



St. Gerard Majella Roman Catholic Church

300 Terryville Road
Port Jefferson Station, NY 11776
Phone: 631-473-2900 Fax: 631-473-0015
www.stgmajella.org

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Gregory Rannazzisi, Pastor	frgreg@stgmajella.org
Rev. Vitus Ezeiruaku, <i>in residence</i>	
Deacon Frank DellAglio	deaconfrank@stgmajella.org
Deacon John Grebe	deaconjohn@stgmajella.org
Charles Pramnieks, Music Director	chuck@stgmajella.org
Deacon Carlito Roman, Pastoral Associate for Administration	deaconcarlito@stgmajella.org
Bob Paplin, Facilities Manager	bpaplin@stgmajella.org
Jennifer Donnellon, Office Manager	jennifer@stgmajella.org
Patty Longo, Director of Religious Ed.	patty@stgmajella.org
Denise Nienburg, Thrift Shop Manager	thrift@stgmajella.org
Jackie Maggiore, Receptionist	secretary@stgmajella.org
Alfredo Sobalvarro, Custodian	
Joseph Crescitelli, Sacristan	

Parish Office Hours

Monday — Thursday: 9:00am-4:30pm
Sunday: 8:00am-1:00pm
Closed Friday and Saturday

Mass & Devotions

Saturday: 5:00pm
Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm
Weekdays: 9:00am
Rosary: Monday – Friday: 8:30am
Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Monday - Friday: 9:30 am
First Saturday: 11:00am Mass with the Anointing of the Sick

Penance

The sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is celebrated on Saturdays from 3:45pm-4:45pm. You may call the Parish Office to make an appointment with one of the priests.

Baptism

Baptisms are typically held twice a month at 1:30pm. Please call the Parish Office to schedule an appointment to set a date. Selection of godparents should be made after speaking with one of the priests or deacons.

Marriage

Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements for your wedding at least six months in advance. No date can be set until the couple

Parish Outreach Hours

Food Pantry

Tuesday: 11:30am-3:00pm
Wednesday: 12:30pm-3:00pm
Thursday: 11:30am-1:30pm & 4:00pm-5:00pm

Thrift Shop/Barn

Monday — Thursday: 10:00am-4:00pm
Friday: 10:00am-2:00pm
Donations accepted Monday-Thursday: 10:00am-3:00pm and Friday: 10:00am-1:00pm. Please refer to our website for a list of items that can be donated.

Stewardship Supper

The Thursday evening dinner is served between 4:30pm and 5:30pm. All are welcome.



*The seed is the Word of God
and Christ is the sower.*

©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

Sunday, July 16, 2023
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

True Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament

In contrast to the previous seven proofs which related to the words of Jesus Himself, or of believing Christians, or of Old Testament prefigurement, the EIGHTH PROOF is a rather unusual one in that it considers what Satanists believe on the subject. Yes, I know that this might be shocking, but let me explain.

Satanists worship Satan, not God. They hate God! Principally, they worship Satan in a ritual commonly referred to as a “Black Mass.” In this ritual, they mock God by reciting the Latin Mass backwards.

In their culminating act, they desecrate, in unspeakable ways, a consecrated host that had been consecrated by a Catholic priest. Now here’s the key point. They will not use a host from any other Christian liturgy, only a validly consecrated host by a Catholic priest.

Why, you may ask. Well, the simple answer is this – in their action, they do not want to desecrate a piece of bread but rather God Himself. But, in their actions, they are implicitly testifying to their belief, in a perverted way no doubt, that it is only in a host consecrated by a Catholic priest that Jesus is truly Present in the Blessed Sacrament.

After all, in the Gospel accounts, isn’t it the demoniacs, those possessed by demons, who recognized who Jesus was before anyone else did, even His own apostles? *“What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.”* (Mk 1: 24).

Satan and Satanists recognize the true presence of Jesus. Let us pray for the grace to recognize with certainty that, in a host consecrated by a Catholic priest,

Jesus is truly present in the Blessed Sacrament!

Photos of the Blessing of our Memorial Brick Garden



Photos by Mary Louise Delano

Religious Education

2023-2024 Religious Education Registration

Registration forms, health history forms, and a registration letter are on our church website and printed copies in the lobby. Students must register EVERY YEAR. Tuition can be paid by cash or check by mail or in person. Credit card payments can only be made online at www.stgmajella.org Be sure to include the child's full name in the information box. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. Wishing you all a happy, healthy and holy Summer!

God bless, Patty Longo, Director

631-473-2900 x-229

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel marks the beginning of the third long discourse given by Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew. Over the next few weeks, the Gospel readings will consist of the entire 13th Chapter of Matthew's Gospel, a lengthy teaching discourse. Throughout this discourse, Jesus will offer several parables to illustrate for his listeners what he means by the kingdom of heaven. He begins with the parable of the sower, which appears rather straightforward—of course seeds grow best in good soil. Seeds that miss the soil, are sown on rocky ground, or are sown among other plants will not grow. The surprise in the parable is the enormous yield of the seed that is sown on good soil. Jesus then explains his use of parables. Jesus seems to suggest that he uses parables to teach because the meanings of parables are not self-evident. The hearer must engage in some degree of reflection in order to comprehend the message of a parable. In this way, the medium—the parable—models the point of the parable of the sower. Those who are willing to engage themselves in the effort to understand will be rewarded by the discovery of the message and will bear fruit. To bring home the point, Jesus interprets the parable of the sower to his disciples. The different types of soil in which the seeds are sown are metaphors for the disposition with which each individual hears the teaching about the kingdom of heaven. Some will be easily swayed away from the kingdom of heaven. Some will receive it for a time but will lose it when faced with difficulties. Some will hear the word but will then permit other cares to choke it out. Yet some will receive it well, and the seed will produce abundant fruit.

Today's Gospel reminds us that in order for God's Word to take root in us and produce abundant fruit, we must endeavor to be like good soil. Families, in particular, hold the responsibility for "preparing the soil" so that the seeds of God's Word can grow strong. There are many ways in which families do this—family traditions in which faith is celebrated, prayer and reading of Scripture, and instruction on the faith. In these ways, parents fulfill the promises they made at their child's Baptism.

Gather together as a family and reflect together on the Sacrament of Baptism. Tell the story of the Baptism of each child, showing any pictures that were taken. If you have your child's Baptism candle or gown, share these as well. Recall together that one of the promises that parents make at their child's Baptism is to bring them up in the practice of our faith. Talk together about the importance of this promise to your family. Then read together today's Gospel, Matthew 13:1-23. Reflect together on the ways in which your family practices your faith (daily prayer, Mass attendance, religious instruction, etc.). Remind one another that we do these things as a family so that God's Word can take root in our lives and produce abundant fruit. Conclude in prayer together by praying today's Psalm, Psalm 65.

(Loyola Press)

Parish Outreach Ministry

“Be diligent in serving the poor. Love the poor, honor them as you would Christ himself.”

Building Inner Resilience

Monday, July 17, 2023

6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

St. Gerard Majella Roman Catholic Church
300 Terryville Road
Port Jefferson Station, NY 11776

Presented by Sr. Edith Menegus, OSU, BCC & Director of Pastoral Care

The ability to recover from life's difficulties using one's inner God-given gifts. Developed by an intentional focus on reflection, personal growth as the search for sacred meaning, and a sense of awe and reverence toward the universe created by our loving God.



Please join us as we talk about tending to our spiritual resilience and well-being.
RSVP to jennifer@stgmajella.org
or call (631) 473-2900 x234

Welcome Friends Free Curbside Meal Program

Monday: 5:00 – 6:00 PM

Christ Episcopal Church
127 Barnum Avenue, Port Jeff Village

Tuesday: 1:00 – 1:30 PM

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
390 Patchogue Rd. (Rt. 112), Port Jeff Station

Wednesday: 5:00 – 6:00 PM

First Presbyterian Church
Corner of Main St. and South St., Port Jeff Village

Thursday: 4:00 – 5:30 PM

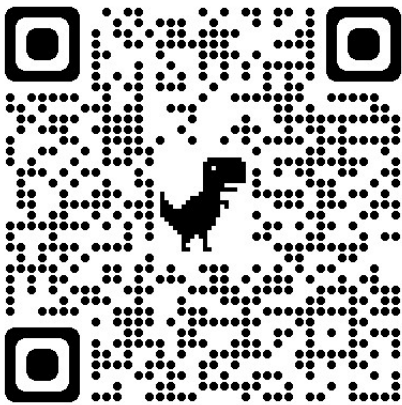
Doors Open at 4pm Sit Down Only between
4:30pm and 5:30pm

St. Gerard Majella Church

Friday: 3:30 – 5:00 PM

First Presbyterian Church
Corner of Main St. and South St., Port Jeff Village

We have created an Amazon Wish List for our pantry! All you have to do is scan this QR code with your phone, pick out an item or two and have it shipped to the church. Super simple! Thank you so much for your giving hearts!



Helpful Phone Numbers:

- Alcoholics Anonymous 24-Hour Hotline: 631-669-1124
- Al-Anon Suffolk County: 631-669-2827
- American Red Cross - LI: 516-747-3500
- Birthright (Pregnancy Support): 631-821-9727 or 1-800-550-4900
- Brighter Tomorrow (Domestic Violence): 631-395-1800
- Catholic Charities (Food Stamp Info): 631-789-9546
- Child Advocacy Center (CAC) (Child Abuse): 631-439-0480
- Fidelis Insurance (Family Health Plus): 1-888-343-3547
- Gamblers Anonymous Hotline: 1-855-222-5542
- Good Shepherd Hospice: 631-376-3758
- Hope House Ministries: 631-473-6030
- L.I. Women's Coalition (Domestic Violence): 631-666-8833
- Narcotics Anonymous: 631-689-6262
- National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-SUICIDE
- Response Crisis Center: 631-751-7500 (Suicide Hotline)
- The Retreat (Domestic Violence Hotline): 631-329-2200
- Conexión Linea de Crisis (M-F: 5-10 PM) 631-751-7423V
- Victims Information Bureau (Advocacy, Counseling): 631-360-3606
- Women's Services (Town of Brookhaven): 631-698-2074

Mass Intentions and Presider Schedule for the Week of July 17 - July 23

Monday, July 17

9:00am Ralph Reiser

Tuesday, July 18

9:00am The Intentions of the Soviero Family

Wednesday, July 19

9:00am Theresa Suriano, William Wesley, Sr.,
Lillian Brant

Thursday, July 20

9:00am James Webster

Friday, July 21

9:00am John Heilman

Saturday, July 22 (St. Mary Magdalene)

5:00pm MaryAnn Gersbeck, Daniel O'Hara, Christian Tirado,
Frank & Kathleen Manfredo



Fr. Greg

Sunday, July 23

8:00am Karen Donohue

10:00am Gertrude Schroeder

12:00pm Tom Powell

Fr. Samuel

Fr. Vitus

Fr. Greg

Stewardship Report

Last Week's Collection - \$8,744.00

Prayers for the Sick

All the sick and residents of Atria, St. Joseph's Village Woodhaven Adult Home & Nursing Home & Jefferson's Ferry, Ann Dellow, Luke John Carusillo, Sandy Barrios, Sabrina Glass, LouEllen Klints, Arlene Guma, John Schlauraff, Genevieve Eannuzzi, Kellie Menno, Joan Petschauer, Charles Ricottone, Teresa Mattera, Baby Fulton, Ellie & Ted Claesen, Aaron Weston, Allison Papriello, Janet Schoeneman, Jack Kennedy, Connie Biscardi, Ronnie Pryor, Jennifer Kirk, Nancy Mulvihill, Vinnie Surwilo, Brenda Fort, Anita Montana, Joan Francavilla, Julie Sandorfi, Carolyn McKinney, Jean Grunwald, Robert Cronemeyer, Mary Jo Re, Joseph Bockett, Thomas Hayes, June Russo, Rick Duros, Ron Gendis, Emilio Negron, Stephen Melville, Tezzenha Sealy, Dolores Andersen, Patrick Wilson, James Mihalik, Erin DeCapua, Maureen Uss, Barbara Klein-Croner, Garrett Duffy, Nicholas Traynor, Hunter Reyes, Ann Gerstein, Mike Napolitano, Maxine Politi, Neisha Alli, Pat Consorte, Lawrence DeMeo, Marie Auld, Marie Brienza, Erin Whitehead, Patricia McLaren, Frank Perugini, Bill Klein, Jr.

Wedding Banns



Our parish is pleased to announce the following wedding:

Nicholas Raynock & Susan Ratkiewicz
(St. Louis De Montfort) (St. Gerard Majella)

July 28, 2023

Second Banns

Weekly Memorial



Our Bread and Wine and Sanctuary Candle has been lovingly donated in memory of :



Thomas Catalano Jr.




We pray for all recently deceased, remembering especially Marie Flanagan and Jennie Saulter and Dennis Whittam, may they find eternal rest and joy.

Please stop by our Prayer Corner near Reception to borrow books and CDs on many Catholic topics to deepen your faith formation and spiritual life.



Knights of Columbus
 A wonderful Catholic organization that helps support charitable causes throughout the year in our church as well as the community. To learn more please call Kevin Coco at 631-839-6333.

Columbiettes
 We are an organization of women from all backgrounds united by our Catholic Faith, the love of family, our country, and our commitment to helping others. We support charities and are involved in community activities as well as working with our brother Knights. If you would like to join, please contact Jennifer at 631-473-2900.

 **Online Weekly Giving**
 "Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you." Luke 6:38 This is a promise from God that He doesn't need a large amount, but will honor our generosity and obedience. Then, He can do a miracle to multiply and pour out blessings that overflow to our lives and others.

Our Parish Mission Statement: Formed by God's word and nourished at the Eucharist, we strive to be faithful witnesses to Jesus Christ by handing on the Catholic faith to our families and community and serving those in need.

OCIA Christian Initiation of Adults
 Are you an adult thinking of becoming part of the Catholic community and completing your sacraments? Contact Deacon Frank at deaconfrank@stgmajella.org or 631-473-2900.



 Facebook.com/stgmajella/

 Instagram.com/sgmparish

 Facebook.com/SGMthriftshop/

 Instagram.com/sgmthriftshop

 YouTube Channel-St. Gerard Majella Parish

SAINT GERARD MAJELLA
 ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



WE INVITE YOU TO REGISTER YOUR FAMILY WITH OUR PARISH

Are you new to our parish? Have you been participating in our parish but never registered? Do you need to update your contact information or add a family member?

Both registration or family update forms are available in our church office 631-473-2900 or on our website: www.stgmajella.org



Breaking Open the Word

Reflecting on next Sunday's Gospel before you come to Mass can bring so much more meaning to your experience of the Liturgy. Here's the Gospel for next Sunday. How does this Gospel touch your life?

July 23, 2023

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mt 13:24-43

Jesus proposed another parable to the crowds, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed weeds all through the wheat, and then went off. When the crop grew and bore fruit, the weeds appeared as well. The slaves of the householder came to him and said, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where have the weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' His slaves said to him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' He replied, 'No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, "First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn."'" He proposed another parable to them. "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a person took and sowed in a field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants. It becomes a large bush, and the birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches.'" He spoke to them another parable. "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed with three measures of wheat flour until the whole batch was leavened."

All these things Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables. He spoke to them only in parables, to fulfill what had been said through the prophet:

*I will open my mouth in parables,
I will announce what has lain hidden from the foundation
of the world.*

Then, dismissing the crowds, he went into the house. His disciples approached him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field." He said in reply, "He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. Just as weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all who cause others to sin and all evildoers. They will throw them into the

fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears ought to hear."

Reflection Questions

- What do you think Jesus is trying to teach us about the Kingdom of God?
- In this parable, the sower makes a surprising decision. He allows the wheat and the weeds to grow together. Why does he do this?
- What alternative does he offer to pulling up the weeds?
- What does this parable tell us about God's judgment?
- If this is the way that God judges, what might be the lesson for us about judging things by their appearances?



Weekly Memorials Now Available

Would you like to have a loved one remembered? Give thanks for one of God's many Graces? Or offer up a prayer for someone in need? Please consider a Weekly Memorial. These are Memorials that are dedicated for an entire week, running from Monday to Sunday. Memorials are listed each week in the parish bulletin. Please contact our parish office to reserve a memorial for your intention. Memorials are available for:

- Bread & Wine (\$30)
- Sanctuary Lamp Candle (\$20)

Friends of the Poor Walk

Saturday, September 30, 2023, 8:30am – 1pm
Society of St. Vincent de Paul Long Island
Friends of the Poor Walk
Cedar Creek Park
Seaford, NY

For more information, please visit:
<https://svdpli.org>

This major fundraising event includes our Parish Conferences coming together to raise money for the work they do to help people in their conferences. Be it our Uplift Program which helps cover bills for an extended period, our Family Assistance Program which helps with a one-time large bill, food for our pantries, furniture and clothing for neighbors in need, our conferences helped raise over \$250,000 last year to support their efforts.

We have a wonderful spiritual director in our Parish!

Why would you need a spiritual director?

- We are not made to walk the spiritual journey alone.
- When you feel you need someone to assist you in discerning the call of the Spirit.
- The director focuses on helping the directee develop a deeper relationship with God.
- When your search for God is at a crossroads.
- Explore new methods of prayer or when prayer becomes difficult.

If any of these reasons apply to you, prayerfully consider reaching out to Patricia Chapin at pchapin@optonline.net or 631-672-4402

2023 Mass Intentions Dates Available

For the 2023 year, there are weekday and weekend Mass Intentions available. Consider visiting or calling the Parish Office to reserve a Mass for your special intention! A Mass Intention is when a priest celebrating Mass offers the celebration of the Eucharist for a particular person, or intention. By doing so, he applies special graces from God upon that person or intention. Mass Intentions are reserved and recorded in the Mass Book. Mass Cards are often used to convey to the family and friends of the time and date of the intended Mass.

The Long Island Guild of the Catholic Medical Association and the Student Guild at Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook invite healthcare professionals to a retreat. Spouses are welcomed too.

TOPIC: SPIRITUALITY AND MEDICINE

FACILITATED BY: Brother Mark D'Alessio

DATE: Saturday, July 29, 2023

PLACE: St James R.C. Parish Center, 429 Route 25A, Setauket TIME: 1pm-8pm

COST: \$20 for professionals; free to students

To register for this event, email Jeanine at cmaliguil@gmail.com

Holy Hour Of Reparation at Infant Jesus Church

Please join us each Wednesday from 4-5pm at the Church, located at 110 Myrtle Avenue.

Any questions, please email Teresa at teresa10@optonline.net



Photos of our SUPER AMAZING week of VBS!

(More to come in next weekend's bulletin)



Full-Time Custodian
St. Gerard Majella Church 300 Terryville Road, Port Jefferson Station, NY 11776

Custodian Daily Duties and Responsibilities:

- Keeps building and property in clean and orderly condition through routine maintenance and repair activities.
- Performs heavy cleaning duties.
- Mixes cleaning solutions and chemicals in containers in preparation for cleaning, according to instructions and follows procedures for the use of chemical cleaners and power machinery to prevent damage to floors and fixtures.
- Notifies managers regarding the need for repairs or additions to building operating systems.

Work Hours & Benefits:

8:30am-4:30pm(Monday-Friday)
Vacation and Sick Days
Health Care

Qualifications/Skills:

- Strong communication skills.
- Knowledge of standard cleaning methods/procedures. Able to perform maintenance and repairs.
- Ability to perform physical tasks, including being outside, for many hours, lift heavy objects, climb ladders, and work at heights.
- Experience using cleaning equipment and tools.
- Background in handling, mixing, using cleaning chemicals and knowledge of hazards/proper safety methods.

Education & Experience Requirements:

- H.S. Diploma or equivalent.
- Basic Mathematical skills.
- High School courses in Shop may be preferred for jobs involving repair work.

Please e-mail your cover letter and resume to Deacon Carlito, at deaconcarlito@stgmajella.org



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- ALL DSP POSITIONS REQUIRE A HS DIPLOMA/GED AND VALID NYS DRIVER'S LICENSE
- MCC STARTING HOURLY RATE IS \$17-17.50/HR. (MON-FRI WORK SCHEDULE)
- ALL DSP/MCC POSITIONS REQUIRE A HS DIPLOMA/GED AND VALID NYS DRIVER'S LICENSE

If you are unable to attend the event, please visit our website at www.catholiccharities.cc/careers for a complete list of our current job opportunities

OPEN HOUSE JOB FAIRS

Wed., July 19, 2023 from 11AM – 2:00PM
Tues., Aug. 1, 2023 from 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM
At 147 Schleigel Blvd., Amityville, NY 11701
Call 516.733.7000 to schedule an interview
Walk-ins Welcome!

*At Catholic Charities of Long Island,
we are always looking for individuals to be part of our mission and
offer*

Care with Dignity & Life with Hope



Outreach Ministry Back to School Drive

The children in our community will require new supplies this Fall. We are asking for donations to be dropped off in the lobby during office hours or before any of the weekend Masses.

*****Donations needed by Sunday, August 13th.*****



Pencils/Pens

Crayons/
Colored
Pencils

Composition
Notebooks

Markers

Pocket
Folders

Spiral 1 & 3
Subject
Notebooks

Highlighters

Hard & Soft
Pencil
Cases

Glue Sticks

Binders

Index Cards

Dry Erase
Markers

Page
Dividers

Scissors/
Rulers

Backpacks



We are also accepting \$10, \$20, and \$25 Gift cards (Wal-Mart, Target, Kohls, Dollar Tree, Staples). Thank you for your generosity!

Free health screenings

Mobile Outreach Bus

The Community Outreach team is pleased to offer free health screenings in your community by a Catholic Health registered nurse.



Services for adults (18 and older):

- Brief cardiac history
- Blood pressure screening
- BMI screening
- Simple blood test for cholesterol and glucose
- Health education
- Referrals as needed
- Resources for those without insurance

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
LUCK OF THE DRAW RAFFLE**



\$6,200 IN TOTAL PRIZES

Here's how it works.....

- Buy a ticket for \$50
- Weekly Tuesday drawings of \$100 total cash prizes – One \$50 and Two \$25 prizes
- Your ticket will automatically go back into the weekly drawing for multiple chances to win
- GRAND PRIZE IS \$1,000 – drawing held one year from start of raffle date
- MAXIMUM TICKETS SOLD = 300
- Need not be present to win. Your check will be mailed to you.

Tickets can be purchased now after all masses from any member of the St. Gerard Majella Knights of Columbus. Raffle proceeds will be used to continue our charitable works in the community.



Sunday Gospel Activities



Saint Mary Magdalene - TheCatholicKid.com

Bryant
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