



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
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Denise Nienburg, Thrift Shop Manager	thrift@stgmajella.org
Jackie Maggiore, Receptionist	secretary@stgmajella.org
Joseph Crescitelli and Dominic Fontana, Sacristans	

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.



Sunday, September 8, 2024
Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

One Parishioner's Journey to the National Eucharistic Congress Part 5

This is My Body

This morning I made it to Lucas Oil Stadium in time for the Family Rosary Across America. Every morning for the last 2 days the Family Rosary Across America started at 8:00 am with Father Rocky and one of the bishops in attendance. A family is chosen too pray the Rosary with them. Relevant Radio does Family Rosary Across America every day and they ask people to call, email or text intentions after each of the mysteries so we can pray with each other's intentions throughout the country. It was quite inspiring to hear what people, including children, wanted to pray for. After the Rosary the Eastern Rite: Syro-Malabar Holy Qurbana began. I met my friends from the Diocesan New Evangelization and Catechesis Office there and we were excited to be at this Mass. But we had to leave before the end because we were going to meet with other people from the Diocese at the Omni Hotel for a special Diocesan Mass. When we got to the Omni Hotel there they were, Bishop John Barres, Bishop Luis Romero and Bishop Zglejszewski (hope I spelled it right), a group of seminarians, priests, some religious sisters, and a handful of lay people ready for Mass. We were waiting for another group of pilgrims to finish their Mass. Bet you never guess who the bishop was that was using the area for Mass before us. It was none-other than Bishop Henning. My companions went over to him and had a great conversation. We went into the room and settled in. Other families and sisters saw us getting ready for Mass and joined us. We were so happy to have them join us. Seeing families all over the NEC praying the Rosary, at mass, and at Adoration was a breath of fresh air. Every Mass is beautiful, and this one was no exception. At one point I said, "This is a little like Disneyland!" One of the priests present asked me why I thought that. I said, "Because there are lines everywhere and people are just happy to be here. The big difference is that the Disneyland experience only gives you a momentary thrill that ends after a while, but this is the thrill (or a better way of saying it 'the wonder and awe of our God) of a lifetime and beyond!" Unfortunately, we missed our Impact Session, but we had our own little impact session at this breakfast. Ideas and conversations helped us to look to the future in our own Diocese and that is pretty exciting! It was about time to go back to the Convention Center for our Breakout sessions. It just so happened that my Diocesan companions and I were going to the same breakout session. While we were waiting to get into the Convention Center, the teens that we were hanging out with last night at the Revival Session were outside singing and praising God! They were so inspired by their experience at the NEC and their Impact Session. It was so cool! We had a little time so we went down to the exhibits. We were wandering around and saw a long line at the end of the exhibit area. Now believe me when I tell you there were lines all over the place, but this one seemed peculiar. People were excited, as if they were waiting at the stage door after a Broadway show to get autographs. My companion asked why or what was this line for and we found out that Matthew Kelly was doing a meet and greet. Wow! We went to our breakout session and Sister Josephine Garrett was the speaker. If that name sounds familiar it's because we had heard her the night before as a keynote speaker. She did not disappoint! She was animated and spoke to us about the saving power of the Eucharist in her life and her ministry, which was working with people who have experienced trauma. She is a professional counselor and after her conversion she became a religious sister. She uses the gifts God gave her to help people suffering from trauma. We left the breakout a little early because we needed to find a good spot for another major event of our time in Indianapolis. The streets of Indianapolis were closed and the police presence was everywhere, but it somehow felt very serene. We talked to some people as we walked about a half mile down the street. Crowds started to gather and excitement started to mount! This was going to be epic! Organizers of the NEC were asking everyone to get on the sidewalk and leave the street open. One of the people who was asking us to stay on the sidewalk was Sister Alicia who I mentioned in the 1st Installment. It was kind of cool seeing her in person. Why did the street have to be cleared? What was everyone waiting for? I wish that you could have seen it live! The Eucharistic Procession was about to make its way down this main thoroughfare and we were ready for it! Or were we?! The first group of people we saw in the Procession were families whose children made their 1st Holy Communion in the Spring. Little girls dressed in their white Communion dresses and little boys in their suits. They were ear-to-ear smiles and it almost seemed as though there was light exuding from them! Parents were so proud of their children. It was wonderful to see! Next were the seminarians. They were waving and smiling, what a moment for them. After them came every denomination of religious sisters that I have ever seen. To be honest I didn't know there were so many denominations of sisters in the United States. They too were smiling and waving to the crowds. Next were the priests from every Diocese in the United States. Smiles as far as the eye can see. Next were the bishops, about 200 in number and last was Cardinal Christophe Pierre. People were so excited as the clergy came down the road they screamed out the names of their bishop and one man even screamed hello to the Cardinal, who gave him a cordial smile. Next we saw a float coming down the street. It was decorated in flowers and in it was the monstrance with the Blessed Sacrament and Bishop Andrew Cozzins and the bishop of Indianapolis kneeling before the Blessed Sacrament!

That was an incredible sight. But what followed the Blessed Sacrament was just as incredible. People of every race and ethnicity were following the Blessed Sacrament through the streets. Some sang religious hymns, others prayed the Rosary, still others prayed the Divine Mercy Chaplet. When a group of our Spanish speaking brothers and sisters came by they shouted, "Vivo, Christo!" The people lining the streets answered in reply, "Vivo, Christo Rey!" It was awesome being a part of this Procession! The line of people seemed to go on forever. There were an estimated 60,000 people on the Procession route. More than there were at the Revival Sessions at Lucas Oil Stadium. Everyone wanted to either be a part of this moment or just wanted to see what this was all about! What an evangelizing moment for sure. People on the sidewalk just started to join in the Procession. I must say that everything was orderly and everyone enjoyed the experience. After the Benediction, everyone had to walk back the mile to downtown Indianapolis. We stopped to get something to eat before we went for the last night of the Revival Session entitled - This Is My Body. While at the restaurant a woman stopped me in the bathroom to ask why the main thoroughfare was closed off in the afternoon. I told her about the Eucharistic Revival and that there was a Procession with the Blessed Sacrament. When I saw the look on her face I realized that she had no idea what I was talking about, so I just plainly said, "It's all about Jesus in the Eucharist! We are here to worship our Lord and Savior!" She looked like she wanted to ask more questions, but she didn't. I went back to my companions and we finished dinner and were leaving the restaurant, when the same woman who stopped me in the restroom saw me coming and asked if I could tell her boyfriend about what happened this afternoon on the main thoroughfare. I told him the same thing I told her. "It's all about Jesus Our Lord and Savior. He was with us on the road and we were able to worship Him in the Blessed Sacrament" He asked me a few questions and I answered as best I could. Is this what it means to be a Eucharistic Missionary? Sure felt that way to me! We were late getting to the stadium, so we had to sit in the upper levels. Matt Maher came out to start the evening and the crowds roared their enthusiasm. Rock concert vibes filled the stadium and our teen friends once again stormed the stage. Singing in praise and thanksgiving to our God. They were listening, inspired, and on fire with the love of Jesus and the love they had for one another. The beach balls were in the air and from the elderly to the youth everyone had their hands up in worship for Our Lord! There were times when Matt Maher would stop singing and the crowd would take over. It was great! When he sang, Here I am Lord, every person in the stadium started to sing with him. He wanted people to create a new memory with this song as a remembrance of the National Eucharistic Congress! Kids started chanting, "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus. "This memory of the NEC associated with this song will resonate with me forever. Then Matt asked those that had come down to the stage area to go back to their seats. All did so without complaint. The evening was about to begin and everyone was excited. Tim Glemkowski, the CEO of the National Eucharistic Congress came out to speak. He spoke about the fear that no one would want to attend or be bothered with a National Eucharistic Congress. He worried that it was too big an undertaking. A high ranking Church official told him a story. The story was about the time when Pope Saint John Paul II wanted to hold World Youth Day in Denver. He was seated with high ranking people that gave him every reason why they shouldn't do World Youth Day in Denver. He would make a comment every once in a while. When he was finished with his meal, he slammed his fists on the table and said, "Let's try it anyway!" The rest is history! Then Glen said, "Look what we did for Jesus!" "You didn't choose to be here, Jesus called you all by name." When I think back to all the excuses that I made about going to the NEC, I could definitely see Jesus calling me to come here. I tried to make every excuse as to why there was no way I could go to the NEC. I realized I was here because You, Jesus, called me to be here. One of things that Sister Miriam James said is that healing brings us to communion. Repentance is a big part of the Revival; it is in being healed that we are able to share in the Supper of the Lord. We bring our diversity, we bring our broken-hearts, we bring our hopes and dreams to the Lord, and He takes them all and brings us into the light of His face. He gives Himself to us because He loves us so much. Then Drew Mariani from Relevant Radio spoke. One of things he was talking about was all the negativity in the world. He felt himself being sucked into the negativity vortex. He and his production team were having a meeting and one of his production members called him out. This was about 6 weeks before the start of the NEC. His producer said to him, "we are in the middle of a Revival and when the Lord comes things change!" He also mentioned that Saint Pope John Paul II said during his pontificate that there would be a "springtime for the Church". One of the bishops present at the NEC believes that this moment is that "springtime" Saint Pope John Paul II was talking about, that "springtime" has begun! In the springtime we plant seeds. Isn't that what is happening with this Eucharist Revival. Seeds are being planted and the more we go out and live our Catholic faith in the world in truth, "pray without ceasing" and have an authentic love of our Lord, Jesus Christ and neighbor, the greater the yield! Can I get an Amen!!! Next Gloria Purvis came out. She is a woman of color who fights against racism and social injustice, and is a 3rd degree Carmelite. She wasn't raised Catholic, but went to Catholic schools her whole life. Her parents were very big on education and the Catholic schools were the best in the area where she lived. Her first experience of Jesus' Presence in her life happened because of a food fight.

Yes, you read me right, a food fight. Sister Carmelita was her classes religion teacher and after hearing about the food fight marched all the children in her grade over to the Adoration Chapel in the Church. As she prayed, Gloria was struck by the presence of Jesus in the Monstrance and decided that she wanted to become a Catholic. A few days later she went to Sister Carmelita and told her. Sister Carmelita told her she needed permission from her parents. She walked right up to her mom and said, "I want to be a Catholic!" Her mother said, "You will have to go to Mass every Sunday, eat fish on Fridays, go to Confession, etc." All to which Gloria answered, "Yes I will." And the rest is history. She spoke about unity in our Church and how we keep that unity by not rejecting our Pope. If we have a gripe with what he says, we should pray and fast, but God has the final Word in everything. She also pointed out how disunity hurts our Church. We are a human family and we need each other. There is no room for racism which causes disunity. We cannot compromise our beliefs and values just to fit into societal norms. Political parties are not the end all and we need to remember that no matter who sits in seats of power here on earth, Jesus sits on the Throne over all! She said, "I'm a barnacle on the side of the Church. Nothing's going to separate me from Her! Nothing!" We need to magnify our lives and love without qualification. The crowd was cheering and applauding her as she left the stage. Sister Miriam James came out next to introduce Jonathan Roumie. The cheers were deafening as he entered the stage. All he kept saying was, "Oh my gosh!" as he walked onto the stage. He opened by saying, "He is here! Glory to God." He wasn't able to be there earlier because he was filming *The Chosen*, but made it for the day. Ironically, he had just finished the scenes to get ready for it.... *The Last Supper*! He felt great pressure in doing these scenes and had his spiritual director, Father Ian, there to help him maintain a proper posture and reverence for the scenes. He said that playing the role of Jesus is a most humbling experience and gave God praise for letting him use his gift to bring Jesus onto our tv's and into the world. He also said that when we look inward at ourselves we lose our focus, but when we look to Jesus everything becomes more clear. He made it clear as he pointed to himself and said, "TV Jesus" and then pointed up then out and said, "Real Jesus." He said because he is Catholic these scenes were difficult because he understood the gravity of what was happening at the Last Supper. We receive the gift of Jesus himself in the Eucharist. We receive healing, peace, grounding, and His heart within us! Then he read the latter part of John 6. He ended by wishing us all a fruitful, challenging, and spiritually uplifting time as we go forth back into the world. Everyone was on their feet and you could almost hear Jonathan Roumie leave the stage saying, "Oh my gosh!" Montse came out and reminded us of the importance that the arts play in practicing and absorbing the richness of our faith. Then Father Josh led us in prayer. The prayer was an echo prayer: "God help me see myself, as you see me. God help me know myself, as you know me. God help me love myself, as you love me. God help me see my neighbor, as you see them. God help me to know my neighbor, the way that you know them. God help me love my neighbor, as you love my neighbor." After this prayer Matt Maher came back out and played. He asked us to use our voices to make a throne for Jesus. Our singing praise is not about us, it's about Him! Matt Maher started to play "How Great Thou Art" and on the screen behind him the different names of Jesus were moving on the screen. We held up our hands in praise and worship, giving public witness to Jesus our King! The last speaker of the evening was Bishop Robert Barron. He came out to a standing ovation. This evening was so incredible. The witness and profound words of ordinary people. After the applause died down Bishop Barron told the 50,000 people there that this was the greatest moment of his 38 yrs. of being a priest. He said that there are many commandments that we don't follow to the letter, but there is one that we almost always follow and that is "Do this in remembrance of me." We know intuitively how important the Eucharist is to our lives. Jesus has given His Body and poured out His Blood for us; and we become what we eat. We become body and blood given in service to others! He went on to say that "Christianity is not a self-help program, something just designed to make us feel better about ourselves. Your Christianity is for the world." We must conform to Jesus and be the light of the world. He went on to say that the energy in the room was palpable. He recognized that the laity has rights and privileges, but also pointed out that with those rights and privileges there are also responsibilities. The laity need to go out into the secular world and live out their Christian beliefs and values. He said that he was a fan of Dorothy Day. Dorothy Day had one burning issue with the Church, She felt that there was a two tiered spirituality: One was that of Commandments, meant for the laity. Just follow the commandments and that's it. The other for the clergy was Council the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, along with the commandments. Dorothy Day believed that the laity should be held up to the same councils that religious are. They too must take vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. Poverty is not the same as religious orders take, it is a detachment from material goods. "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and the rest will be given unto thee." Mt 6:9-13. Augustine put it "Love God and then love everything else for the sake of God!" Bishop Barron talked about the Wheel of Fortune (no not Pat Sajack and Vanna White) but an idea of the Middle Ages in which people are on a wheel that keeps turning. If you ride the rim of the wheel you will be riddled with guilt, anxiety, fear, ect. *****Continued on Page 10*****

Parish Outreach Ministry

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

FREE Community lecture



Permanent solutions for acid reflux

If you have acid reflux/GERD and want to reduce your dependency on medications, are concerned about their side effects and/or you continue to regurgitate despite PPIs, please join us to learn about *permanent* solutions with minimally invasive surgical procedures that will improve your quality of life.

Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2024
5:30 – 6:30 pm

Location: St. Charles Hospital
200 Belle Terre Road
St. Raphael Conference Room, 2nd Floor
Port Jefferson, NY 11777

Speaker: Arif Ahmad, MD, FRCS, FACS
Director, Acid Reflux and Hiatal Hernia
Center of Excellence at St. Charles Hospital

Topics will include:

- Why PPI drugs are not always the answer as a treatment option
- Permanent solutions with minimally invasive anti-reflux surgery procedures
- Q & A

To register, please call:

(631) 474-6797

Light food and refreshments will be served.



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

Food Pantry Needs

- Cat Food
- Dog Food
- Canned Tuna
- Raisins
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Granola Bars
- Soup
- Rice
- Canola Oil
- Flour
- Juice
- Shelf Stable Milk

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
- Birthingright (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 September 9 – September 15

Monday, September 9 (St. Claver)

9:00am The Intentions of Carmela Zeppetella

Tuesday, September 10

9:00am The Intentions of Fr. Gregory Rannazzisi

Wednesday, September 11

9:00am Fr. R. Michael Reid, Steven Kallman,
the Intentions of Michael Zarif

Thursday, September 12

9:00am John E. Kearney

Friday, September 13 (St. John Chrysostom)

9:00am Daniel George & Louis deMontfort Bruun

Saturday, September 14 (Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross)

5:00pm The Intentions of Lynne-Marie Liggan,
Ryan Charkowick

Fr. Sijoman

Sunday, September 15

8:00am Claire Sagliocca

10:00am The Intentions of Jackie Maggiore

12:00pm Jessica Ippolito

Fr. Vitus

Fr. Matthew

Fr. Greg



Stewardship Report

Last Week's Collection - \$7,974.85

Weekly Memorials

Our Sanctuary Candle has been lovingly donated in honor of:

Daughters of Wisdom Jubilarians



Prayers for the Sick

All the sick and residents of Atria, St. Joseph's Village Woodhaven Adult Home & Nursing Home & Jefferson's Ferry, Luke John Carusillo, Sandy Barrios, LouEllen Klints, Arline Guma, Charles Ricottone, Ted Claesen, Connie Biscardi, Ronnie Pryor, Vinnie Surwilo, Barbara Klein-Croner, Barbara & Pat Consorte, Erin Whitehead, Bill Klein, Barbara Forbes, Thomas Hayes, Linda Tesone, Alexa Mastando, Michael Bruton, Jack Grob, Gerard Healy, Donna DiBiagio, Denise Shaw, Thomas Foley, Richard Zwycewicz Jr., Brenda Fort, Guiliana Roccisano, Robert Mutschler, Barbara Riley, Kathy Dailey, Genevieve Eannuzzi, Alexa Mastando, Debbie Esposito Arpino, Leonardo Alfuentes, Bonnie Forbes, Jeanette Prossi, Cody Family, Philip Spucci, Debra Hamera, Dennis Myles, Baby Camden Miller, Nilda Menendez, Drew Flynn, Baby Julianni, Samantha Brandt, Katie Ankner, Joan Francavilla, Anthony Paletto, Jaclyn Lin, Michael Fucito, Nancy Mulvihill, Angel Rivera, Roger Russell, Paul Csorba, Judith Montesuco, Joe DiPrima, Barbara Lambert, John MacKinnon, Tony Loiacone, Mario Cappilieri.

Wedding Banns

Our parish is pleased to announce the following wedding:

Joseph Niravathu and Achsah Abraham

(St. Gerard Majella)

September 14, 2024 Third Banns



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 Peter Santoro 631-457-9973

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?

September 15, 2024

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mk 8:27-35

Jesus and his disciples set out for the villages of Caesarea Philippi. Along the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" They said in reply, "John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others one of the prophets." And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter said to him in reply, "You are the Christ." Then he warned them not to tell anyone about him.

He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days. He spoke this openly. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. At this he turned around and, looking at his disciples, rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it."

Reflection Questions

- What was significant about Peter's declaration of Jesus in verse 29?
- Why do you think Peter was so upset by what Jesus was saying?
- What does Jesus tell his disciples next? Who objects to this?
- How does Jesus respond? (He tells Peter that he doesn't understand and that he is not thinking like God.) Then what does Jesus tell his disciples?
- How might we understand what Jesus teaches in this Gospel as good news?
- Do we sometimes forget to let God be God for us? That is, do we sometimes get discouraged because God doesn't act in our world in the ways that we expect? Pray that you will remember that God is always working for the world's salvation in ways that are beyond our imagination.

Religious Education 2024/2025

Forms were due on August 1st but there is still time to turn them in!

Registration Forms for the 2024/2025 Year are available on our website and in the Parish Office.

****Please either mail or drop off the completed forms to our office. Do not email them.****

Students must register EVERY YEAR. Religious Education Registration Form for 2024-2025 Page 2 must be signed. Health History Form-A new form is required 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 rest of you Summer!

God bless, Patty

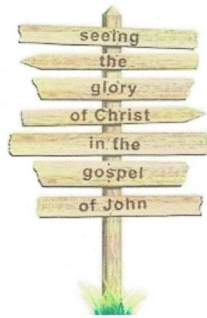
patty@stgmajella.org

SEMINARY COMMUNION BREAKFAST –

SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

The Friends of the Seminary invite you to their Annual Communion Breakfast on Sunday, September 29, 2024. Mass at 10 am followed by brunch and presentation by Msgr. Steven Camp, Seminary Rector and Pastor of St. Patrick, Huntington. Reservations required (\$60 per guest; \$50 member of Friends). Information/reservations, Seminary Development Office, bmalone@icseminary.edu, (631)423-0483 x 102, www.icseminary.edu/events.

Book of Signs



A Scriptural Presentation

Four Monday evenings:
October 21, 28, Nov 4, 18
7:00 pm - ?

Classroom across from the chapel
at St Louis de Montfort Church, Sound Beach, NY.

(Please use the chapel door
located on the northwest side of the Church building)

Please email Tom Adkins at chirhonet@aol.com

with "Signs" in the subject field if you would like to attend.

Emily's Gift

Every
Moment
I
Love
You
Still



Perinatal
Bereavement Program



for miscarriage support



DIocese of ROCKVILLE CENTRE
Office of Human Life,
Family and Bioethics
www.drvc.life.org/emilys-gift
631-314-4562

SAINT ANTHONY'S HIGH SCHOOL FRANCISCAN BROTHERS

Open House
Saturday, September 28
9:00am-12:00pm



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FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 9-12

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Because you will always need to keep your position, that could change at any moment. Being on the rim of the wheel won't satisfy you. If you stay in the center of the wheel, centered on Jesus, all the other things don't carry the same weight they did before because they are incidental. Next he spoke about the chastity of the laity. Chastity is how we live our sexuality in a moral and spiritual way. He said that our sexuality was a great gift from God and human sexuality is always in the context of authentic love and love is willing the good of another. Sex without love is not authentic love, it is using the other person for our own pleasure without regard for the other person. Men don't have to prove anything and women are worth waiting for. The last would probably be the hardest for most of us. Obedience! The way Bishop Barron explained this one was: What voices do I listen to? Do we need all the latest gadgets? Or power, fame, honor, ect. When we listen to God's voice and do mercy, do justice and walk humbly with our God, then we are being obedient to our God. So Church of St, Gerard Majella are you ready to do that. Take the vow of poverty, chastity, and obedience in order to be the best laity can be. I can only speak for myself but I think we are doing pretty well in that department, but there's always room for improvement. He ended his time by making an observation: In the book of Revelation John talks about the New Jerusalem. There is no mention of the temple though. Why?! The reason is that in the New Jerusalem the whole city, the whole world will be the temple of the Lord! We will be the light to the nations. Saint Catherine of Sienna said "Be who God meant for you to be and you will set the world on fire." That fire is the fire of God's love for His people and our love back to Him! Amen!!! When Bishop Barron left the stage there was another standing ovation. The lights went down in Lucas Oil Stadium and the spotlight focused on the tunnel. This was the last night of the NEC, the last time that all of us, 50,000 strong, would be adoring our Lord in this setting. There was still that feeling of anticipation in the air and we all waited as the music from Matt Maher started to play and the Blessed Sacrament was brought into the stadium. Everyone kneeled and we sang, adored and wept as our time for the evening was ending, but there was also an overwhelming feeling of joy in this space. Why!?! This moment was just the start of what God was going to do for His people. It was a beginning and an ending and although this moment had to end, there would be other moments. Tomorrow we would be sent out to proclaim to the world that Our Lord and King IS HERE AND WE WANT TO INVITE ALL TO COME AND FOLLOW HIM! The evening ended with more music. Tomorrow was another day, the last day. What an unbelievable 4 days we had. What else could possibly happen. Oh, there's more!!!


 DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

2024 2025

HOLY HOURS

for

VOCATIONS

LOCATIONS

<p>09.13 St. Patrick <small>BAY SHORE</small></p> <p>10.18 Notre Dame <small>NEW HYDE PARK</small></p> <p>11.15 Infant Jesus <small>PORT JEFFERSON</small></p> <p>12.13 St. Joseph <small>GARDEN CITY</small></p>	<p>01.16 St. Elizabeth <small>MELVILLE</small> <i>*Thursday</i></p> <p>02.07 St. Dominic <small>OYSTER BAY</small></p> <p>03.07 St. John the Evangelist <small>CENTER MORICHES</small></p> <p>04.11 Christ the King <small>COMMACK</small></p> <p>05.30 Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal <small>POINT LOOKOUT</small></p>
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Looking For A Rewarding Volunteer Opportunity?

Come Join Our Thrift Shop & Barn Family!

We have several spots available for parishioners
looking to join our outreach ministry:

In Our Thrift Shop:

Wednesday 1-4 pm

Friday 11am-2 pm

In Our Barn:

Monday 1-4 pm

Tuesday 10-1 am (inside/back-up cashier)

Friday 10am-2 pm (inside/back-up cashier)

Stop by and see why everyone LOVES

The Thrift Shop & Barn @ St. Gerard Majella Church!

Volunteer applications are available at the reception desk
during office hours: Monday through Thursday 9 am — 4:30 pm

BLOOD DRIVE

DONATIONS SAVE LIVES

St. Gerard Majella

Sunday, September 15th

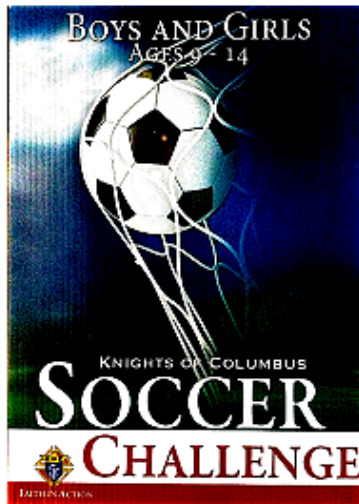
8:30AM – 2:30PM

300 Terryville Road, Port Jefferson Station



Appointments are preferred but walk ins are welcome.
Scan the QR code below or call 1-800-933-2566/ visit www.nybc.org

Any further questions contact Jennifer at 516-310-2382



ST. GERARD
MAJELLA

KNIGHTS OF
COLUMBUS

SOCCER CHALLENGE

(How Many Goals can you score?)

WHEN: Saturday, September 28, 2024, 9:30AM - 12:30 Noon
(Tie Breakers if needed & Championship Awards presented 12:30-1:00)

WHERE: Terryville Road School (follow the signs)

THERE IS NO CHARGE, EVENT IS OPEN TO BOYS & GIRLS AGES 9 - 14

FINALISTS WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE IN THE NEXT LEVEL OF
COMPETITION (date and place to be announced)

All participants must bring a copy of their birth certificate as proof of age
to be able to compete

Trophies will be presented to winners in each age category from ages 9 -14
at Awards Presentation, 12:30 PM to 1:00 PM on day of event

Questions? Contact: Bill at carrierowj@gmail.com

FALL INTO FUN



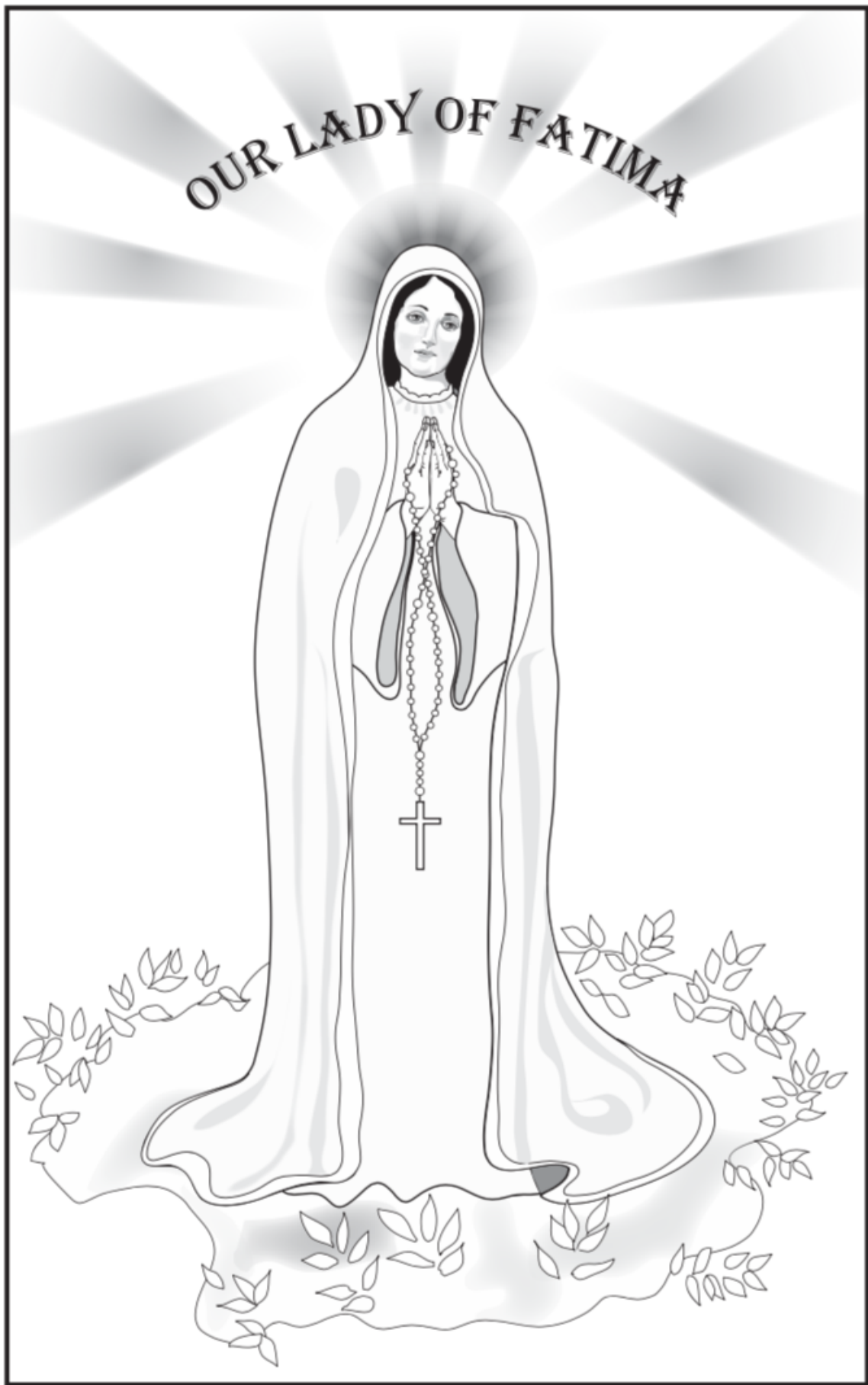
Parish Fundraiser



FRIDAY OCT. 4TH 7-10PM
PARISH HALL

- MUSIC/DJ RICH-RAFFLES-50/50-GAMES
- APPS/SOFT DRINKS
- CIGAR BAR WEATHER PERMITTING (BYOC)
- BRING WINE TO SHARE
- \$50 A TICKET GUARANTEES A SPOT IN OUR BACKWARDS RAFFLE DRAWING.
- CASH PRIZES-TOP PRIZE \$3,000.
- NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN.
- ONLY 300 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD.
- THE FIRST 240 TICKETHOLDERS, 21 AND OVER, TO RSVP WILL GAIN ENTRY TO THE EVENT.
- TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED VIA CASH/CHECK AFTER WEEKEND MASSES OR IN OUR PARISH OFFICE.





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