

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church

800 Portion Road, Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779-1997



Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 17th, 2024

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church
800 Portion Road
Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779

Phone #631-737-4388; Website: steas.org
Email: steas@optonline.net

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR
Fr. Allan Sikorski

PARISH OFFICE
631-737-4388

(OFFICE CLOSSES AT 4PM JULY & AUGUST)
Mon to Thurs 9:30AM to 12:30PM; 1:30PM to 5:00PM CLOSED Friday
Lori Marando, Business Manager
Maria Dickes, Receptionist/Secretary

RELIGIOUS FORMATION OFFICE
631-737-8915

(OFFICE CLOSSES AT 4PM JULY & AUGUST)
Mon. to Thur. 9:30AM to 12:30PM; 1:30PM to 5:00PM CLOSED Friday
Briana Maggio, Director of Faith Formation

PARISH OUTREACH OFFICE
631-737-4416 (BY APPOINTMENT ONLY)
(OFFICE CLOSSES AT 4 PM JULY & AUGUST)
Tues. & Thurs. 1:30PM to 4:30PM CLOSED Friday

MUSIC DIRECTOR
Theresa Saxe

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Donna Singer - Chairperson
John McElhone - Trustee
John Romaine - Trustee
Robert Penn - Committee Member
Christina Akl - Committee Member
Cindi Sanna - Committee Member

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening 5:00 PM
Sunday 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM
Weekday Monday to Thursday - 9:00 AM
Holy Day As Announced

DEVOTIONS

Rosary
Monday to Thursday after 9:00 AM Mass
Miraculous Medal Novena
Monday after the 9:00 AM Mass
Our Mother of Perpetual Help Novena
Tuesday after the 9:00 AM Mass
St. Joseph Novena
Wednesday after the 9:00 AM Mass

SACRAMENTS

CONFESSION

Saturday at 4:00 PM or at other posted times.

BAPTISM

Visit our website at www.steas.org for information and follow the instructions. It is highly recommended that this be done during the pregnancy.

MARRIAGE

Couples must make arrangements for their wedding at least 6 months in advance. *****Please secure your wedding date at the Church before reserving a reception date*****

Marriage preparation is required for every couple. Visit our website at www.steas.org for information.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Is offered to Parishioners who are seriously ill or in danger of death. Please call early in the illness of a loved one to arrange for the Sacrament.

NEW MEMBERS (RCIA)

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church is invited into the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Process (RCIA). We also invite baptized persons who wish to receive Eucharist and Confirmation to become part of this process.

Remember A Loved One

Memorial Donations Available for:



Announced Masses
Bread & Wine - 1 week
Flowers - 1 week
7 Day Sanctolite Candle - 1 week
Altar Candles - 1 month
Charcoal - 1 month



Contact the Parish Office to reserve your memorial.

WEEKLY SACRIFICE FOR THE PARISH

THIS YEAR

3/10/2024

Regular Sunday: \$5,866.00

Attendance: 608

LAST YEAR

3/12/2023

Regular Sunday: \$7,518.00

Attendance: 447

Please remember to support your parish in these difficult times. We need you now more than ever. Donations can be mailed in or online through our website at www.steas.org. Thank you & God Bless.



Next weekend we will have a 2nd collection for
Easter Flowers.
Thank you for your generosity.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

This Sunday, March 17th

9:00 AM - Arthur Gallo, Buddy DeAngelis

For the intentions of Nina Musiol

11:00 AM - People of the Parish, William Reyes,
Eugene Lenehan, Frank Rizza, Enrico Monte,
Thomas Monte, Jovita Manuel Ellerbe

Monday, March 18th

Saint Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of Church

9:00 AM - Robert Bishop

Tuesday, March 19th

Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9:00 AM - For the intentions of Lana Maggio

Wednesday, March 20th

9:00 AM - George Blessington

Thursday, March 21st

9:00 AM - Encarnacion Ortiz

Friday, March 22nd

9:00 AM - Walter Ortiz

6:30 PM - Confessions

7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 23rd

5:00 PM - Matthew Messana, Rosa Fuentes,
Ana Martinez

Palm Sunday, March 24th

9:00 AM - John Cione

11:00 AM - People of the Parish, Rory Phelan,
Joann DiUlbaldo,
For the intentions of Carol Hirt



Easter Novena of Masses

Intentions: _____ ☐ Living ☐ Deceased
_____ ☐ Living ☐ Deceased
_____ ☐ Living ☐ Deceased

A Novena of Masses will be offered for your intentions through the Easter Octave
starting on Easter Sunday through Divine Mercy Sunday.

Send in your envelope with your intended.

Additional envelopes are available in the Church lobby or you can submit online at STEAS.org

2024 EASTER SCHEDULE

Fridays of Lent

9:00 AM Mass

6:30 PM Confessions

7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Friday, March 22nd at 7:30pm

Stabat Mater by Pergolesi.

Concert performed by members of music ministry

Monday, March 25th

Confessions

2:00 PM to 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

SACRED TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday, March 28th

7:00 PM - Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday, March 29th

3:00 PM - Sacred Liturgy

7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday, March 30th

****7:00 PM - Easter Vigil**

No 4:00 PM Confessions on Holy Saturday

Easter Sunday, March 31st

9:00 AM Mass

11:00 AM Mass

**** Easter Vigil:** On this holy night, the Church keeps watch, celebrating the resurrection of Christ in the sacraments and awaiting his return in glory. It is the turning point of the Triduum, the Passover of the new covenant, which marks Christ's passage from death to life. **The Easter Vigil does not correspond to the usual Saturday evening Mass, making the service considerably longer.**

16th ANNUAL SUPER DAILY BONANZA DRAWING

\$25 Winners

Sunday, 3/10/24 #12105 The Demsen's

Monday, 3/11/24 #04962 The Schaffner Family

Tuesday, 3/12/24 #11026 M. Torelli

Wednesday, 3/13/24 #08090 J. Rulli

Thursday, 3/14/24 #05642 John Mitchell

Friday, 3/15/24 #03139 Laura Maehr

Saturday, 3/16/24 #03244 Francesco Napoli

\$100 Quarterly Drawing

3/15/24 #12262 Nancy Decina

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Payments are mailed to winners on the following Thursday after results are posted in bulletin.

16th Annual Super Daily Bonanza Drawing began

June 1st and will end until May 31, 2024.

We will draw a winning ticket number daily. The owner of that ticket will win the prize for that day. Then the ticket will be put back into the drum for the next drawing, giving you another opportunity to win.

NAME _____

PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

Number of Tickets _____ \$25.00= _____

5 for \$100.00= _____ TOTAL = _____

Please mail your check to: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 800 Portion Rd, Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779

SAVE THE DATE

March 21st - Catholic Health Bus

March 22nd - Concert by Members of Music Ministry

April 20th - KofC Spring Night at the Races

May 19th - Chinese Auction

August 18th - KofC Parish BBQ

September 14th - Car Show

October 19th - Oktoberfest Dance

November 9th - KofC Fall Night at the Races

December 1st - Christmas Craft Fair

(Check the bulletin for event flyer)



St. Patrick's Dinner Dance—March 9, 2024



Thank you to all the businesses that helped to make our
St. Patrick's Dance a success!

Moloney's Funeral Home

McManus-Lorey Funeral Home

Penn Fabrications

Shop Rite

Stop & Shop

Flanagan's Pub

Irish Times Pub

Island Lake Diner

Philly Pretzel Factory

IHOP

Handy Pantry

A sincere thank you to everyone who pitched in to help make the dance a BIG SUCCESS!!

Mike & Larry

SPRING INTO ACTION



Make a difference in your community this March with a Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet. Throughout this month, each specially marked \$10.99 bouquet (pictured right) sold at our selected Stop & Shop will send a \$1 donation to our organization.



Benefiting:

*St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church
Food Pantry*

Stop & Shop

*425 Portion Road
Lake Ronkonkoma*

stopandshop.2give4local.com
Bloomin' 4 Good Program

Free health screenings



Mobile Outreach Bus

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



Services for adults (18 and older):

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

St Elizabeth Ann Seton Church
800 Portion Rd
Lake Ronkonkoma, NY
Thursday 3/21/2024 9 am - 2 pm

chsli.org

ARE YOU A REGISTERED PARISHIONER?

Many parishioners support St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in the weekly collection and we don't have them listed in our census. We would like to make sure you are given proper credit for your donations. Please fill in the bottom of this page and we will send you a registration card. ****You are not automatically registered if you received a sacrament in the parish i.e. Baptism, Confirmation, Matrimony etc.****

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/ZIP _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE NUMBER _____

*** You may also register online at www.steas.org



EASTER

Outreach will be collecting food donations to provide an Easter meal for families in need. Outreach will be collecting the following Easter donations: ham, canned soup, canned pineapple/fruit, instant potatoes, yams, dinner rolls, coffee, tea, cookies and grocery store gift cards.

All Easter donations are due by the weekend of March 16th/17th. Please drop donations off at the Parish Office during normal business hours.

FOOD PANTRY is in need of: apple juice, coffee, instant coffee, decaf tea, grape jelly, tuna, canned salmon, canned chicken soup, peanut butter, ketchup, boxed milk, canned peas, spaghetti sauce, cookies, paper towels, toilet paper, napkins, shampoo, conditioner & grocery store gift cards.

Outreach Volunteers Needed The Outreach program provides food assistance to those in need. If you can offer some time and are able to volunteer **during the day** Tuesday and/or Thursday from 1:30 PM - 4:30PM, please contact Jeanette by email at: carmenortiz62@yahoo.com.

PRAYER BLANKET MINISTRY

Meetings are held once a month on Saturdays
from 9:30 AM—12:30 PM.

Contact Janice by email: pbministry16@gmail.com.

Come join us!

Whether you are a beginner or an experienced knitter or crocherer, all are welcome! We offer instruction for anyone wishing to learn or brush up on their skills. Different projects are completed monthly for donation to various causes. For further information, contact the above email.

We gladly accept donations of yarn. Thank you for your generosity and support!



Annual Spring Chinese Auction is
Sunday May 19th, 2024

Donations of New Items or Gift Cards
needed to fill our raffle baskets!

Drop off at the Parish Office or in the
Church Lobby.
(label "Chinese Auction Donation")

Thank you!!



Faith Formation

AT SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON

Holy Week begins next Sunday on Palm Sunday. Here is a Holy Week How-To that will help to dive deeper into Christ's passion and death and to prepare for His Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Palm Sunday	Get Palms at Mass and make Palm Crosses. Wear Red to Mass.
Monday	Confessions from 2pm to 4pm & 6pm to 9pm. Clean/organize living room and playroom.
Tuesday	Clean/organize bedrooms and closets.
Spy Wednesday	Clean/organize kitchen. Drop off all items for donation from previous cleaning days. Thirty pieces of silver activity.
Holy Thursday	Mass of the Last Supper at 7pm. Watch <i>The Prince of Egypt</i> . Pray the Tantum Ergo. Do a Family Foot Washing. Seven Churches Visitation.
Good Friday	Sacred Liturgy at 3pm. Stations of the Cross at 7pm. Required fasting and abstinence. Quiet time from 12pm to 3pm. Watch <i>The Passion of Christ</i> .
Holy Saturday	Easter Vigil at 7pm. Decorate Easter Eggs. Make Soft Pretzels.

For more information on these different activities or even additional things you can do, use these QR code to visit Catholic All Year or Dynamic Catholic.



Confession

GUIDE

CONDITIONS FOR A GOOD CONFESSION

1. Examination of Conscience – complete an honest and thorough examination of conscience.
2. Remorse or Genuine Sorrow for Your Sins
3. Resolve Not to Sin Again – promise to try your very best not to sin again.
4. Confession of Sins to a Priest
5. Completion of Your Penance – complete the prayer or good work given to you by the priest.

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

Using one of the QR codes below, you will find Examinations of Conscience appropriate for different ages.



For Children



For Teens



For Single Adults



For Married Adults

HOW TO GO TO CONFESSION

1. Go into the confessional or sit down across from the priest and make the sign of the cross (say **"In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit"**).
2. Say: **"Bless me Father for I have sinned. My last confession was _____. These are my sins."**
3. Tell the priest your sins, including how many times you committed each one if you are able. The priest will talk to you and give you advice.
4. The priest will give you penance (a prayer or good action) to complete. He will then ask you to say the Act of Contrition.
5. The priest will then give you absolution and dismiss you saying: "Your sins are forgiven, go in peace." To which you reply: **"Thanks be to God" or "Amen"**
6. Leave the confessional and complete your penance.

"Confession is an act of honesty and courage – an act of entrusting ourselves, beyond sin, to the mercy of a loving and forgiving God."

-Saint John Paul II

FIELDTRIP with Jesus

March
2024

Saint Jerome said, "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ." This is an assignment that our children do each month. Each week, you can learn and pray alongside our students. Choose one of the following Bible verses where Jesus interacts with a person or people, then answer the questions below. Take time to really see how God is speaking to you through this encounter Jesus actually had.

☐ Jesus & 12 disciples

Matthew 10:1-20

☐ Jesus & Herod

Mark 6:14-29

☐ Jesus & disciples on lake in storm

Luke 8:22-25

☐ Jesus & people surrounding Him

John 10:22-42

What did Jesus say or do?

How did people respond?

What can I learn from this response?

What was Jesus thinking during this encounter?



THE MUSIC MINISTRY OF ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO A LENTEN CONCERT

GIOVANNI BATTISTA PERGOLESÌ'S

STABAT MATER

Performed by
Theresa Saxe, soprano
Francesca Lunghi, mezzo-soprano
Kamelija Curry, organist

Friday, March 22, 2024
7:30pm, after Stations of the Cross
Main Church

The *Stabat Mater Dolorosa*, or the Sorrowful Mother, is one of the most powerful of the medieval hymns, meditating on the suffering of Mary, the mother of Jesus, as she stood at the foot of the cross during his crucifixion. It was originally the Sequence at the Mass of Our Lady of Sorrows, but is frequently sung today during the Stations of the Cross and on Good Friday.

Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* (1736) is his best-known sacred work. It was first performed on the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows in a private chapel of San Luigi di Palazzo's Church in Naples.

Though originally intended as a private devotional piece for a noble Neapolitan confraternity, the *Cavalieri della Vergine de' Dolori* (Knights of the Virgin of the Seven Sorrows), *Stabat Mater* became the most frequently printed work of the 18th century, and was arranged by a number of other composers, including J.S. Bach.

By the end of the 18th century, Pergolesi had been declared 'the Raphael and Virgil of music'. *Stabat Mater*, said to have been written on his death-bed, was pronounced 'as indestructible as nature'.

Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year B, March 17, 2024

Entrance Antiphon:

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

Responsorial Psalm



1. Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness;
in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my
offense.

Thoroughly wash me from my guilt
and of my sin cleanse me.

R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.

2. A clean heart create for me, O God,
and a steadfast spirit renew within me.

Cast me not out from your presence,

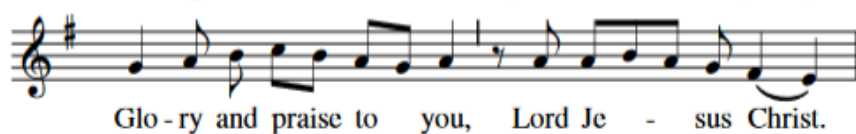
and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.

3. Give me back the joy of your salvation,
and a willing spirit sustain in me.
I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners shall return to you.

R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Glory and Praise to You



Whoever serves me must follow me, says the Lord;
and where I am, there also will my servant be.

Parce Domine

**Refrain*

Par - ce Dó - mi - ne, par - ce pó - pu - lo tu - o:
 Spare your peo - ple, Lord, spare your peo - ple in your lov - ing kind - ness!

ne in ae - tér - num i - ra - scá - ris no - bis.
 Show us your mer - cy; we have sinned a - gainst you, Lord.

Have mercy on my, O God, in your goodness;
 In your abundant compassion blot out my offense.
 Wash away all my guilt;
 From my sin, cleanse me.

For I know my offense;
 My sin is always before me.
 Against you alone have I sinned;
 I have done such evil in your sight.

A clean heart create for me, God;
 Renew in me a steadfast spirit.
 Do not drive me from your presence
 Nor take from me your holy Spirit.

Restore my joy in your salvation;
 Sustain in me a willing spirit.
 Lord, open my lips;
 My mouth will proclaim your praise.

For you do not desire sacrifice;
 A burnt offering you would not accept.
 My sacrifice, God, is a broken spirit;
 God, do not spurn a broken, humbled heart.

Communion Antiphon:

Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.

What Wondrous Love is This



1. What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul?
2. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
3. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;



What won - drous love is this, O my soul?
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;



What won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am,
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful be,



To bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my soul;
While mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on, I'll sing on!



To bear the dread - ful curse for my soul?
While mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Ave Regina Caelorum- Marian Recessional Hymn for Lent

6.

A -ve Re-gína cœlórum, * Ave Dómina Ange-lórum :

Sálve rádix, sálve pórtā, Ex qua mundo lux est órta :

Gáude Vírgo glo-ri- ósa. Su-per ómnes spe-ci- ósa : Vá-le,

o valde decó-ra, Et pro nó-bis Chrístum exó- ra.

Translation:

*Hail, Queen of heaven, hail Lady of the angels.
Hail root and gate from which the Light of the world was born.
Rejoice glorious Virgin, fairest of all.
Fare thee well, most beautiful, and pray for us to Christ.*

Ave Regina Caelorum is traditionally recited as a recessional prayer
beginning after the Feast of Candlemas on February 2 until Wednesday of Holy Week.



"Although it is never easy to approach young people, two things have become increasingly evident: the realization that the entire community has to be involved in evangelizing them, and the urgent requirement that young people take on a greater role in pastoral outreach."

- Pope Francis

Your donation to the Catholic Ministries Appeal supports programs like Camp Quo Vadis, that form our young people allowing them to grow closer to God through Adoration and Communion.

"A friend invited me to attend Camp Quo Vadis and I wanted to learn more about God with my peers and to strengthen my connection with Him. My faith is important for me. I am part of a peer ministry at my high school so I thought that I could learn more about our faith and bring what I've learned back to our school. The young people here are all going through similar things, like looking for a college, thinking about a major, and what we want to do after college. I hope to gain a better understanding of God and to learn His plan for me. God has a plan for me and I don't know it yet but He will guide me and show me, but I have to listen to His call."

-Maeve, Participant of Camp Quo Vadis



"The camp revitalizes the faith by helping young people understand who God is and develops their relationship with Him. It keeps young people close to God by learning more through the sacraments by offering Mass and time for Eucharistic Adoration. Seeing their faith grow and seeing faith through the eyes of our youth strengthens my faith." - Fr. Sean Magaldi

Please make check payable to the **Catholic Ministries Appeal**

Name: _____ Parish: **#177 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Lake Ronkonkoma**

Address: _____

City, State and Zip Code: _____

Telephone number: Home _____ Cell: _____

Signature: _____

To make a donation, you can also visit <https://www.drvc.org/CMA/> or call us at 516-678-5800 ext. 296.

THANK YOU

BUY A BRICK TO PAVE THE WAY TO ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON'S FUTURE

Now is the time to support our church with a donation that will last a lifetime!

**CELEBRATE ~ PARTICIPATE ~ AND START A TRADITION ~ ANNIVERSARY ~
BIRTHDAYS ~ IN HONOR OF ~ GRADUATION ~ IN MEMORY OF...**

ENGRAVING INFORMATION

4X9 BRICKS \$150 EACH
3 LINES PER BRICK
14 CHARACTERS PER LINE
(SPACES INCLUDED)

9X9 BRICK \$300 EACH
4 LINES PER BRICK
14 CHARACTERS PER LINE
(SPACES INCLUDED)

9X13 BRICK \$500 EACH
4 LINES PER BRICK
20 CHARACTERS PER LINE
(SPACES INCLUDED)

NUMBER OF BRICKS 4X9 \$150X_____ = TOTAL DUE \$_____

NUMBER OF BRICKS 9X9 \$300X_____ = TOTAL DUE \$_____

NUMBER OF BRICKS 9X13 \$500X_____ = TOTAL DUE \$_____

GRAND TOTAL \$_____

(Please be sure your engraving information is spelled correctly. If you are sponsoring more than one brick, please use a separate form. Subject matter reviewed and approved accordingly.)

LINE 1

LINE 2

LINE 3

LINE 4

**METHOD OF PAYMENT CASH OR CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO: ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON PARISH
(TAX DEDUCTIBLE) OR CREDIT CARD**

ACCOUNT TYPE: ☐ VISA ☐ MASTER CARD ☐ AMEX ☐ DISCOVER

CARDHOLDER NAME_____

ACCOUNT NUMBER_____

EXPIRATION DATE_____ SECURITY CODE_____

BILLING ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ STATE_____ ZIP CODE_____

PHONE#_____ CELL#_____

CONTACT INFORMATION: NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

PHONE#_____ CELL#_____

THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of March 17, 2024



Joseph of Nazareth: The Story of the Man Closest to Christ

Celebrate the feast of Christ's foster father with even more joy and respect this year by watching a movie about him! Enter into the life of this great saint through the movie Joseph of Nazareth!



An Encounter with Mercy

We are not defined by our mistakes. In Confession, Jesus invites us to encounter his mercy and be healed by his love. When he tells us "Go and sin no more," he also gives us the grace to do so.



The Trials of Saint Patrick

The Trials of Saint Patrick, a powerful journey through hardship, loss, mercy, and forgiveness. With skilled actors and cinematic elements, this captivating story comes to life, stirring the imagination and sparking inspiration.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and OPUS DEI



Focus on Religious Freedom
www.cffor.org

The Call for Our Time: Defend Life and Religious Liberty

"The age of casual Catholicism is over. The age of heroic Catholicism has begun."
- Father Terence Henry, TOR, Franciscan University of Steubenville

Whether the issue of religious freedom/freedom of conscience is the right to teach our children the faith, not being forced to fund abortion, evangelization, assembling for worship, the integrity of the words of the Bible, witnessing and advocating our faith and morals in the public square, operating foster parent adoption agencies, soup kitchens, homeless shelters, drug addiction services, etc., all Americans benefit from the God-given right of religious freedom. Our founders agreed with James Madison, "Conscience is the most sacred of all property."

The Declaration of Independence asserts that we have inalienable rights from our Creator and that government's role is to protect those rights. Differing from the history of nations world-wide, the citizens of the new United States claimed the natural rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness from their Creator, free from dictates by a king, emperor or all-powerful government.

We are, more than ever, experiencing unrelenting pressures to yield our right to follow our conscience in the choice for life. The ability to choose life, from conception to natural death, can be regulated and legislated away from us (by the proposed Equity Act) if freedom of conscience and religion are not preserved. Doctors, nurses and hospitals could be required, under proposed legislation, to participate in abortions as part of their licensing, and they could be required to implement certain end of life protocols which some see as denial of treatment.

Since the Supreme Court's decision that there is no federal Constitutional right to abortion and therefore abortion laws are the purview of each state, those who demand unrestricted abortion are working feverishly within states for abortion on demand. Each American has the duty to learn and preserve our religious freedom's right of conscience for ages and millions yet unborn.

Read more: <https://tinyurl.com/rhe45cw> <https://tinyurl.com/y3tbs88k> <https://tinyurl.com/ywcs9b2p>

"In a word, freedom is ever new. It is a challenge held out to each generation, and it must constantly be won over for the cause of good." - Pope Francis

Reconciliation Monday 2024

Monday, March 25th

Experience the liberating grace of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance).
Confessions will be available in every Catholic Church in the Diocese of Rockville Centre from 2-4 p.m. & 6-9 p.m.

To find a parish near you, visit: www.drvc.org/maps



OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS, DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE • DRVC.ORG • @RVC DIOCESE



LENT 2024 | Reflect. Repent. Restore.

Week of March 17th—March 23rd

Daily Inspiration for Your Lenten Journey

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 17	March 18	March 19	March 20	March 21	March 22	March 23
Fifth Sunday of Lent Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. <i>(John 12:25)</i>	"It is in togetherness that we follow Jesus. Together too, as a pilgrim Church in time, we experience the liturgical year and Lent within it, walking alongside those whom the Lord has placed among us as fellow travelers." <i>(Pope Francis, Message for Lent 2023)</i>	Solemnity of Saint Joseph As we celebrate Saint Joseph, pray for all fathers, that God may grant eternal rest to those who have died and strengthen the living with love for their families and commitment to their vocation.	"The Sacrament of Penance involves the confession of sins, which proceeds from true knowledge of self before God and from contrition for sins. This inward examination of the heart and outward accusation, however, should be made in the light of God's mercy." <i>(Order of Penance, no. 6b)</i>	Pray for a deeper respect for all human life, especially for the most vulnerable: the unborn, the infirm, those with disabilities, those on death row, and the terminally ill.	On this final Friday of Lent, let your sacrifices unite you with your suffering brothers and sisters and with Jesus' perfect sacrifice on the Cross.	If possible, make plans to participate next week in your parish's celebration of the moving liturgies of the Triduum (Holy Thursday through Easter Sunday).

For full 2024 Daily Lent Reflection Calendar go to: www.usccb.org/lent



Because no marriage is beyond hope...

- Is your marriage tearing you apart?
- Do you feel hurt and angry?
- Does talking make it worse?
- Thought of leaving or divorce?
- Is your marriage heading in the wrong direction?

Retrouvaille can help.

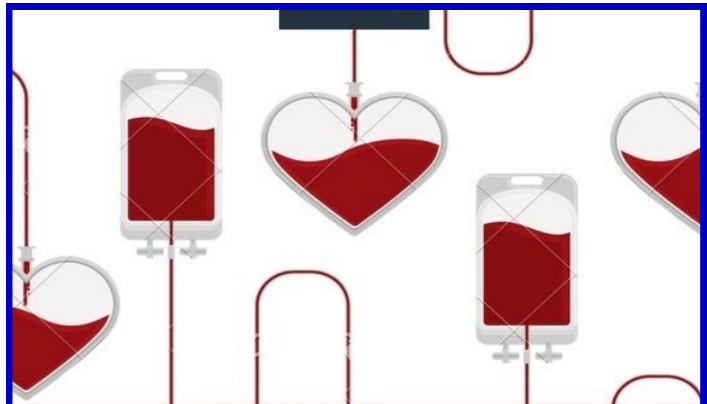
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