



# 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

### Pastor

Rev. Gregory Rannazzisi frgreg@stgmajella.org

### Parochial Vicars

Rev. Francis Lasrado frfrancis@infantjesus.org  
Rev. Sijomon Varghese frsijomon@infantjesus.org

### In Residence

Rev. Matthew Udobi  
Rev. Vitus Ezeiruaku

### Deacons

Deacon Pat Gerace deaconpat@infantjesus.org  
Deacon Frank DellAglio deaconfrank@stgmajella.org  
Deacon John Grebe deaconjohn@stgmajella.org  
Deacon Carlito Roman deaconcarlito@stgmajella.org

## Parish Trustees

Art Reyling & Ralph Carusillo

## Pastoral Staff

Dcn. Carlito Roman, Pastoral Associate for Administration  
Chuck Pramnieks, Music Director chuck@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

## 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

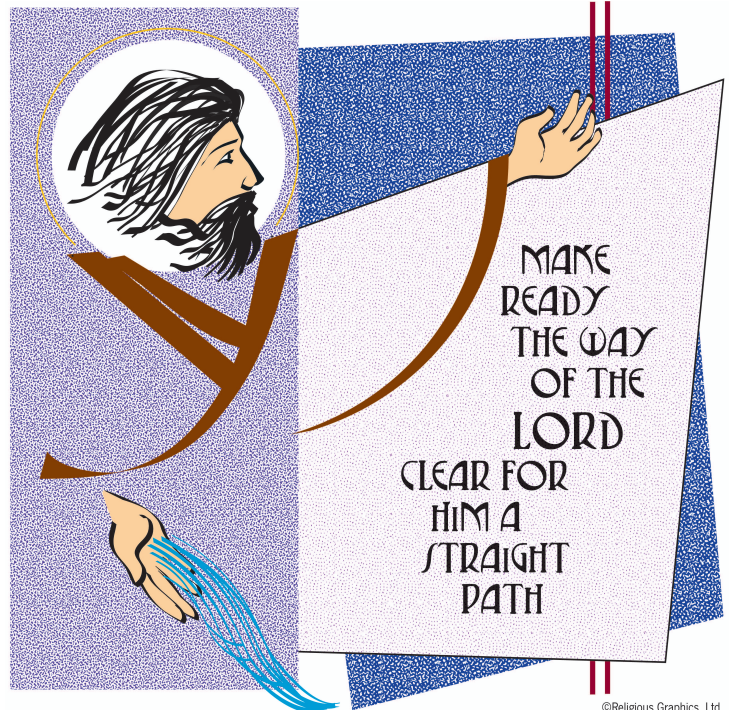
Tuesday: 11:30am-3:00pm  
Wednesday: 12:30pm-3:00pm  
Thursday: 11:30am-1:30pm & 4:30pm-5:30pm

### 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 8, 2024  
Second Sunday of Advent

## A Message from our Pastor



Dear Friends,

This holiday season is often marked by acts of charity to assist those in need. However, at our parish, such generosity is a year-round event. But I still need to acknowledge the outstanding response by our parish to our annual **Thanksgiving Food Drive**. With so many people and neighboring organizations assisting, we were able to offer 181 families a full Thanksgiving meal with all the trimmings! I am especially grateful to our Outreach volunteers, the Knights of Columbus, and the many individuals who helped to receive, organize, and distribute all the donations. It's a daunting and time-consuming task, but one they embrace with tremendous joy. Every time there is a need, this community comes through in strides.

December 8<sup>th</sup> is normally the **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**. For us as Americans, this is an especially important feast as our nation is under the patronage of Our Lady under this most important title. Because December 8<sup>th</sup> falls on a Sunday in Advent this year, the feast is transferred to Monday the 9<sup>th</sup>. For years, there was some confusion as to whether or not the obligation to attend Mass was lifted if it fell on a Monday or Saturday. The Vatican and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops recently clarified that the obligation to attend Mass remains in effect for this most important memorial, regardless of whichever day it is observed. To ensure everyone's participation, we will have Mass at 12:00pm and 7:00pm Monday in addition to the usual morning Mass at 9:00am. Please be sure to join us as we celebrate the Mother of our Savior during this Advent season.

Finally, moments before I was about to submit this letter to the bulletin publishing company, I received important news from our Diocese. After four long years of legal processes, our **Diocesan Bankruptcy Resolution Plan**. The total settlement amount was just over \$323 million, which included insurance contributions, Diocesan assets and sale proceeds from Diocesan property, and contributions from parishes and other related entities. The Diocese, parishes and other related entities contributed a total of \$234.8 million. Insurance companies contributed a total of just over \$85 million. Counsel for the Creditor's Committee contributed \$3 million. All participated in order to offer equitable compensation to survivors and move this difficult ordeal towards its conclusion. As I explained to you in previous bulletins and announcements, our parish made a sacrificial contribution to this fund and now has the same protections as our Diocese for any historical cases that may be presented. We are grateful that this painful chapter has come to a close and the work of our Church can be renewed with zeal.

May you continue to have a blessed, meaningful Advent journey!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Greg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

# HOLY DAYS OF DECEMBER SCHEDULE 2024

ST. GERARD MAJELLA PARISH

## **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**

Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup> (observed this year)

A holy day of obligation to attend Mass

9:00am, 12:00pm, 7:00pm

## **Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)**

Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>

5:00pm – 8:00pm

## **Christmas Eve**

Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

A holy day of obligation for Catholics to attend Mass

4:00pm

## **Christmas Day**

Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

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

## **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

A holy day of obligation to attend Mass

Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>

5:00pm

Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>

9:00am, 12:00pm, 7:00pm

# Religious Education

## 2024 Class Masses

Sunday, January 12	10:00	Level 2 & Sacrament Prep Class
	12:00	Level 8
Sunday, January 26	10:00	Level 3
	12:00	Level 7

## Parent Meetings and Retreats

December 14th-Level 1 Family Advent Retreat at 11am

## Blessing the Family Christmas Tree

Before Christianity came to be, trees that remained green all year round warded off evil spirits and were special to people during the winter. It wasn't until the sixteenth century in Germany that trees were brought inside and decorated. When does the Christmas tree go up in your home or parish? Continue the tradition by gathering together and blessing this special symbol.

You may bless the tree as soon as you put it up, or you can wait until after you have decorated it. When you are ready to do the blessing, gather everyone around the tree and designate someone to lead the following prayer.

You will need water or holy water (if available) to celebrate this blessing.

Leader: Loving God, we stand before you once again. We stand here ready to celebrate the birth of your son, Jesus.

(Have everyone extend a hand in a gesture of blessing. Sprinkle water or holy water on the tree while praying the following prayer.)

Leader: Bless this tree, this sign of life and freshness and perseverance in our midst. It stands as a reminder that you are born anew in us each day. Bless our family and friends as we celebrate this joyous season. Keep us safe in our travels, kind in our conversations, and gracious in our giving and receiving. We ask you this in confidence, because we know you love us.

All: Amen.

(Join in singing a favorite Christmas carol, such as "O Christmas Tree" or "Joy to the World.")

(©Loyola Press)



# 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

**RISE**  
ABOVE SUICIDE

## SUICIDE PREVENTION

**TALK SAVES LIVES**

**WHAT WILL I LEARN?**

1. RISK FACTORS AND THE "PATHWAY" TO SUICIDE
2. WARNING SIGNS OF SUICIDE
3. HOW TO ASK SOMEONE ABOUT SUICIDE
4. HOW TO LISTEN ACTIVELY AND OFFER HOPE
5. HOW TO CONNECT THE PERSON TO HELP
6. HOW TO MAKE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT AND BUILD A SUPPORT TEAM

**WHEN IS IT?**

JANUARY 30TH, FROM 7:00-8:00PM  
AT ST. GERARD RC CHURCH  
300 TERRYVILLE RD,  
PORT JEFFERSON STATION

**ANYONE CAN SAVE A LIFE**

JOIN US TO LEARN ABOUT HOW EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US HAS THE ABILITY TO SAVE A LIFE. IT DOESN'T TAKE AN EXPERT TO PREVENT SUICIDE.

**SUICIDE PREVENTION STARTS WITH YOU!**

### Food Pantry Needs

- Granola Bars
- Shelf Stable Milk
- Canned Chicken
- Jelly
- Soup
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Feminine Products
- Razors
- Shaving Cream
- Soap
- Laundry Soap
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant

### 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 December 9 – December 15

**Monday, December 9 (Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception)**

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

**Tuesday, December 10**

9:00am John Onysko

**Wednesday, December 11**

9:00am Peter Logiudice, Ilse DeCuzzi,  
the Intentions of Tom Staubacher

**Thursday, December 12 (Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe)**

9:00am Jean Pagnotta

**Friday, December 13 (St. Lucy)**

9:00am The Intentions of Elizabeth Derham

**Saturday, December 14 (St. John of the Cross)**

5:00pm Arthur Lorelli, Michael Stiles, Gary Cinque,  
Phyllis Craig, Gloria Zacierka,  
Anthony & James Hayes

**Sunday, December 15**

8:00am Geraldine DuBritz  
10:00am Carmela LoCascio  
12:00pm Jane Swanson



Fr. Greg

Fr. Vitus  
Fr. Matthew  
Fr. Matthew

### Stewardship Report

Last Week's Collection - \$8,332.00

### 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, Erin Whitehead, Sandy Barrios, LouEllen Klints, Arline Guma, Charles Ricottone, Ted Claesen, Connie & Frank Biscardi, Ronnie Pryor, Vinnie Surwilo, Barbara Klein-Croner, Jack Grob, Robert Mutschler, Joan Francavilla, Michael Fucito, Nancy Mulvihill, Angel Rivera, Roger Russell, Paul Csorba, Judith Montesuco, Joe DiPrima, Barbara Lambert, John MacKinnon, Tony Loiacone, Mario Cappilieri, Vincent Ricottone, Dale Beck, Marie Bilbao, Patricia Murray, Ericka Medrano, Leonardo Alfuate, Donald Derham, Joanne Dorvil, Gregory Litterello, Kristine McDonald, Jeannette, Frank Perugini, Thomas Hayes, Pina Carpitella, Brian Moore, Baby Paul Donnelly, Daniel Dinan, Anthony Paletto, Jaclyn Lin, Mary Louise Delano, Jean Maglione, Brenda Fort, Michael Maglione.

### Weekly Memorials

*Our Sanctuary Candle has been lovingly  
donated in honor of:*



**Kaileigh**

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



**Daniel Murolo**

### Wedding Banns

Our parish is pleased to announce the following  
wedding:

Christopher Fernandez and Jocelyn Frances  
(Blessed Sacrament) (Infant Jesus)  
December 27, 2024  
First Banns



We pray for all recently deceased,  
remembering Michael Corr, 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](mailto:deaconfrank@stgmajella.org) or 631-473-2900.

[Facebook.com/stgmajella/](https://Facebook.com/stgmajella/)

[Instagram.com/sgmparish](https://Instagram.com/sgmparish)

[Facebook.com/SGMthriftshop/](https://Facebook.com/SGMthriftshop/)

[Instagram.com/sgmthriftshop](https://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](http://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 15, 2024**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

**Lk 3:10-18**

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?" He said to them in reply, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized and they said to him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He answered them, "Stop collecting more than what is prescribed." Soldiers also asked him, "And what is it that we should do?" He told them, "Do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse anyone, and be satisfied with your wages." Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people.

### Reflection Questions

- Which groups question John? How does John respond?
- Which items does the Bible say we need to have to be content?
- Who is the coming "One mightier than" John the Baptist? What does John the Baptist mean by not being "worthy to loose" His "sandal strap"?
- How does John's water baptism differ from Jesus' baptism?
- What is the "inextinguishable fire" ?
- Whom do the "wheat" and the "chaff" represent?
- Advent is a time of active waiting as we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth and await his coming in glory. What are some things you might do during Advent to prepare for the Lord?



*Gaudete Sunday*

*"Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice...The Lord is near."*

Philippians 4:4-5

**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:

\_\_\_\_\_



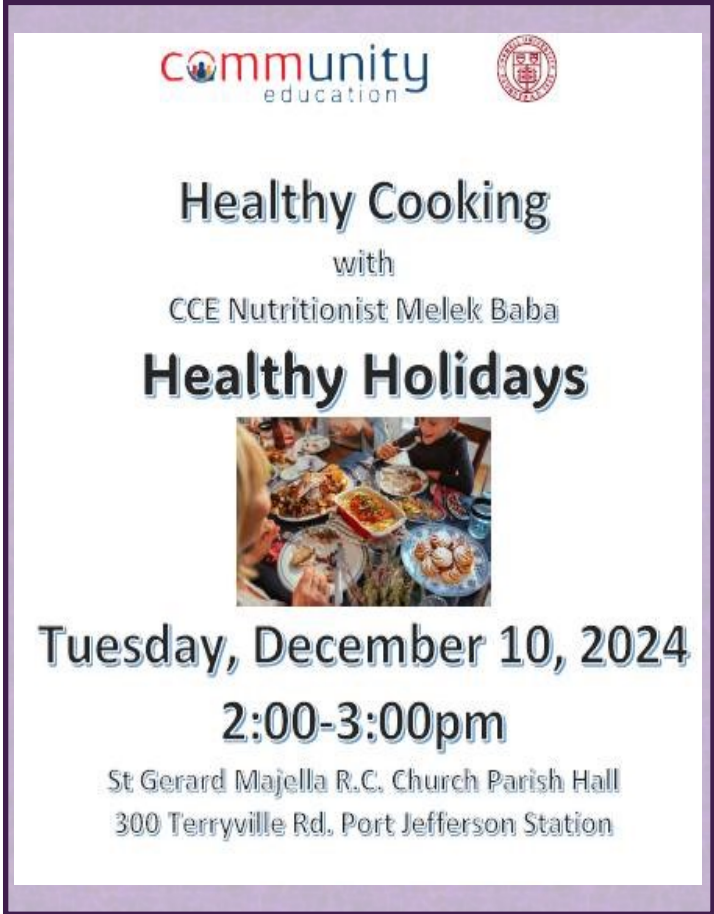
The graphic features two gold Christmas ornaments hanging from the top. The left ornament has a flame and the text 'BLAISE NORTH SHORE YOUNG ADULT CATHOLICS'. The right ornament has a snowflake. The words 'christmas' and 'party' are written vertically in cursive above the ornaments. The background is light beige with gold stars.


**BLAISE NORTH SHORE YOUNG ADULT CATHOLICS**  
*Invites all young adults 21+ to our*  
**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

PLEASE PURCHASE TICKETS BY DEC.15

FOR MORE INFORMATION SCAN HERE 


WEDNESDAY 18TH DECEMBER  
 7:00PM - 10:00PM

**community education** 

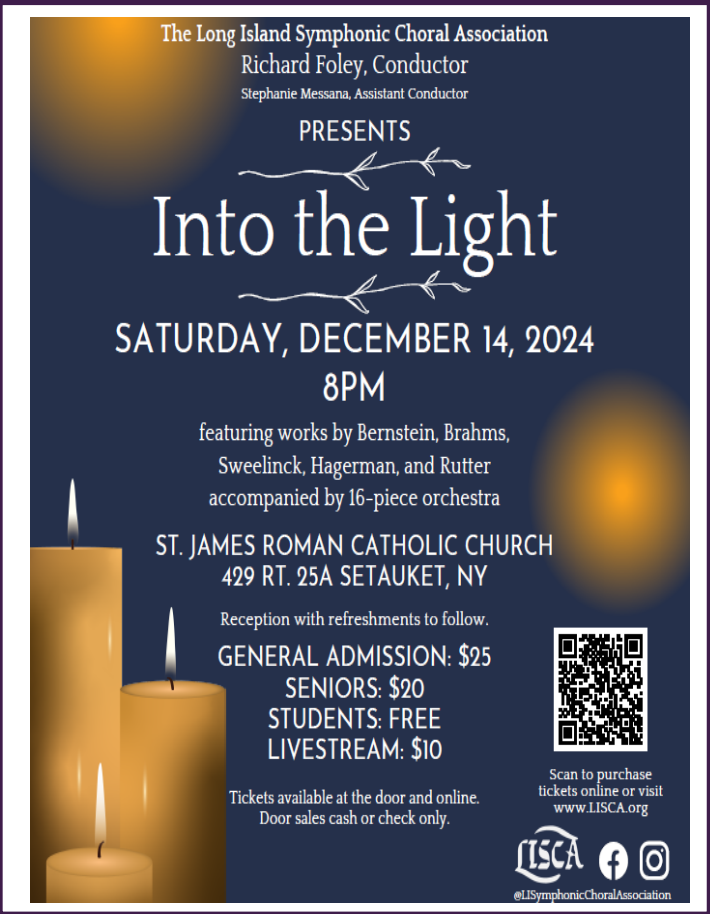
**Healthy Cooking**  
 with  
 CCE Nutritionist Melek Baba

**Healthy Holidays**



**Tuesday, December 10, 2024**  
**2:00-3:00pm**

St Gerard Majella R.C. Church Parish Hall  
 300 Terryville Rd. Port Jefferson Station



The Long Island Symphonic Choral Association  
 Richard Foley, Conductor  
 Stephanie Messana, Assistant Conductor

PRESENTS

**Into the Light**



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2024  
 8PM

featuring works by Bernstein, Brahms, Sweelinck, Hagerman, and Rutter accompanied by 16-piece orchestra

ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
 429 RT. 25A SETAUKET, NY



Reception with refreshments to follow.

GENERAL ADMISSION: \$25  
 SENIORS: \$20  
 STUDENTS: FREE  
 LIVESTREAM: \$10

Scan to purchase tickets online or visit [www.LISCA.org](http://www.LISCA.org)

Tickets available at the door and online. Door sales cash or check only.

**LISCA**    
 @LISymphonicChoralAssociation

# **DONATION GUIDELINES**

The Thrift Shop & Barn @ St. Gerard Majella Church  
316 Terryville Road, Port Jefferson Station, NY 11776

## **We Are Happy To Accept Your New Or GENTLY Used:**

Bedding/Linens	Jewelry & Accessories	Small Toys/Games/ Puzzles
Clothing	Seasonal Décor	Towels
Collectibles	Shoes & Boots	Vinyl Records/CDs
Home Décor	Small Appliances	Vintage Items
Housewares	Small Furniture	

## **We Are UNABLE To Accept:**

Infant furniture	Textbooks	Rugs
Large Baby Toys/ Swings /etc.	Mattresses/Box Springs	Upholstered Furniture
Large Toys	“Previously Loved” Stuffed Animals	Large Dressers
Bed Pillows	Men’s & Women’s Suits	China Cabinets
Soft Cover Books	VHS Players/Tapes	

Donations Accepted: Mon. — Thur. 10— 3 & Fri. 10— 1

## **WE DO NOT OFFER PICKUP SERVICE FOR DONATIONS**

**We are UNABLE to accept: Sofas, Cribs, Infant Furniture, Large Hutches/China Cabinets, Entertainment Units, Dining Room Sets, Upholstered Furniture, Beds and/or Bed Frames**

Our thrift shop and barn generate much-needed funds for the charitable works of our Parish while providing low-cost, high-quality clothing and household items for those in need. Thank you for your continued support.

"The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin." In 1854, Pope Pius IX's solemn declaration, "Ineffabilis Deus," clarified with finality the long-held belief of the Church that Mary was conceived free from original sin. Mary was granted this extraordinary privilege because of Her unique role in history as the Mother of God. That is, she received the gift of salvation in Christ from the very moment of her conception. Even though Mary is unique in all humanity for being born without sin, she is held up by the Church as a model for all humanity in Her holiness and Her purity in her willingness to accept the Plan of God for her. Every person is called to recognize and respond to God's call to their own vocation in order to carry out God's plan for their life and fulfill the mission prepared for them since before the beginning of time. Mary's "Let it be done to me according to Thy Word," in response of the Angel Gabriel's greeting, is the response required of all Christians to God's Plan. The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is a time to celebrate the great joy of God's gift to humanity in Mary, and to recognize with greater clarity, the truth that each and every human being has been created by God to fulfill a particular mission that he and only he can fulfill. "The word of the Lord came to me thus: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you." (Jeremiah 1:5-6)

(Catholic News Agency)



 St. Gerard Majella  
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

# FEAST *of the* IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Monday, Dec. 9th

Holy Day of Obligation  
Mass Times  
9am  
12 Noon  
7pm

O Mary, conceived  
without sin, pray for us  
who have recourse to  
thee.

## Sock Religious Fundraiser

**You can buy faith-inspired goodies like Sock Religious socks, faith-inspired shirts, sweatshirts, onesies, stickers, and mugs . How cool is that?**

**And the best part? When you buy these amazing goodies, 50% of the profits will go straight to our Parish! We are grateful if you could support this fundraiser which will enable us to offer more community based and fun events here.**

**So, grab your friends, tell your family, and let's all be a part of this incredible fundraiser.**

**Scan the QR Code below or visit our website to check out all the awesome stuff and make your contribution count now until December 15th.**

**Anything purchased after December 9, 2024 is not guaranteed for Christmas delivery.**

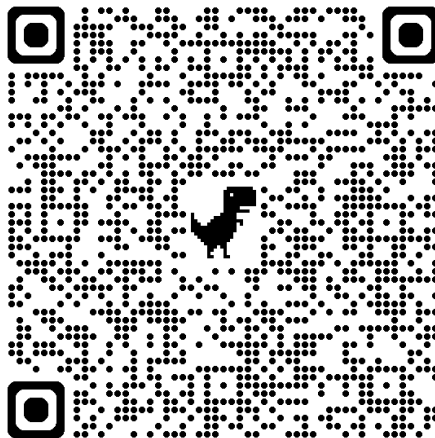
**We Need Your Help To Make This Fundraiser Awesome!**

50% of your purchase goes to St Gerard Majella Church

Catholic Concepts Fundraising

**CatholiC**oncepts  
**FUNDRAISERS**

[Home](#) [Contact](#) [Sock Religious](#) [States of Faith](#)



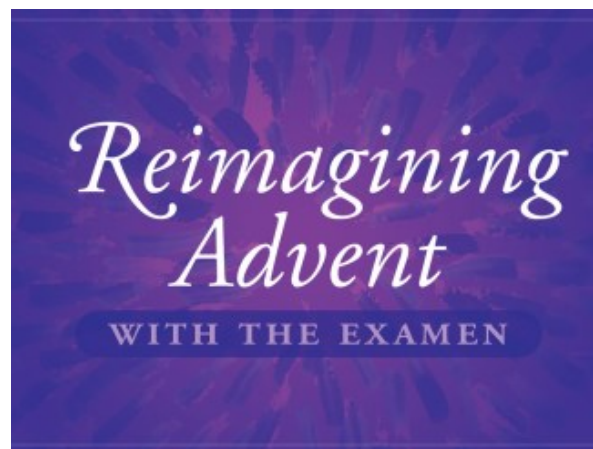
## Advent Examen

By Laurie Marshanke

[www.ignatianspirituality.com](http://www.ignatianspirituality.com)

Begin by taking in a deep breath, taking in God's love, the light of Christ, the wisdom of the Holy Spirit. Exhale all your worries, your challenges, and your fears. During this time of Advent let us reflect on what we can do to prepare for the Lord.

1. Invite the Holy Spirit to help you see the day as the newborn baby Jesus sees it. What joy have you found today? Where have you felt God's love? What have you done today to prepare the way for Jesus being born into this world for you?
2. Now think about your day as if looking at it through the eyes of a child; what do you see? Did something surprise you? Was it something someone said to you or something you are grateful for? What did you recognize as gifts (thinking about the gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh brought to Jesus)? Thank God for the gifts he has given to you today. Which of those gifts have you brought to Jesus in gratitude?
3. Take a moment to reflect on the times today when God was especially present to you. Recognize your feelings in those moments. How did you prepare your heart for God's presence in the coming of Jesus? Where did you feel God's loving arms wrapped around you the way Jesus felt Mary's arms? How did you prepare yourself to experience God's love, forgiveness, and hope?
4. Now take a moment to think about the times when God seemed to be hidden. Where did you struggle to see the Messiah in your life—the way some failed to recognize the birth of the Messiah when Jesus was born? When might you have seen the need for love and didn't respond (maybe like the innkeeper), or the opportunity for forgiveness and you walked away? How was your heart prepared? Ask God to forgive you for anything that moved your heart away from God's love and recognizing the birth of Jesus in you. And ask God to help you to open your heart and become the person that God created you to be.
5. Finally, prepare for the hope of Jesus Christ in your life. Think about what you are hopeful for, what you are looking forward to during Advent and the Christmas season. Is your hope like that of a child on Christmas morning? What gifts will you share to be hope for someone else? Ask God to bless all in your life as you prepare the way of the Lord, and ask God to be with you today and every day. Pray the Our Father.



# SUNDAY GOSPEL ACTIVITIES

Second Sunday of Advent

## Word Scramble

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Unscramble each word and write it in the blank provided.

1. pstibma \_\_\_\_\_

2. sdrtee \_\_\_\_\_

3. djrnao \_\_\_\_\_

4. nis \_\_\_\_\_

5. asiantlvo \_\_\_\_\_

6. errpepa \_\_\_\_\_

7. veico \_\_\_\_\_

8. sfeoervgsin \_\_\_\_\_

9. dlro \_\_\_\_\_

10. erptpho \_\_\_\_\_





Catholic Mom  
HOLY CROSS  
FAMILY MINISTRIES

# SUNDAY GOSPEL ACTIVITIES



Our Lady of Guadalupe - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com All rights reserved.



Visit [CatholicMom.com](http://CatholicMom.com) for more resources for you and your family  
"The Family That Prays Together, Stays Together." - Venerable Patrick Peyton

**Bryant**  
FUNERAL HOME

Sergio Benites Fred Bryant

411 Old Town Road  
E. Setauket, NY 11733

631-473-0082

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