Hildegard’s Gift
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. (See the list of dates below).

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 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 10:15 Mass & Class are held on December 9, 2018. In 2019 the 10:15 Mass & Class are held on January 13, February 10, March 10, April 14, May 12 and June 9. (Class will be held after the 10:30 Mass on July 14, August 11 and September 8, 2019). We return to the 10:15 Mass for October 13, November 11, December 8, 2019.
The dates and times for First Holy Communion were handed out at our Parent Meetings on Tuesday, October 16th. If you are requesting a change it MUST be submitted in writing and you will be notified if we are able to accommodate the change.

REMINDER: We cannot allow anyone into the building during class time that is not a volunteer – doors will open at 5:30 PM for dismissal.

We still need Hall Monitors:
Monday - Thursday from 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM.

We are also in need of volunteers to teach a small or group or on a one-to-one basis for students who need a more individualized learning environment. Please call the Religious Education Office for more information.

Calendar dates at a Glance:
Tuesday, December 4th - Our Second in the series of Parent Sessions. Our guest speaker is Kevin McCormick. 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Holy Family Chapel.
Monday-Thursday, December 3rd-6th: Levels 3 & 4 - Safety program held during class session.

Today begins a new Liturgical Year in our Church. First Sunday of Advent. Happy New Year!! We turn our focus towards the coming of Jesus Christ at Christmas. This penitential time of waiting and anticipation allows us to open our hearts and minds more fully to the ways of the Lord. Let this season be a time where we turn towards the truth and devote ourselves more fully to Christ. This Advent poses a unique opportunity for us to dive more deeply into the mysteries of Christ and of the Church.

Next Middle School Youth Meeting on Sunday, December 9th from 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM in the Holy Family Chapel. Please join us and bring a friend! We will be discussing Our Lady, Mary the Mother of God. If you have any questions, email stbyouth17@gmail.com.
Thank you to everyone who donated items, their time, and those who attended our Operation Christmas Child Packing Party! It was a record-breaking night! 1202 boxes were packed for needy children around the world. That is 1000 boxes more than the first year of this 15 year annual SEAS tradition! Thank you especially to Mrs. Simoneone, Mrs. Graham, and Mrs. Murray for your never-ending effort to make this event great!

Give the gift of CASH! Join in on this fun SEAS tradition by purchasing Christmas Card Raffles. They are the perfect for teacher gifts! Contact the main office to purchase.
Watching for Signs

The disciples asked Jesus about the end of the age.

Find these hidden in the picture.

Jesus said, “Be always on the watch, and pray.”

Shade in the dots.

At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

Connect the dots.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

Jesus said there will be signs in the sun, moon and stars.

In each row circle the 1 that doesn’t match.
ACROSS
2. Twinkling points of light in the sky at night
6. To make a request to God
7. The large heavenly body visible in the night sky
8. To raise from a lower to a higher position
9. The part of the body containing the brain, eyes, ears, nose, mouth

DOWN
1. To observe very carefully
2. To rise to an upright position your feet
3. The earth’s source of heat and light
4. The planet on which we live
5. Large, white, fluffy things floating in the sky

PRAY  STARS  EARTH  STAND  MOON
WATCH  CLOUD  LIFT  HEAD  SUN

GLORY  STARS  POWER  ESCAPE  HEADS
STAND  HEAVEN  LIFT  NATIONS  MOON
SEA  EARTH  REDEMPTION  CLOUD  SUN
SIGNS  WATCH  WORLD  CAREFUL  PRAY
Watching for Signs

Jesus told the disciples of a time to come. He said, “There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish ...”

Make new words by subtracting the letters shown. Then read the darker boxes from top to bottom, and write the words in the blanks.

TRAP - R =

SHopped - ped =

Beets - S =

Slay - L =

Plead - P =

Ready - Y =

“... at the roaring and tossing of

_________________________  ___________________.”

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away

“That day will close on you suddenly,” said Jesus.

Write all the “1” words in order on the blanks below. Then return to the top of the puzzle and write all the “2” words in order. Return to the top of the puzzle and write all the “3” words in order.

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| 3 | earth |

“People will faint from terror ... for the heavenly bodies will be shaken,” Jesus continued. What did He say the people would see?

Fit the pieces in the puzzle.

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“... For it __________________________________________________________

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