THE PEOPLE OF GOD CALLED TO FORM THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OF

ST. CLARE PARISH

110 Nelson Avenue, Staten Island, New York 10308
www.stclaresi.com

December 25, 2022

Mass Schedule

Saturday:	5:00 PM
Sunday:	7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM 11:30 AM, 1:00 PM, 7:00 PM
Weekdays (in the chapel):	7:00 AM, 8:15 AM, 9:00 AM
Saturdays (in the chapel):	8:15 AM, 9:00 AM
Holy Days	7:30 PM Vigil (evening before), 7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 11:30 AM, 7:30 PM

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Rectory/Parish Office: 718-984-7873
Fax: 718-966-8420
Office Hours: Monday - Friday,
8:00 A.M.- 4:00 P.M.
The office remains open for limited business in the evenings until 8:30 P.M. and weekends till 8:00 P.M.

School: 718-984-7091
Pre-School: 718-967-0990
Religious Ed (CCD): 718-948-4829
Parish Nurse: 718-948-1505
Family Counseling: 718-984-8456
Sports: 718-554-8129

Our Church is ♿ **accessible**

Find us on Facebook

Sacrament of Baptism
Communal celebrations of Baptism are celebrated several Sundays each month, except during Lent. Baptismal information may be obtained by calling the rectory.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturdays from 3:30 to 4:30 P.M. in the chapel. Also during communal Penance Services during the year. Individual arrangements may also be made by calling the rectory for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Sacrament of Marriage
Weddings are celebrated on:
✞Fridays between 4:00 & 5:30 P.M.
✞Saturdays at 1:00 P.M. & 3:00 P.M.
✞Sundays at 4:30 P.M.
Couples should contact the rectory at least one year prior to the wedding date.

Anointing of the Sick
The sacrament for the seriously ill and elderly can be arranged by contacting one of the priests or at any time in an emergency.

Ministry to the Sick and Homebound
Parish priests and Eucharistic ministers regularly visit those who are ill or homebound. Please call the rectory to arrange for home visits.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Monday through Friday in the chapel, from Noon. to 5:00 P.M.

Benediction
Takes place in our chapel monthly on the First Tuesday following the evening Holy Hour.

Miraculous Medal Novena
After the 7:00, 8:15 and 9:00 A.M. Masses on Mondays.

Download this App...
For instant parish announcements and access to volunteer parish service providers and requests for help: "cmtyhelp" from the App Store or Google Play Store.

About Our Parish

Served by:

Clergy

Rev. Arthur Mastrolia	*Pastor*	rectory@stclaresi.com
Rev. Joseph Harrison	*Parochial Vicar*	rectory@stclaresi.com
Rev. Brendan Gormley	*Parochial Vicar*	rectory@stclaresi.com
Rev. Jacob Thomas	*Parochial Vicar*	rectory@stclaresi.com
Deacon Richard Mitchell	*Permanent Deacon*	deaconrich@stclaresi.com
Deacon Richard Salhany	*Permanent Deacon*	deaconsalhany@stclaresi.com

Administration

Mrs. Debbie Mouton	*Bookkeeper, HR Manager*	dmouton@stclaresi.com
Mr. William Quirk	*Facilities Manager*	wquirk@stclaresi.com
Mr. Charles Tracy	*Parish Manager*	ctracy@stclaresi.com

Christian Service

Ms. Linda Rizzotto, LCSW	*Parish Counselor*	lrizzotto@stclaresi.com

Education

Miss Marie Ferro	*Director of Rel. Ed.*	mferro@stclaresi.com
Mrs. Eileen Griffo	*School Assistant Principal*	egriffo@stclaresi.com
Mrs. Denise Olsen	*School Principal*	dolsen@stclaresi.com
Mrs. Claire Smith	*Adult Faith Formation Dir.*	csmith@stclaresi.com

Liturgy & Sacraments

Mrs. Marcella Mitchell	*Wedding Coordinator*	
Mr. George Poppe	*Music Director*	gpoppe@stclaresi.com
Mrs. BettyAnne Santore	*Sacristan*	bsantore@stclaresi.com

Youth & Family Ministries

Mrs. Catherine Adinolfi	*Family Ministry Director*	cadinolfi@stclaresi.com
Mr. Gerard Nicholson	*Sports Coordinator*	gnicholson1@stclaresi.com

...and more than 500 Lay Ministers serving the 7,000 faithful families of Saint Clare Parish.

Novena Prayers
In honor of Our Lady of Fatima are said on the first Saturday after the 9:00 A.M. Mass.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
The RCIA process is an opportunity for instruction and spiritual transformation for any adult seeking a deeper understanding of the Catholic tradition or full incorporation into the Catholic Church. Contact the rectory at 984-7873.

Parish Membership
All new families and individuals are welcome to our parish. We request that you register in the rectory when you move into our community so we can be of service to you. Our parish family invites all of its members to participate fully in our spiritual and social life. The priests and ministers are here to serve your needs, to share your joy and to help lighten your burdens. We take seriously the words of Jesus: "Love one another, as I loved you, so you must love one another." (John 13:34)

Baptisms

Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we welcome into the Church and our parish family:

Matteo Timothy Knuth
Peter Anthony Lizarazo
Angel Jack Manjarrez
Apollo Anthony Simeoli Oefelein
Ella Lynne Simeoli Oefelein
Grayson Anthony Velez

Congratulations to the happy parents!

Banns of Marriage

III
Justin Ames & Jessica Turkus

Question of the Week

Adults/Child:

What real steps will I take in order to truly experience the birth of Christ in my life this Christmas?

Celebrations of the Eucharist

Sunday, December 25th-The Nativity of the Lord
7:00 AM Cucurullo Family
8:30 AM Mercedes & Joseph Moa & Vincent M. Rasole & Patrick Scafuri
10:00 AM Harry R. Bolten
11:30 AM Smith, Cibelli, Padavano & Guastella Families
1:00 PM Msgr. Pavis, Robert, Mary, Victor, Gerard, Vincent & Matthew
****THERE WILL BE NO EVENING MASS****

Monday, December 26th
7:00 AM Stark & Slattery Families
8:15 AM William & Theresa Korkowski
9:00 AM John Egan

Tuesday, December 27th
7:00 AM Dan & Danny Kelley
8:15 AM Laura Dalton
9:00 AM Donald Barresi

Wednesday, December 28th
7:00 AM Glenn T. Barback
8:15 AM Marano & Ingemi Families
9:00 AM Helen, Patrick, Maurice & Henry Fitzgerald & Mary Coleman

Thursday, December 29th
7:00 AM Catherine Feeks
8:15 AM Frank Gallo (2nd Anniversary)
9:00 AM Felix Stanton (4th Anniversary)

Friday, December 30th
7:00 AM Rosalia Abate
8:15 AM Thomas Mc Nulty
9:00 AM Joseph A. Smith (17th Anniversary)

Saturday, December 31st
8:15 AM Rae Mc Mahon
9:00 AM Lucy Gigante (4th Anniversary)

Saturday Vigil, December 31st
5:00 PM Thomas J. Smith, Sr.

Sunday, January 1st
7:00 AM Kyle Cucurullo
8:30 AM David & Margaret Welles
10:00 AM Dan Mc Cort (2nd Anniversary)
11:30 AM Luigi Lucchesi (25th Anniversary)
1:00 PM Anna Day
****THERE WILL BE NO EVENING MASS****

Offerings of Bread and Wine for this Week's Celebrations of the Eucharist

In Loving Memory of
Tarter & Mc Grath Families
offered by
Your Loving Family
+
In Loving Memory of
Corneilus & Con Cleere
offered by
Myra

In Loving Memory of
Catherine Feeks
Merry Christmas & Happy Birthday
offered by
Gale
+
In Loving Memory of
Anthony Brandefine
offered by
The Colasuonno Family

Burning of Candles for the Week

The candle at the Holy Family Shrine Burns:
In Loving Memory of
Thomas J. Smith, Sr.
Merry Christmas in Heaven
"Forever in Our Hearts"
offered by
Your Loving Wife, Children & Grandchildren
+
The candle at the Church Tabernacle Burns:
In Loving Memory of
Foti & Bavaro Families
offered by
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Bavaro

The candle at the St. Clare Shrine Burns:
In Loving Memory of
Wilbur Koenig
Birthday Remembrance
offered by
Tom & Cathy Adinolfi
+
The candle at the Chapel Tabernacle Burns:
In Loving Memory of
Catherine Feeks
Merry Christmas & Happy Birthday
offered by
Gale

A REFLECTION ON CHRISTMAS

Life is so chaotic at times.

But our faith in God tells us that there is a "Master Plan": "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God … and the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us." (Jn 1) … A hymn:

I sing the birth was born tonight,
The Author of both life and light;
The angels so did sound it.
And like the ravished shepherds said,
Who saw the light and were afraid,
Yet searched, and true they found it!
(Ben Jonson)

Counting always on God's promises, may we too not tire of searching, and find the light that shines even in darkness!

And so it came – the morning of Christ's nativity; yes:

This is the month and the happy morn,
Wherein the Son of Heaven's eternal King,
of wedded maid and virgin mother born,
Our great redemption from above did bring;
For so the holy sages once did sing,
That He our deadly forfeit should release,
And with His Father work us a perpetual peace.
(John Milton)

Poor and ignorant shepherds, noble and wealthy wise men: all of us are called to the stable on this holy morning, to present to the Lord our poverty of spirit and our wealth of trust in Him.

And so not only we, but all of creation came to recognize God's glory in the innocence and simplicity of a manger: "God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth … and God said: Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind – cattle, and creeping things, and beasts of the earth after his kind." (Gen 1)

An old English carol reads:

Jesus our brother, kind and good,
Was humbly born in a stable rude,
And friendly beasts around him stood:
"I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown,
"I carried his mother uphill and down;
I carried her safely to Bethlehem town,
I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown!
"I," said the cow, all white and red,
"I gave him my manger for a bed
I gave him my hay to pillow his head,
I," said the cow all white and red.
"I," said the sheep with curly horn,
"I gave him my wool for his blanket warm;
He wore my coat on Christmas morn,
I," said the sheep with curly horn.

And still today we strive to make peace with the created world – to respect God's handiwork in our attempt to preserve it for future generations!

Again from the Book of Genesis: "And the Lord God said, behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil; therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the Garden of Eden." (Gen 1-3)

The great Catholic poet Gerard Manley Hopkins has written:

Moonless darkness stands between.
Past, o past, no more be seen!
But the Bethlehem star may lead me
To the sight of him who freed me
From the self that I have been.
Make me pure, Lord: Thou are holy;
Make me meek, Lord: Thou wert lowly;
Now beginning and always:
Now begin – on Christmas Day!

And so we sing:

Come, thou long expected Jesus,

Born to set thy people free;

From our fears and sins release us,

Let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,

Hope of all the earth thou art;

Dear desire of every nation,

Joy of every longing heart.

Dear Friends: All of this could not be, without the courage and trust of His mother. A mother's love overcomes all fears and anxieties – WOMAN – with God and all His grace, can do miraculous things: surviving through the darkness and thriving because of faith!

Madeleine L'Engle writes in *O Simplicitas*:

An angel came to me
and I was unprepared
to be what God was using.
Mother I was to be.
A moment I despaired,
thought briefly of refusing.
The angel knew I heard.
According to God's Word
I bowed to this strange choosing.

A palace should have been
the birthplace of a king
(I had no way of knowing).
We went to Bethlehem;
it was so strange a thing.
The wind was cold, and blowing,
my coat was old, and thin.
They turned us from the inn;
the town was overflowing.

God's Word, a child so small,
who still must learn to speak,
lay in humiliation.
Joseph stood strong and tall.
The beasts were warm and meek
and moved with hesitation.
The Child born in a stall?
I understood it: all.
Kings came in adoration.

Perhaps it was absurd:
a stable set apart,
the sleepy cattle lowing;
and the incarnate Word
resting against my heart.
My joy was overflowing.
The shepherds came, adored
the folly of the Lord,
wiser than all men's knowing.

And so still today He rests against the heart of all believers. And our joy, too, overflows at the Wisdom of the Lord – a Wisdom, 2000 years later, still wiser than all our knowing!

Merry Christmas!
Father Arthur

New Year's Mass Schedule

Please join us for the Eucharistic Celebration of the

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother.

Saturday, December 31, 2022
Vigil Mass
5:00 p.m. (Church)

Sunday, January 1, 2023
7:00 a.m.
8:30 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
11:30 a.m.
1:00 p.m.

All Masses will be in the Church.

There will be no 7:00 p.m. evening Mass.

We Pray for the Sick

Glenn Abatemarco
Matthew Aiello
Kenneth Alwon
John Ancona
Kim Ancona
Cara Arangio
Robert Arena
Anna Aversano
Jerry Aversano
Philip Edward Basile
Ellena Bavaro
Tim Black Family
Gary Bloomfield
Kathleen Boardman
Alex Buonincontri
Sheri Cappella
Lisa Cardello
Pino Casaccio
Angelo Caterina
Frank Chiaramonte
Maria Cimmino
Jacqueline Crispino
Patrice Crowley
George Cusick
Ida Daniels
Engracio de los Reyes
Helen Demarco
Erica Devine
Diane Di Pilato
Brendan Donnelly
Edwards Family
Fran Edwards
Joseph Elia
Peggy Freda
Gene Gallo
Ceasar Garay
Garguilo Family
Mary Gormley
Gary Gorske
William Hervey
Danny Ingellis
Nicholas Italiano
Ginette Jensen
Peter Kiefer
Ron Knight
Lisa LaBarbera
Johnny Marinovich
Kathy Maroney
Annie Mazzella
Nick Mazzella
Vicki Mazzella
Denise McCort
Dennis McCort
Dot McCort
Thomas O'Keefe
Otereo Family
Linda Owens
Rosemarie Pace
Maria Patricia
Doris Quarato
Alexa Rae Rigney
Mary Rivas
Frank Roca
Lisa Romano
Ira Rothholtz
Frank Russo
Marie Russo
AnneMarie Santiago
Joseph Sanzio
Rose Sanzio
Margaret Schaub
Mary Simms
Judy Singler
Gloria Squicciarini
Marie Stiegler
Paul Stout
Lisa Ann Tarter
Jennifer Terry
Eileen Touhey
Jennie Tumminello
Anthony Vassallo
Kay Velleca
Maryann Virdi
Jessica Yannantuono

Each person will be kept on our Prayer List for at least 3 months. If you would like to have the name of an ill parishioner added please contact the Rectory.

Pray for those in the Service

-SFC Levac Acosta
-Brandon W. A'Hara
-LCDR. Kaitlyn Amundsen
-Anthony S. Barletta
-Joseph Burgund
-Sgt. Thomas F. Brown Jr.
-SFC Zachary Cannon
-Maj. Scott Thomas Capela
-Cpl. Patrick Denis Caridad
-John J. Coury
-AMN Domenick DeLuca
-Lt. Mark Egan Jr.
-Christopher T. Gale
-L.Cpl. Daniel C. Gale
-Gary P. Gale
-L.Cpl. Markus Garcia
-Jordan W. Glensor
-PV1 Vincent Guttilla
-Cpt. Connor P. Hanafee
-Kevin Iannacone
-SFC James C. Lee
-Michael Leonard
-PFC Michael Madino
-SSgt. Robert M. Maiorini Jr.
-Callum McCullough
-LCDR Christina M. Milone
-2nd Lt. Steven E. Morrone
-Amy Lyn Mulligan
-Edward Murphy
-LCMR Melinda Musumarra
-Matthew P. Paperny
-Vincent Rapacciuolo
-Daniel J. Ryan
-Michael Ruggiero
-CDT Jack Schmidt
-Ryan Skinner
-2nd Lt. Kenneth Semon
-1st Lt. Luis Vazquez

If you would like us to add a name of someone who is currently serving in the military to this list please email: bulletin@stclaresi.com.

Cardinal's Appeal
Communications
- Bulletin
- Web site
- E-Mail

Facilities & Maintenance
Finance Council
Fundraising
History & Archives
Improvement Fund
Memorials and Donations
Online Giving
Parish Council
Safe Environment
Parish Calendar
Tithing

Administration & Operations

Due to the holidays and the early printing deadlines the weekly financial information was not available in time for this printing.

The Rectory Office closed on Friday, December 23 at 1 p.m. The office will remain closed through Monday, December 26. The office will re-open on Tuesday, December 27. A member of the clergy can be reached at any time by calling the Rectory at 718-984-7873.

The Rectory Office will also be closed on Saturday, December 31, 2022, New Year's Eve, through Monday, January 2, 2023. Normal hours will resume on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

Have Blessed and Safe Holidays!

Learning Opportunities
Parish Library
Faith in the Dark
Ignatian Prayer Group
Conversations in Faith
Single Together

Adult Faith Formation

Single Together

Single Together is a social group for men and women ages 55 and over who are single for any reason. Meetings are usually held from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Murphy Center on the last Sunday of the month. The next meeting will take place on Sunday, January 29, 2023.

Single Together will not meet today (12/25)!

Parish Library

Due to the Holy Day next Sunday, January 1, 2023, the parish library will be closed.

The library will be open on Sunday, February 5, 2023 from 9:15 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. The library is located in the Murphy Center which is below the Chapel.

A very Blessed and Merry Christmas and a Happy and Holy New Year!

St. Clare to Host Staten Island Christian Unity Service

Please join us in the Church on **Thursday, January 19, 2023** for the annual Christian Unity Service sponsored by the Staten Island Council of Churches.

Music begins at 6:30 p.m.
Service begins at 7 p.m.
Watch the bulletin for more details.

Liturgical Ministries
- Altar Servers
- Art and Environment
- Children's Liturgy of the Word
- Communion Ministers
- Consolation Ministry
- Lectors
- Liturgy Committee
- Ushers

Music Ministries
- Adult Choir
- Children's Choir
- Contemporary Group
- Cantors

Spirituality
- Bible Study
- Charismatic Prayer Grp
- Prayer Experiences

Sacramental Preparation
- RCIA
- Baptism
- Confirmation
- Marriage

Liturgy and Worship

Holy Hour
Tuesday
January 3, 2023
7:30 p.m. in the Chapel

Come and spend an hour with us beholding and contemplating Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel.

A Family Christmas Prayer

Loving Father, Help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children, and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Robert Louis Stevenson

Blue Army

Established in 1960, the Blue Army spreads devotion to Our Lady under her title of Our Lady of Fatima.

Motto: To Jesus through Mary

Prayer and meetings are held the first Saturday of each month after the 9:00 a.m. daily mass in the Chapel. Novena to follow mass.

Marie Ferro
Director of Religious Education

(718) 948-4829
mferro@stclaresi.com

Religious Education

Blessed Christmas

On this most sacred day we celebrated the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ, born to Mary and Joseph in a humble stable. As I contemplated this most holy day, I was touched by this beautiful song: Mary, Did You Know, written by Mark Lowery and Buddy Greene.

"Mary did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on water? Mary, did you know that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters? Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new? This child that you delivered, will soon deliver you.

Mary, did you know that your baby boy will give sight to a blind man? Mary, did you know that your baby boy will clam the storm with His hand?

Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod? When you kiss your little baby, you've kissed the face of God.

Mary did you know? Mary did you know? Mary did you know?

The blind will see, the deaf will hear. The dead will live again. The lame will leap, the dumb will speak, the praises of the Lamb.

Mary, did you know that your baby boy is Lord of creation? Mary, did you know that your baby boy would one day rule the nations? Did you know that your baby boy is heaven's perfect Lamb? That sleeping child you're holding is the great, I AM!"

Religious Education Events

- Christmas Break for the Religious Education students is December 21, 2022 to January 2, 2023.
- Religion Classes will resume on Wednesday, January 4, 2023.
- Please pray for the 2nd graders as they begin preparation for First Reconciliation.
- Please pray for the 7th graders who will be going on retreat in January.

Mrs. Denise Olsen
Principal
dolsen@stclaresi.com

Mrs. Eileen Griffo
Assistant Principal
egriffo@stclaresi.com

(718) 984-7091

School News

St Clare School would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas!!

School will reopen Tuesday, January 3rd.

Boy Scouts
Cub Scouts
Dance Classes
Family Faith-Building
Girl Scouts
Musical Theater Group
Sports
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cheerleading
- Swimming
- Track

Parent Education
Play and Learn
Vacation Bible School

Youth and Family Ministries

Family Ministry's

P lay
A nd
L earn

Featuring:

-an opportunity for parent & child to interact together,
-leader-led parenting discussion with child playtime,
-music, creative art and finger play,
-social time and more.

New Session Starts:

Wednesday January 4th
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

MURPHY CENTER (Chapel Basement)
$90 for one child $100 for two or more
per 9 week session.
To register:

(718)984-7873 ext. 1701 or
email:cadinolfi@stclaresi.com

Alcoholics Anonymous
Angel Tree
Bereavement Support
Blood Drive
Catholic Daughters
Consolation Ministry
Employment Support
St. Vincent de Paul Society
Prayer Shawl Ministry
Short Term Counseling
- Individual
- Family
- Couples
- Referrals

Social Activities
- Book Club
- Crafty Ladies
- Geological Society

Parish Ministries & Services

ANNOUNCING: "THE GOOD NEWSROOM"

On November 28 the Archdiocese of New York launched an exciting new initiative to share the good news of the Church through a digital newsroom. It's called The Good NewsroomTM. With the goal of evangelization, The Good Newsroom will publish video, articles, opinion pieces and photography on a ***daily*** basis to tell the story of our faith, our actions and our good deeds.

There is a website at www.theGoodNewsroom.org and there are also social media channels to follow. You are invited to visit the website at www.theGoodNewsroom.org to see content that will include interviews with key church leaders, educators, and parishioners. You'll also learn fascinating new details about the diverse mosaic of Catholics who make up the Catholic community in New York. The publishing process just recently started so there will be more and more interesting content over time.

Visit the website this week and in the weeks to come at

www.theGoodNewsroom.org.

thegoodnewsroom

Announcements
Apartment Rentals
Archdiocesan News
Cluster Information
Community Events

Beyond St. Clare

Clove Lakes
Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center

Clove Lakes, 25 Fanning Street, is looking for volunteers to serve as Eucharistic Ministers to the residents of the facility. If interested, please contact **Eileen Bardel, Volunteer Coordinator at 718-289-7114** for more information.

FIRST FRIDAY - FIRST SATURDAY
COMMUNION OF REPARATION VIGIL
Every Month
St. Thomas the Apostle
6097 Amboy Road, SI, NY 10309

PLEASE JOIN THE ALLIANCE OF THE TWO HEARTS OF JESUS AND MARY IN A COMMUNION OF REPARATION VIGIL

FRIDAY
7:00 p.m. - Holy Rosary/Confession
8:00 p.m. - Holy Mass in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
10:45 p.m. - Quiet Adoration
- Fellowship
11:45 p.m. - Chaplet of Divine Mercy

SATURDAY
12:00 a.m. - Procession
12:15 a.m. - Holy Mass in honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
1:00 a.m. - Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Holy Rosary

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
GINA DUVAL: 917-796-4696

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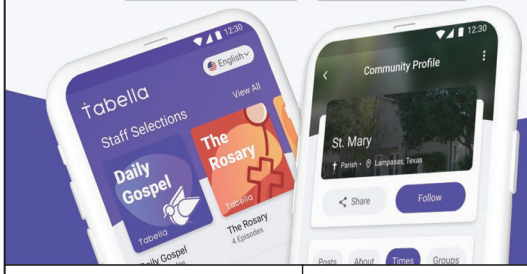

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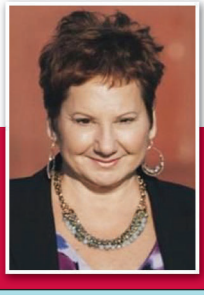

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