



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	rpaplin@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
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 meets with a member of the clergy.

Parish Outreach Hours

Food Pantry

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

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.



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Sunday, December 3, 2023
First Sunday of Advent

HOLY DAYS OF DECEMBER SCHEDULE 2023

ST. GERARD MAJELLA PARISH

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Friday, December 8th – A holy day of obligation for Catholics to attend Mass

Thursday, December 7th (Vigil Mass) – 5:00pm

Friday, December 8th – 9:00am, 12:00pm, 7:00pm

Lessons & Carols

Featuring the Joint Choirs of Infant Jesus & St. Gerard Majella

Monday, December 18th – 7:30pm

St. Gerard Majella, 300 Terryville Road

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Wednesday, December 20th

5:00pm – 8:00pm

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 24th – A holy day of obligation for Catholics to attend Mass

***** Note a different schedule than usual*****

8:00am & 11:00am

Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24th

A holy day of obligation for Catholics to attend Mass

4:00pm

Christmas Day

Monday, December 25th

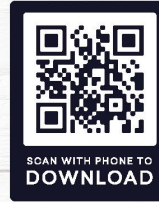
8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm

Amen™

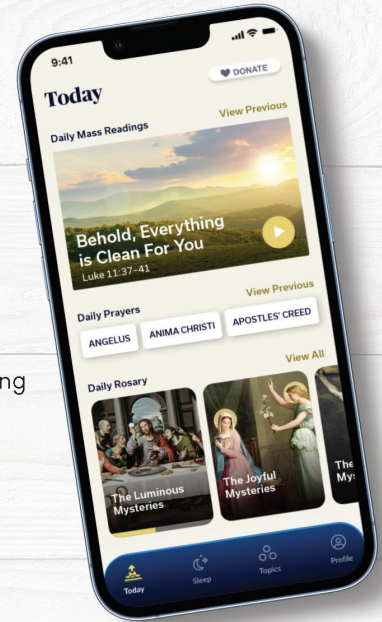
The Free Catholic Prayer, Meditation, & Scripture App

The Augustine Institute is proud to introduce Amen, its latest offering. Amen is the free Catholic app that brings you beautiful prayers, faithful meditations, and nourishing Scripture to draw your mind, body, and soul to rest in God.

- Top Catholic thinkers and theologians guide your spiritual growth.
- Catholic wisdom from the ages is provided for all ages.
- Calming meditations and stories of faith help promote a peaceful night of rest.
- Timeless and timely Catholic prayers, meditations, devotions, and Scripture calm restless hearts and distracted minds.



SCAN WITH PHONE TO
DOWNLOAD



[AMENAPP.ORG](https://amenapp.org)

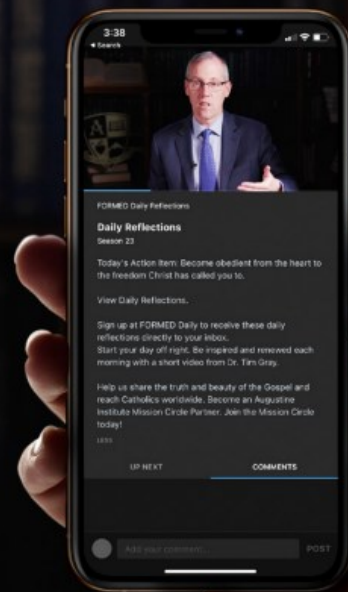
An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

Make Advent Different this Year

Daily Advent Reflections with Dr. Tim Gray

Grow closer to our Lord in the manger this Advent season with Dr. Gray as he leads viewers through the Mass readings every day during **Advent** and **Christmas**.

Sign up for free at [DAILY.FORMED.ORG](https://daily.formed.org)



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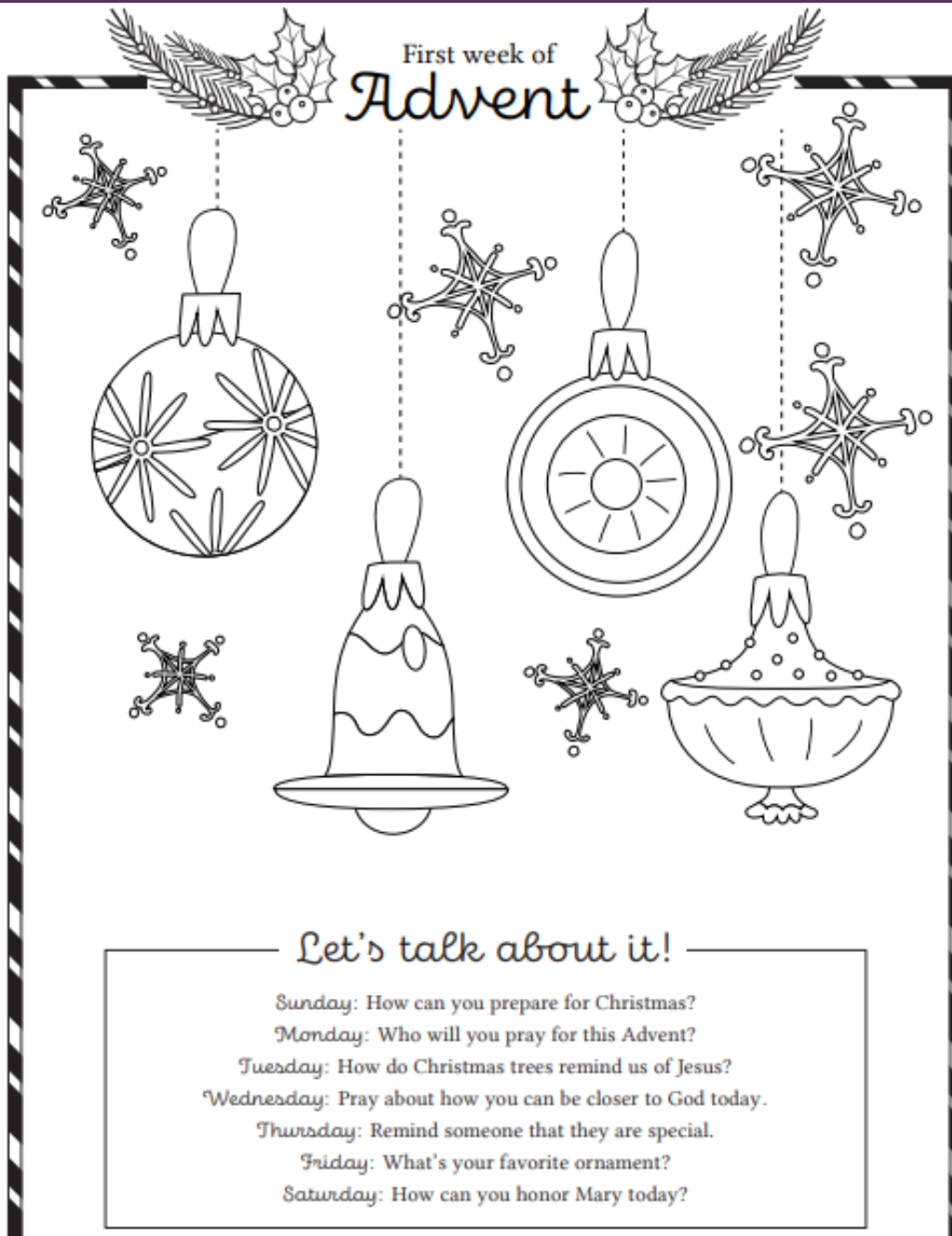
Religious Education

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday, December 3	10:00	Level 2 & Sacrament Prep Group
	12:00	Level 7
Sunday, December 10	10:00	Level 1 – Fellowship Sunday
	12:00	Level 8

December 6 Student/Sponsor Night @ 7:00 w/Fr. Greg (Parent attend if sponsor cannot.)

Saturday, December 16 @ 11:00 – Level 1 Family Advent Retreat



Parish Outreach Ministry

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

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

Santa's Helpers Needed!

Please Help The Outreach Department

Add A Little Sparkle To The Holidays

Because Little Details Make All The Difference,

*We Will Be Collecting **NEW!***

Rolls of Christmas Gift Wrap

Scotch Tape * Bows * Gift Bags

After All Weekend Masses Through December 10th

And in the Lobby During Office Hours

Thank You For Your Generous Support!



Food Pantry Needs

Peanut Butter

Jelly

Pasta

Canned Chicken

Canned Pasta

Soup

Pasta

Mac n Cheese

Shelf Stable Milk

Canned Chili

Canned Fruit

Tomato Sauce

Raisins

Toilet Paper

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 December 4 – December 10

Monday, December 4

9:00am The Intentions of Angela & Richard Rudolf

Tuesday, December 5

9:00am Mary DuBritz

Wednesday, December 6

9:00am James A. Dooley, Patrick Brienza,
the Sorvillo Family

Thursday, December 7 (St. Ambrose)

9:00am Frank Hickey
5:00pm *Vigil* - Immaculate Conception
For All Parishioners

Friday, December 8 - The Immaculate Conception

9:00am For All Parishioners
12:00pm For All Parishioners
7:00pm For All Parishioners

Saturday, December 9

5:00pm Patricia Smallacombe, Michael Stiles, Josephine Eichner,
Brendon Nguyen, William Larke, the Intentions of
Carmen Griffin

Sunday, December 10

8:00am Josephine Eichner
10:00am The Living & Deceased Members of
St. Gerard's Knights of Columbus
12:00pm The Intentions of Gabrielle Heilman



Fr. Greg

Fr. Vitus

Fr. Vitus

Fr. Greg

Stewardship Report

Last Week's Collection - \$7,851.00

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, Arline Guma, John Schlauraff, Genevieve Eannuzzi, Kellie Menno, Charles Ricottone, Baby Fulton, Ted Claesen, Connie Biscardi, Ronnie Pryor, Vinnie Surwilo, 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, Marie Auld, Marie Brienza, Erin Whitehead, Patricia McLaren, Bill Klein, Jr., Theresa Renz, Barbara Forbes, Nicholas Traynor, Claire Reilly, Joan Francavilla, Alba Gosin, Leslie, Alex & Baby Sortz Clark, Jacob Flag, Anthony Paletto, Madore Roit, Jaclyn Lin, Thomas Hayes, Carole Fackina, Dani Floyd, Janet Kolodziejski, Maureen Valentine, Karen Strahmann, Nancy Mulvihill, Linda Tesone, Alexa Mastando, Lew Yedwab, Michael Bruton, Jack Grob.

Weekly Memorials

Our Bread & Wine and Sanctuary Candle have been lovingly donated in memory of:
Andy Carrillo



We pray for all recently deceased,
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
**YOU ARE BORN A MAN
 YOU BECOME A KNIGHT!**

Scan with phone camera!

YOU ARE CALLED! JOIN TODAY!
Free 12 Month Membership
Visit
KofC.org/JoinUs
Use Promo Code
BlessedMcGivney

To learn more please call Kevin 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. If you would like to join, please contact Jennifer at 631-473-2900.

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](https://YouTube.com/St.GerardMajellaParish)

**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?

December 10, 2023

Second Sunday of Advent

Mk 1:1-8

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Reflection Questions

- What do Mark's first words tell us about his Gospel?
- Who sent the messenger? Why?
- What were the two aspects of John's ministry?
- What had to happen before John could baptize a person?
- What was the theme of John's message?
- In what ways can we allow the Holy Spirit to work through us? How can Jesus' gift of the Holy Spirit make a difference in our lives?
- How can we ensure that our lives focus attention on Christ, and not on ourselves? In what ways can you prepare others for Christ?
- What step could you take this week toward becoming a better witness for Christ?





Thank you!
 At our recent blood drive, 37 people attempted to give blood and 33 pints were collected. Thank you to all the volunteers and John MacKinnon who organized the drive.



*“Virgin most pure,
 conceived without
 original sin,
 Mary, pray for us.”*

- St. John Henry Newman

**Feast of the
 Immaculate Conception**
December 8th



DIOCESE of ROCKVILLE CENTRE
**Office of Human Life,
 Family and Bioethics**

ALTAR CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Would you like to make a donation towards our Altar Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one or for a special intention? Please fill out the form below and drop it off in the office with Jackie or in the collection box along with your offering. The names will be printed in the Christmas bulletin, so please print clearly.

Altar Christmas Flowers Form

Donation made in memory of:

or

For the intention of:

Your Name: _____

Your Phone # _____

**LONG ISLAND SYMPHONIC
 CHORAL ASSOCIATION**
 Richard Foley, Conductor
 Stephanie Messina, Assistant Conductor

Beethoven
MASS IN C MAJOR

with 24-piece orchestra
 & works by Gabrieli, Gjeilo, Holst, & Rutter

Reception with refreshments to follow.

Saturday, December 9, 2023
8:00PM
 St. James R.C. Church
 429 Rt. 25A
 Setauket, NY

General Admission: \$25
Seniors: \$20
Students: Free
Livestream: \$10

[CLICK HERE to purchase tickets online.](#)

ISCA @LISymphonicChoralAssociation

All Souls Lessons & Carols Christmas Concert

Historic All Souls Church (61 Main Street, Stony Brook) invites the community to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas its annual LESSONS AND CAROLS concert on Saturday, December 9 in the historic chapel (61 Main Street, Stony Brook) at 6:00pm.

The concert will feature Stony Brook University soprano Heidi Schneider and tell the story of the Nativity in scripture and song. Heidi’s solos will include Ave Maria, Silent Night, and Away in the Manger. Local guitarist Bill Clark and his Brave Trio will also perform O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, Halleluiah, and What Child Is This? All attending will be invited to sing Come All Ye Faithful and Hark the Herald Angels as All Souls organist Dan Kinney plays the church’s 1855 Tracker Organ.

The readings will be done by clergy and lay people from The Stony Brook School, Caroline Church, Greek Orthodox Church of the Assumption, Messiah Lutheran Church, St. Gerard Majella RC Church, Stony Brook Community Church, the Three Village Church, Religious Society of Friends in St. James, the Little Church of Smithtown Landing, St. James RC Church, and the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at Stony Brook. There will be a 15-minute intermission and refreshments will be served.

Photos from Bishop Barres' Visit to our Parish last Sunday



The Sacrament of Reconciliation Is the Fulfillment of the Day of Atonement

Written by Deacon Frank (This article was originally published on Oct. 27th on Catholic Exchange)

Last month, our Jewish Brethren solemnly celebrated Yom Kippur, a Day of Atonement, to atone for their sins as prescribed by God in the Book of Leviticus. As is the case with many events, people, and things contained in the Old Testament, Yom Kippur prefigures a more meaningful form of atonement which Jesus would institute on Easter Sunday evening. Jesus would elevate this form of atonement to a sacrament. Namely, the great Sacrament of Reconciliation.

But before that happened, and in order to better prepare the people for this great sacrament, God sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of the Lord. John's mission was to proclaim a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

Not that John's baptism had the power to forgive sins any more than a Day of Atonement did for the Jewish people, then or now. Though these actions were a necessary means of preparing hearts and minds, atoning and repenting are actions taken by the penitent not by God.

However, on the evening of that first Easter that all changed when our Risen Lord appeared to his disciples, though the doors were locked, and said "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. And when he said this, he breathed on them and said to them, receive the holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them and whose sins you retain are retained."

What incredible gifts Jesus bestowed upon his Church on the very day of his Resurrection! The gifts of the holy Spirit upon the Apostles, and the inauguration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation by which his Apostles are given delegated authority to forgive penitents their sins! In this extraordinary encounter, Jesus bestows on his Apostles that which he affirmatively proved, to the Pharisees and teachers of the law of Israel, he himself had authority to do, namely, to forgive sins.

Recall the story in Luke's Gospel of the healing of the paralytic. "Jesus was teaching, and Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there having come from every village of Galilee and Judea, and Jerusalem." Jesus said to those in attendance "That you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins, he said to the man who was paralyzed, I say to you, rise, pick up your stretcher, and go home." And the man immediately stood up, picked up his mat and went home, glorifying God.

Why do you suppose so many Pharisees and teachers of the law were present that day to observe Jesus? It was, in all likelihood, his healing of a leper. Prior to that healing, no Israelite had been cured of leprosy since they entered the Promised Land, some thirteen hundred years prior. That healing was the first of three Messianic miracles the Jewish rabbis had taught, for nearly a hundred years to that point, only the Messiah would accomplish. Jesus would go on to perform all three! But I'll save that topic for another article!

Both, the proof and the subsequent delegation of his authority, are explicitly revealed in the gospels to make it abundantly clear that his Church has the authority to forgive sins.

Jesus gave this authority to forgive sins, not only to his Apostles but, by extension, to the bishops and priests of his Church as well. Christ gave his Church, a Church he himself founded, the means to provide his disciples with the sanctifying grace necessary for them to successfully traverse this "valley of tears". And not just then, but for his disciples of all times!

The Eucharist is the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ. For nine strong proofs of this reality, I refer you to my article entitled "Nine Proofs of the True Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament". And just as the manna from heaven physically nourished the Israelites on the Exodus from Egypt to the Promised Land, the Eucharist spiritually nourishes us for our journey through life, to the new Promised Land, we call heaven!

Sanctifying grace is bestowed upon his disciples through the administration of the seven sacraments of the Church which Christ himself instituted. Two of these sacraments are administered just once. They are baptism and confirmation.

Three sacraments; holy orders, holy matrimony, and the anointing of the sick are intended to be granted to the recipient infrequently. You may ask, when are these sacraments repeated? In the case of holy orders, only when a man advances to a higher clerical office of priest and bishop. For holy matrimony, only after a spouse has died may the surviving spouse enter holy matrimony a second time. And in the case of the anointing of the sick, whenever circumstances of ill health or a serious health condition exist.

But the remaining two sacraments, the Sacrament of the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation are offered to the faithful as frequently as every day. Now here's an interesting observation about these two sacraments. Jesus instituted the Sacrament of the Eucharist on Holy Thursday evening, at the very beginning of the Easter Triduum, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Easter Sunday evening, at the very end of the Easter Triduum! The institution of these two sacraments serves as bookends to his passion, death, and resurrection.

This cannot be a coincidence. The two most frequently received sacraments are intricately interwoven into the Paschal mystery of Christ's passion, death, and resurrection!

The Eucharist is truly Jesus, while only under the appearance of bread. Thus, we need to be free of serious sin in order to receive him in this sacrament. Which is why the Sacrament of Reconciliation is intrinsically linked to the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

In order to be spiritually nourished for this journey, we need to be in union with God and that union is broken whenever we commit a serious sin. If someone is not in the state of grace for having committed a serious sin, they should abstain from the reception of holy communion.

To reestablish that union with God and hence return to the reception of holy communion, it is necessary for a penitent to ask for forgiveness of that sin in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. To be absolved of that sin, the penitent must exhibit a contrition for having committed the sin, as well as a firm purpose to amend one's life so as to avoid such a sin in the future. This is accomplished when the penitent recites the act of contrition.

Those beautiful words that the priest states after the penitent confesses his sins, are truly soothing to the soul. They are "And by the ministry of his Church I absolve you of all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit."

While confessing serious sins in the Sacrament of Reconciliation is essential to obtaining forgiveness of those sins, the sacraments including this one, also bestow sanctifying grace on all who receive them. Sanctifying grace strengthens the soul for the journey through life and feeds the soul with a desire to draw ever closer to Almighty God!

Sadly, there are many today who confuse a God of Mercy with a "god" of license. They mistakenly believe they can do whatever they desire without eternal consequences on the belief that God is all merciful.

Indeed, God is all merciful. But they fail to realize that mercy and justice are in harmony with one another, and are not mutually exclusive. God is all merciful, but God is also all just! A "god" of license is a "god" who is indifferent to justice, which is non-biblical and based upon a lie! It is principally the result of this flawed reasoning, that so many do not avail themselves of this great sacrament of forgiveness! The Sacrament of Reconciliation not only reconciles the penitent with God; but also serves to reconcile God's Mercy with his Justice!

Jesus spoke to St. Faustina, in private revelations that took place in the 1930's, revealing his great Mercy. In these revelations, he spoke to St. Faustina about the Mercy of God on numerous occasions, and did so frequently in reference to this necessary and extraordinary Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The following are five quotes of Jesus, recorded by St. Faustina in the "Diary of Divine Mercy". This diary became a published book to fulfill what Jesus desired Faustina to make known to the whole world, namely his Divine Mercy. The following quotes of Jesus reveal the essential and effective nature of this great sacrament:

"In the tribunal of Mercy, the Sacrament of Reconciliation the greatest miracles take place and are incessantly repeated"

"I Myself am waiting there for you. I am only hidden by the priest. I Myself act in your soul."

"When you go to confession, to this fountain of Mercy, the Blood and Water which came forth from My Heart always flows down upon your soul."

"Were a soul like a decaying corpse, so that from a human standpoint, there would be no hope of restoration, and everything would already be lost, it is not so with God. The miracle of Divine Mercy restores that soul in full. Oh, how miserable are those who do not take advantage of the miracle of God's mercy!"

"Here the misery of the soul meets the God of mercy."

What more needs to be said? Don't delay. Avail yourself of the only means of attaining true atonement and forgiveness of your sins in the tribunal of His Mercy, the great Sacrament of Reconciliation! If but one person, just one, returns to God in this great sacrament by being moved by what they have read in this article it will have served its purpose! Might you be that person...





Healthy Cooking with Nutritionist

Melek Baba

-Food Safety-

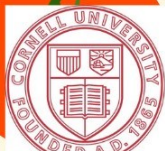
DECEMBER 14

1:30 - 2:30

JOIN US TO LEARN ABOUT KEEPING
YOUR FOOD SAFE AND ENJOY A
HEALTHY FOOD DEMONSTRATION

ST. GERARD MAJELLA R.C.
CHURCH PARISH HALL

300 TERRYVILLE RD PORT JEFFERSON STATION



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
of Suffolk County



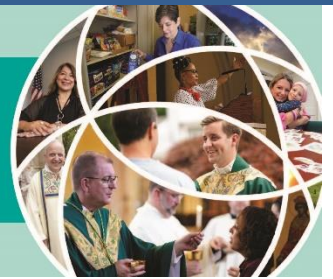
FREE

2023

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

*One Family - Journeying together in
Communion, Participation and Mission*



*“Advent, then, is a time for overturning our perspectives ... for letting ourselves be surprised by the greatness of God’s mercy,”
-Pope Francis*

Pause and Reflect this Advent Season

During the Advent Season we are called to slow down during the frenetic season of shopping, visiting friends and family, baking, wrapping gifts and perhaps even studying for finals.

Are you still struggling to get a unique present for someone special? Consider a gift for all seasons – a donation to the Catholic Ministries Appeal. It’s a special gift that touches the lives of over 600,000 people by supporting programs that allow us to build of community of faith, hope and love in our diocese and beyond.

How does the **Catholic Ministries Appeal Care for God’s People**? It supports programs that help to feed people in our community each year through Catholic Charities and our Parish Outreach programs, providing food and nutrition to more than 15,000 people.



**Have you tried Text-to-Give to make a donation!
It’s fast and secure.**

**Go to the following link to find your parish’s
keyword: bit.ly/3VFrMCE**

**TEXT your parish’s Keyword To:
(516) 271-3338**

Please consider donating to the Appeal and making a difference in someone’s life. Thank you!

Make checks payable to: Catholic Ministries Appeal

Parish _____

Pledge: \$ _____

Name _____

Down payment: \$ _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

To make a donation, you can also visit **CatholicMinistriesAppeal.org**
or call us at **516-678-5800 ext. 296**

Thank You!



Sunday Gospel Activities

First Sunday of Advent, Mark 13:33-37

X S U D D E N L Y G G G Z U W G M P S B
M G O F B U T R J E S U S H W O U R Z D
I N L D W Z L W D E O U H J F O R Z G B
D I B C A Z P W M J C Q S V H A K K G V
N P I N T X Q R P T Y J W L C U Z Y X F
I E E K C Y Q Z J V B O K H T Q V P T S
G E O J H I O S G T R C Y L A A U F L X
H L R E F D B E N X M W B C W L Y K L T
T S D L U U K R I C J Y V S X Q N W G F
H Q E R L L G V L V I O X Z O Z R L N G
I Q R U K D W A E Y K A A A L E R T I L
M Y S E P F C N V W T F B H C Q K P N O
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