

Masses

Saturday Vigil: 5:15 pm

Sunday:

8:00 am, (Livestreamed Multi-Intention Mass),
10:00 am (Family Mass), 12:00 pm (Choir Mass),
5:15 pm (Contemporary Music Mass)

Weekday Mornings:

7:30 am and 9:00 am (Livestreamed)

Weeknight Mass:

Monday, 7:30 pm (No 7:30 pm mass on civil
Holidays)
Monday Vigil before Tuesday Holy Day 4:00 pm Mass

Saturday Mornings:

8:00 am (Livestreamed)

Confessions (Reconciliation):

Weekdays following 9:00 am mass and
Saturdays between 4:00-5:00 pm

Weekly Holy Hours:

Monday, 8:00pm - Thursday, 8:00 am

Weekly Rosary:

Monday, 7:00pm

Pastoral Team

PASTOR:

Rev. Gerard Gentleman

ASSOCIATE PASTORS

Rev. Frank Zero
Rev. Michael Iroh, CM

DEACONS

Dcn. Sean Cotter
Dcn. Thomas Elliott
Dcn. Michael Gambardella
Dcn. Francis B. McGuinness

COORDINATOR OF EVANGELIZATION

Thomas Griffin, Pastoral Associate

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES

JT Parker, Five Loaves Ministries

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

Gracemarie Rozea, Coordinator

MUSIC MINISTRY

John Buckel, Director of Music

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

Ann Hedgis, Co-Coordinator
Sr. Carol Radosti, OP, Co-Coordinator

PASTORAL LIFE

Barbara Pope, Coordinator

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Brian Jensen

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.srolchurch.org
[Facebook.com/strosemassapequa](https://www.facebook.com/strosemassapequa)
YouTube, St.Rose R.C Church
www.stroseschool.net



B U L L E T I N

St. Rose Of Lima Catholic Church

Sunday, March 22, 2026

2 BAYVIEW AVENUE MASSAPEQUA NY 11758 • 516-798-4992 • www.srolchurch.org



Fifth Sunday in Lent

**Welcome to our Faithful Parishioners and
All Those who may be 'Just Visiting'**

Jesus washed the feet of his apostles at the Last Supper as a sign of loving service, instructing them "as I have done this to you so must you do for one another." We as a family of faith strive to live this commandment of love in doing all that we can to welcome you as we invite you to be an active member of this community.

Welcome new parishioners! If you are new to our parish, I invite you to introduce yourself to me or any of the other priests after Sunday Mass. Even though we are a large parish, we make every effort to come to know you and your family personally so that we may be better able to serve you. If you would like to register, please see the Welcome section on the homepage of our website (www.srolchurch.org) for details.

- Fr. Gerard

PHONE NUMBERS

Rectory.....798-4992
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00 am-8:00 pm;
Friday, 9:00 am-5:00 pm; closed for lunch, 1-2:15 weekdays;
Saturday, 9:00 am-2:00 pm; Sunday, 9:00 am-1:00 pm
Rectory Fax.....795-7836
Parish Outreach Office.....798-4954
School Office.....541-1546
(4704 Merrick Road, Massapequa)
Office of Faith Formation.....541-1712
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
(located next to Outreach, in Convent)
Youth Ministry.....798-4992
CYO.....709-0260

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM: Congratulations on the birth of your child! Baptisms are celebrated Sundays at 2:00 pm in the Church; other times may be available. Requirements: an initial interview with a priest or deacon; a Baptism preparation course; a copy of your child's birth certificate and Sponsor Certificate(s). Please go to the Baptism section of our website (www.srolchurch.org) under Sacraments for full details and a fillable form required to get started.

RECONCILIATION: Come and experience God's mercy. Saturdays 4:00-5:00 pm; Monday-Friday after the 9:00 am Mass or by appointment.

MARRIAGE: Congratulations on your engagement! To begin your journey, please go to the Marriage section of our website (www.srolchurch.org) under Sacraments for full details and a fillable Registration Form used to schedule an appointment with a priest or deacon. No date for a wedding will be set by phone. Couples must make arrangements in person at least six months in advance, and only after all consultations are complete. It is recommended that you set your date with the church before you contract with a caterer.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

(OCIA): Formerly known as RCIA, the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process by which adults who are not baptized, baptized in another denomination or those who are not fully initiated, become members of the Roman Catholic Church. For information, call the rectory at 516-798-4992 or email Deacon Tommy Elliott at tommy9.6deacon@gmail.com.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

**Mon., 3/23 St. Turibius of Mogrovejo,
Bishop**

7:30 Bertha Patenaude
9:00 For the Intention of Julianne Rose AL
7:30 Gerard J. Lombardo

**Tue., 3/24 St. Oscar Romero, Bishop and
Martyr**

7:30 Juliana LaGumina
9:00 Daniel O'Connell

Wed., 3/25 The Annunciation of the Lord

7:30 Brian E. McMahon
9:00 Frank Fagan

Thu., 3/26 Lenten Weekday

7:30 Anthony Nuzzi
9:00 Mary O'Driscoll

Fri., 3/27 Lenten Weekday

7:30 Connor Kasin
9:00 Danny O'Connell

Sat., 3/28 Lenten Weekday

8:00 Mary Jean Sullivan, Gil Johnson,
Jean Rende, James Reardon,
Charlie Schaefer, Maureen Ruelius

**Sat., 3/28 Vigil: Palm Sunday of the
Passion of the Lord**

5:15 Frank Pernice

**Sun., 3/29 Palm Sunday of the Passion of
the Lord**

8:00 Justin Fusco, Susan Mullan,
Inez Nowak, Joseph D.A. Tanner,
Emerson Cate, Jane Katherine Maloney
10:00 Doreen & Vito Tripi
12:00 Margaret & Albert Urbanowski
5:15 Mass for the People





...from Fr. Gerard

O my people, I will open your graves and have you rise from them and bring you back to the land of Israel.

I have been thinking of Eddie a lot lately. He has even entered my dreams on a more frequent basis. We met in our freshman year of college, became roommates, and remained best friends for over 34 years. After a few years of health challenges uncommon to people our age, Eddie suddenly passed away. Even though he had his job and his family and I was living the active ministry of a priest, we connected continually throughout the week via text messages and phone calls. Suddenly that connection was no longer there. He passed away in November of 2020 while the Covid pandemic was still very much a preoccupation. Within a few short months, I was made aware of my assignment here to St. Rose, and I became immersed in this new life. I was deeply saddened by his death, but with the passing of time, I seemed to miss him less. Why then, all of a sudden, am I thinking about him again? Why is that feeling of sorrow renewed? After more than five years, I unexpectedly have a longing for him to come back. The sorrow we feel when a loved one dies is different than the sorrow we contend with years later. We may have accepted the reality that they are no longer part of our daily life, but the space created by their absence is never quite filled. This is the life of those who are widowed and anyone who has lost a child, a parent, a sibling, or a best friend. We want the Lord to bring them back.

Our Christian faith, however, calls us to live differently. The words of the prophet Ezekiel are not about bringing the dead back to us, but bringing *us* - to eternal life - bringing us out of the finite world to live eternally with the Lord and the great cloud of witnesses that have gone before us.

I can remember as a child being scared by the idea of heaven because I could not grasp what eternity was. I could not wrap my mind around what it meant to experience something that never ended. What I have come to realize though is that I have experienced moments of joy and contentment that I wished would not end. In our imperfect humanity we have accepted the concept that "all good things must come to an end." However, our faith offers us something different, a goodness that never ends. What that feels like I do not know. I do know that I will die, and I know that Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life. What I long for is more than a restoration of what I knew, but instead a reunion with the faithfully departed and the Lord in a way that is beyond my imagination.

We pray for those who have gone before us, and we live our lives today in the pursuit of holiness and divine mercy.

LITURGICAL MINISTER TRAINING – During the month of April, the Diocese of Rockville Centre will offer training for those who wish to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Lectors. **Part A** is the "BASIC" training that is required for all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Those who wish to minister in hospitals, nursing homes and to the homebound are required to attend **Part B** training in May in addition to BASIC training. One must attend Part A training prior to Part B training. A Lector Workshop is available for both new and experienced lectors.

DATES AND LOCATIONS FOR LITURGICAL MINISTER TRAINING

Lector Workshop and Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion – Part A

Tuesday, April 21 – St. Elizabeth/Melville – Msgr. Kane Hall; 7 pm – 10 pm

or

Monday, April 27 – St. Agnes Cathedral/RVC - Msgr. Kelly Parish Center; 7 pm – 10 pm

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Part B – presented in conjunction with Catholic Health.

Monday, May 4 - St. Agnes Cathedral/ RVC – Msgr. Kelly Parish Center; 7 pm – 10 pm

Or

Tuesday, May 26 – St. Elizabeth/Melville – Msgr. Kane Hall; 7 pm – 10 pm

To request registration for any of these sessions, please contact Cathy Wilcox, cathyw@strolchurch.org, or call the rectory, 516-798-4992.



Our brainstorming meeting for our yearlong celebration of our parish's **75th Anniversary in November of 2027** will take place on **Wednesday, March 25th at 7:00 pm in the Rectory Meeting Room**. Please join us with your ideas and enthusiasm.



Follow Fr. Gerard at twitter.com/frgerardinny

Welcome to the Newly-Baptized



*Jacob Raymond Giannelli, Matthew Robert
LoCastro Caiden Charles McGuire, Arianna May
Mollura Siena Maria Perrone, Thea Capri Votinelli*

Please Pray for the Souls of the Recently Deceased

*Ralph Bruno
Maricella Carballo
Anthony Balsamo
John Garvey
Thomas McGuire*



Wedding Banns

1st Time

*Wilbert Diaz, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary,
Roosevelt, NY &*

Juliana Flavoni, St. Rose of Lima

*Nikolaus Fazzalari, St. Rocco, Glen Cove, NY &
Julia DeFelice, St. Rose of Lima*

In Your Prayers, Remember the Sick...

*Dolores Dell'Anno
Lisa Kimmel
Jeff Zero*



3/15/2026

\$17,735.00

6,893.00 Parish Soft

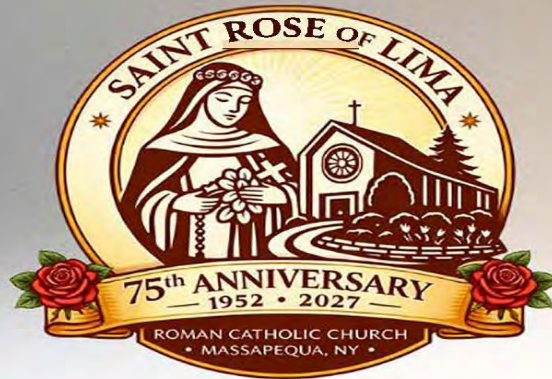
\$24,628.00

3/16/2025

\$18,060.00

5,039.00 Parish Soft

\$23,099.00



This Fall we will begin our yearlong celebration leading up to our parish's 75th anniversary in November of 2027. Our Diamond Jubilee will be a grace-filled time for us to look back with gratitude, celebrate the good work the Lord is doing within us today, and discern where God is calling us.

All parishioners, young and old, are invited to join in a brainstorming meeting to imagine and plan what our jubilee year will look like.

We will reflect on

- How to share our history and who we are today
- Imaging how we use the year to grow spirituality
- Prayer and Social Events
- Planning a pilgrimage

The meeting will take place on **Wednesday, March 25th at 7:00 p.m.** in the Rectory Meeting room.

Here's What's Happening at St. Rose

AA - Thursdays at 7:30 pm in the Fr. Graham Center

Alanon - Wednesday at 1:00 pm in the Fr. Graham Center Meeting Room

Centering Prayer - Thursday, April 2 at 1:00 pm in the Fr. Graham Center Chapel

Charismatic Prayer - Wednesdays at 3:15 pm in the Fr. Graham Center Meeting Room

Contributions Statements - If you are interested in receiving your statement, please call the rectory at 516-798-4992 or email Linda McMahon at lindam@stroschool.org.

My Club - Tuesday, March 24 at 7:00 pm in the Fr. Graham Center

Offertory Envelopes, Temporary Delay in Mailing - Due to equipment failure occurring in February, the March envelopes might be delayed. Please use a regular white envelope with your name and address on it or you can contribute online via the website at stroschool.org. Then go to "Donate Online." We are sorry for this inconvenience.

Respect Life Committee - Tuesday, April 7 at 7:30 pm in the Rectory Board Room

Rosary - The rosary will be prayed every Monday evening at 7:00 pm, prior to the 7:30 pm Mass.



St. Rose of Lima School seeks teacher's assistant for an early childhood classroom. Monday to Friday, 8 am to 1 pm - Wages \$18-20 per hour. Interested candidates should email the school at bjensen5641@stroschool.net.



St. Rose of Lima Parish Outreach PANTRY HOURS

Monday - Wednesday 10 am-2 pm
Thursday 10 am-12 pm

"No one knows better than Jesus what is going to happen in today's gospel. No one is better at mourning with those who mourn than Jesus."

James Hamilton

The pantry is starting to run low on these items:

Juice Bottles & Boxes
Coffee (10-13oz.)
Tea (regular)
Sugar (1-2 lbs.)
Hot Chocolate
Hamburger Helper
Jarred Pasta Sauce
Canned Beets & Canned Pineapple
Whole Cranberry Sauce
Baked & Vegetarian Beans
Salt/Flour
Canned Sweet Potatoes (large & small)
Pancake Mix & Syrup
Chicken Gravy & Chicken Stuffing
Taco Kits
Toothpaste
Dish Detergent

Donations of food store gift cards are always welcomed!

Outreach assists those living within the St. Rose of Lima parish boundaries who are experiencing difficulties. Please call Outreach at 516-798-4954. All calls are confidential.

Thank you for loving your Neighbor.
Sister Carol & Ann

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday,
9am - 2pm

Phone: 516-541-1712

E-mail: religiously@srclchurch.org

Website: www.srclchurch.org

Facebook: St. Rose of Lima Office of Faith Formation



Religious Education

GRADE LEVEL MASSES

MARCH 29 - PALM SUNDAY

2ND GRADE AT 10:00 AM
8TH GRADE AT 5:15 PM

APRIL 19

2ND GRADE AT 10:00 AM
6TH GRADE AT 5:15 PM

APRIL 12

1ST GRADE AT 10:00 AM
7TH GRADE AT 5:15 PM

APRIL 26

4TH & 5TH GRADE AT 10:00 AM
8TH GRADE AT 5:15 PM

2ND GRADE SANCTUARY SESSIONS

MARCH 23RD - MARCH 26TH IN THE CHURCH

AN EMAIL WAS SENT OUT MARCH 3RD TO
SIGN-UP FOR THE SESSION OF YOUR CHOICE.

A REMINDER EMAIL WILL BE SENT OUT PRIOR
TO THE DATE AND TIME YOU SELECTED.



2026-27 FAITH FORMATION EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 30TH!

ALL FAMILIES CURRENTLY REGISTERED in the
PROGRAM WILL RECEIVE AN EMAIL LINK
TO REGISTER.

FEES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1 STUDENT \$195 - 2 STUDENTS \$275 - 3 OR MORE
STUDENTS \$315. CATECHIST DISCOUNT \$50.

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION WILL END **APRIL 30TH**.

7TH GRADE CONFIRMATION INTERVIEWS

WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30 IN THE
AUDITORIUM. STUDENTS MUST BE REGISTERED FOR ONE
OF THE SESSIONS (6:30, 7:00 OR 7:30 PM).

CATECHISTS (Teachers) NEEDED!



WE ARE IN NEED OF CATECHISTS FOR OUR
SCHOOL PROGRAM ON TUESDAYS AND SATURDAYS
FOR GRADES 1, 7, 8, AND SPECIAL NEEDS. PLEASE
CONTACT GRACE IN THE OFFICE OF
FAITH FORMATION AT GRACER@SRCLCHURCH.ORG
FOR MORE INFORMATION.

THE OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION WILL BE
CLOSED FOR EASTER APRIL 2ND - APRIL 10TH
WE WILL REOPEN MONDAY, APRIL 13TH.



Holy Week and Easter Schedule***March 29, Passion (Palm) Sunday****5:15 pm, Vigil, Saturday, March 28**Sunday Mass at 8:00 & 10:00 am, 12:00 pm & 5:15 pm****March 30, Monday, Diocesan Day of Reconciliation & Holy Week****7:30 & 9:00 am Mass & 7:30 pm Mass (Holy Hour)**9:30 am, Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)**and from 2:00 to 4:00 pm & 6:00 to 9:00 pm****March 31, Tuesday****7:30 & 9:00 am, Mass**9:30 am, Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)**4:00 pm, Chrism Mass, St. Agnes Cathedral****April 1, Wednesday****7:30 & 9:00 am, Mass**9:30 am, Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)**7:30 pm, Seven Last Words of Christ****April 2, Holy Thursday****9:00 am, Morning Prayer**7:30 pm, Mass of the Lord's Supper**followed by Solemn Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament
in the Auditorium, ending at midnight****April 3, Good Friday****9:00 am, Morning Prayer**3:00 pm, Celebration of the Lord's Passion**with Veneration of the Cross and Reception of Holy Communion**6:00 to 7:00 pm, Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)**7:30 pm, Living Stations of the Cross, St. Rose of Lima School, 7th and 8th Grade Students****April 4, Holy Saturday****9:00 am, Morning Prayer**9:30 am, Blessing of Easter Baskets in Church**1:30 to 3:00 pm, Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)**There is no 5:15 pm Mass on Holy Saturday.**8:00 pm, Easter Vigil****April 5, Easter Sunday****The Eucharist will be celebrated at**8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am & 12:30 pm in Church.**NOTE: There will be no 5:15 pm Mass on Easter Sunday.*

FRIENDS
OF
MUSIC

Easter Music

Memorial Donations

Brass & Timpani

Dear Parishioners & Friends of Music,
Would you consider a donation toward the Music Ministry this
Easter? We have a wonderful tradition of having outstanding music
at Easter, and so much is thanks to your generosity. Simply fill out
your memorial below and either mail or drop off this form with
your donation to the Church before Monday, March 23rd.
Memorials will be printed in the Easter bulletin. Thank you!
John Buckel, *Director of Music*

In Memory of... _____

In Honor of... _____

St. Rose of Lima Church
2 Bayview Ave, Massapequa NY 11758
Checks Payable to: St. Rose of Lima Church



SUNDAY CONVERSATIONS

A HOLY WEEK BIBLE STUDY

*Investigate and prayerfully reflect on
the key readings and themes of the
holiest days of the year in order to
encounter Jesus' passion in a new way.*

SUNDAY, MAR. 22ND

Join us following the Noon Mass
in the back of the church for
coffee, refreshments and a
reflection.

Contact Tom Griffin with any questions:
ThomasG@srolchurch.org

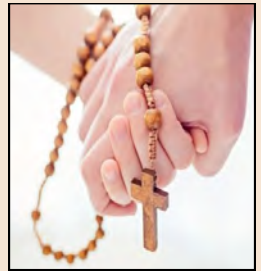
St. Rose of Lima Respect Life Committee Lent 2026



The Lent **40 Days for Life National Campaign** is scheduled to run from Ash Wednesday, February 18 through March 29. Members of the Respect Life Committee will meet two mornings a week, Mondays and Fridays at 11:30 am, in front of the Massapequa Planned Parenthood facility located on Carmans Road, where we will publicly recite the Rosary and hold signs. Join us for as many of the days as you are able, or sign up to par-

ticipate at another time by contacting Paul Arena at Paul.Arena29@yahoo.com.

40 Days for Life is an internationally coordinated 40-day campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and a peaceful all-day vigil in front of abortion businesses.



Respect Life ~ *Prayer and Action*

For more information regarding the Respect Life Committee, please contact Phil Veltre at (516)732-5366.

**Join us in church
for the PRO-LIFE
STATIONS OF THE
CROSS FOR LIFE
FRIDAY, 3/27/26,
7:30pm**



St. Rose of Lima Lenten Fish Fry

**FRIDAY,
MARCH
27**

6:00 pm
SCHOOL AUDITORIUM



\$20 PER ADULT
\$10 PER CHILD 12 & UNDER
CHILD UNDER 5 FREE

**ALL MEALS INCLUDE: COLE SLAW, FRIES OR
POTATOES, MAC N CHEESE**

**PLEASE INDICATE NUMBER OF DINNERS BEING
ORDERED.**

___ **FLOUNDER** ___ **SALMON**
___ **FRIED SHRIMP**
___ **FISH SANDWICH**

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 23.

CHECKS PAYABLE TO: SROL CHURCH

BARBARAP@SROLCHURCH.ORG 516.798.4992

FIVE LOAVES
MINISTRIES
- EST. 2025 -

OUR FATHER

A DAY RETREAT ON GOD'S FATHERLY LOVE

*Come and experience a day set apart
to learn more deeply who God is, who
we are, and how to experience God's
Fatherly Heart*

SATURDAY, MAR. 28TH
9:00AM - 3:15PM
ST. ROSE YOUNG ADULTS

Cost: \$10 (Catered Breakfast and
Lunch Provided)
Begin in the St. Rose Gym

For more details and to RSVP, scan the QR code



JT Parker

fiveloavesministries.org

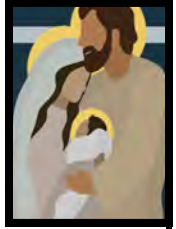
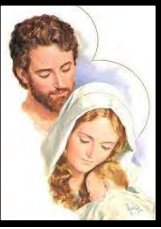
FIVE LOAVES
MINISTRIES
- EST. 2025 -

A ministry serving High School , College
and Twenty-something
St. Rose Parishioners

For more information contact: jt@fiveloavesmin.org

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE SPIRITUAL GOD-PARENT ADOPTION PROGRAM

Baby at Two Months' Development



“I’m really taking shape now, and my bones are developing, too.”

Thank you, my Spiritual God-Parent, who prays for my young life to be saved from abortion.
I am continuing to grow and my brain, sensory organs and digestive tract are taking shape;
my cartilage is being replaced by bone.
My tiny body reflects the image and likeness of God. He prepares an eternal reward for you,
who have loved and defended me in the womb of my mother.

Respect Life ~ *Prayer and Action*



LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Please join our St. Rose of Lima School 8th and 7th graders as they bring to life the Living Stations of the Cross.

Good Friday, April 3rd - 7:30 PM

Come witness the spirit of the Stations of the Cross come alive through this dramatic presentation, with reflective music and prayerful contemplation.

Join us in solidarity with the young people of our school as we journey through this sacred season together.



***Blessing of the Easter Baskets
Saturday, April 4
Following 9:00 am Morning Prayer***

The Blessing of Easter Baskets is an Eastern European tradition that dates back to the 14th century. On Holy Saturday, people would bring decorated baskets with samples of items from their Easter meal - bread, butter, salt, sweets, colored eggs, and ham - to the church to be blessed. We will celebrate this cherished tradition on Holy Saturday, following the 9:00 am morning prayer.

Everyone is invited to place your food basket on the tables in front of the altar rail.

ST. ROSE OF LIMA

A WEEK OF ADORATION

APRIL 6TH - APRIL 10TH
8:00AM - 8:00PM
FR. GRAHAM CHAPEL

WE ARE IN NEED OF MANY VOLUNTEERS TO
SIT AND PRAY WITH THE EUCHARIST.

EMAIL TOM GRIFFIN TO SIGN UP:
THOMASG@SROLCHURCH.ORG



Gaelic & Garlic 2026

Pictures
courtesy of
Jim Rapp

St. Rose of Lima Tree of Life

*The Perfect Place
To Remember That Important Time
Or Special Someone In Your Life*



*The St. Rose of Lima Tree Of Life
is really the Family Tree of our Parish.
There's no better way to share an important moment
with all your family than by placing it on a leaf—
forever.*

Follow these simple directions:

**You can choose up to 20 letters or space on each line, and up to four lines on each leaf.
Please print, leaving spaces as necessary on the lines below, exactly as you want it to appear.**

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Payment Plan (check one)

_____ \$2,000 in full _____ Monthly installments (to be approved by Rectory)

Please make checks to: St. Rose of Lima Church

Mail to: St. Rose Of Lima, 2 Bayview Avenue, Massapequa, NY 11758



St. Rose of Lima Inaugural Golf Outing

MONDAY, MAY 4, 2026
COLONIAL SPRINGS GOLF CLUB

*For more information on our
event, golfer package pricing,
and sponsorship opportunities,
go to our website at:*

www.strosegolf.net



The Diocese of Rockville Centre
**GOLDEN WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY MASSES**

Honoring Couples Married Fifty Years

The Diocese of Rockville Centre would like to honor those couples who celebrated Fifty Years of Marriage in 2026 by inviting them to attend one of the Masses below for a special blessing.

Sunday, April 19, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.

Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Patchogue

Celebrant: Most Reverend Robert J. Coyle

Registration Deadline: Thursday, April 9, 2026

Sunday, April 26, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.

The Cathedral of St. Agnes, Rockville Centre

Celebrant: Most Reverend Andrzej Zglejszewski

Registration Deadline: Thursday, April 16, 2026

Register online at drvc-faith.org

For questions, please contact Lisette Robustelli, Associate Director at (516)678-5800 ext. 200 or via email at lrobustelli@drvc.org





Did you know? You can use your IRA to make a meaningful gift to our Church and potentially lower your taxes!

What is a Qualified Charitable Donation (QCD)?

A direct transfer of funds from your IRA to a qualified charity (like us!). Available to those age 70½ or older.

Key Benefits:

Counts Toward RMD: Satisfies your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) for the year.

Reduces Taxable Income: Lowers your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI).

No Itemizing Needed: You don't need to itemize deductions to benefit.

Tax-Free: The gift is tax-free for you.

Quick Facts for 2026:

Limit: Up to \$111,000 per person.

Deadline: December 31st.

Must go directly from your IRA custodian to the charity.

How to Give via QCD:

Contact Your IRA Custodian: Ask them to send the funds directly to your parish or Diocese and mention it's for a QCD.

We can help! If you need our EIN or have questions, contact Barbara Kilarjian at 516-678-5800 ext. 257 or email her at bkilarjian@drvc.org. info.



The Federal Scholarship Tax Credit: Support Students at No Cost to You

Starting **January 1, 2027**, a new federal law provides an historic opportunity to support Catholic education by redirecting a portion of your federal taxes directly to student scholarships.

What is it and how does it work?

- **Dollar-for-Dollar Credit:** This is a **100% tax credit**, not just a deduction. For every dollar you contribute to a Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO), your federal tax bill is reduced by that same amount.
- **Credit Limits:** Every individual who pays federal tax can receive a credit of up to **\$1,700** (or **\$3,400 for married couples** filing jointly).
- **No Out-of-Pocket Cost:** Because the contribution reduces your tax liability dollar-for-dollar, you are simply "redirecting" money you already owe the IRS to support local students.
- **Generous Eligibility:** Scholarships serve students from households with an income up to **300% of their county's median income**.

An Urgent Call to Action: Contact Governor Hochul

For families to benefit from this program, the State of New York must "opt-in". Visit <https://bit.ly/2026FSTC> to contact Governor Hochul and urge her to opt-in to the FSTC.

- **Annual Requirement:** The state's participation is not permanent; the Governor must choose to opt-in on an **annual basis**.
- **Urgent Advocacy:** It is critical that we contact Governor Hochul now to urge her to opt-in for the 2027 tax year.
- **Keeping Dollars in New York:** If New York does not opt-in, donations from New Yorkers can still be made to SGOs in other states, meaning our tax dollars would leave New York to support students elsewhere.

How to Support Long Island's Catholic Schools

While federal law prevents donors from directing a scholarship to a *specific child*, you have the power to choose which community benefits:

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**WHERE?: Greenbelt Trail and
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AROUND THE DIOCESE...

Dominican Village, *Spend the Day With Us* - Experience life at Dominican Village in Amityville, including Assisted Living Residency. Dates include April 9 and May 14. For information, call 631-842-6091.

Good Friday Pro-Life Public Outreach Event - The Long Island Coalition for Life is holding a Good Friday Silent Vigil on behalf of preborn children on April 3 from 10:30 am to Noon, on the public sidewalk in front of Nassau University Medical Center in East Meadow. Pro-life adults, teens and families are invited to take part in this peaceful Face the Truth event as a visible reminder that abortion is not healthcare. For more information, call 631-243-1435 or email info@prolifeLI.org.

Help Wanted - Catholic Charities of Long Island is looking for a part-time CDL driver for the Wantagh Senior Center. It would be 6-18 hours per week to drive seniors to and from their homes to the Senior Center including ability to assist individuals in wheel chairs, assist with food service, set up recreational events, etc. To apply, go to www.catholiccharities.cc/careers and click on the "jobs" tab, review the job flyer and apply or call 516-733-7000.



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