

# St. Sylvester Church

*A Roman Catholic Praying Community*

854 Targee Street, Concord  
Staten Island, New York 10304

Parish House Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00 AM—4:00 PM ~ 718 727-4639 ~ Fax: 718 273-2950

Website: <http://StSylvesterSI.org>

e-mail: [stsylvesterschurch@yahoo.com](mailto:stsylvesterschurch@yahoo.com)

Pastor:

**Rev. Jacob Thumma**

Parochial Vicar:

**Rev. Balareddy Yeruva (Fr. Bala)**

C.C.D. Coordinator:

*new #*

**Mrs. Patricia Campbell (718 727-4689)**

Rectory Manager:

**Janet Samuel**

Counselor for Funerals:

**Carmela Rogan**



## Masses

Saturday evening vigil—4:00 PM

Sunday—7:30, 10:00 AM (Choir), 12 noon

Holy Days—7:00 PM Vigil, 9:00 AM, 12 noon, 7:00 PM

Weekdays—Mon through Fri at 8:30 am-Rosary Chapel

Weekdays of Lent also at 12:00 noon

Saturday at 9:00 AM

## Devotions

Monday through Saturday—Rosary following Mass

Mondays—Miraculous Medal following 8:30 AM Mass

Tuesdays—St. Anthony of Padua following 8:30 AM Mass

Wednesdays—Eucharistic Holy Hour: 7—8 PM

Fridays of Lent—Stations of the Cross: 12:30 PM & 7:00 PM,

and Exposition of Blessed Sacrament: 1 PM - 4 PM

## Parish Activities

Men's Holy Name Society, Women's Guild, Golden Age,  
Eucharistic Ministers, Funeral Ministry, Ushers/Greeters, Teen  
Youth Activities Group, A.C.A., Cub Pack & Boy Scout Troop 85,  
Manresa Christian Life Community, Lectors, Altar Servers

## **Parish Registration** →

Our Parish family invites all of its members to participate fully in our spiritual and social life. Every family moving into the Parish is requested to register at the Rectory. You may fill out the adjacent form and drop it in the collection basket next weekend.

## Baptism

We rejoice with families on the occasion of the birth of a new child. Please call 718-727-4639 and speak to a member of the parish staff to arrange for an interview and registration for the required baptismal preparation class.

## Reconciliation (Confessions)

Saturdays—3:00 pm to 3:45 PM

## Matrimony

Arrangements should be made at least 6 months in advance and prior to making any plans for the reception. Please call the Parish Office for an appointment with a priest. All couples are expected to attend a Diocesan marriage Preparation Program.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ listed/unlisted?

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please send census card for my parish registration

I would like to receive Offering Envelopes

I would like a Priest to contact me

**Dec. 25, 2016**

# Parish of St. Sylvester

## The Nativity of the Lord

December 25, 2016



The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness  
has not overcome it.

-- John 1:5



### Liturgies and Intentions for the Week



**Saturday, Dec. 24 - Late Advent Weekday**  
9:00 a.m. = for our Parish Family

**Dec. 24 - VIGIL FOR THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**  
4:00 p.m. = for our Parish Family  
11:00 p.m. = Christmas Caroling in church  
11:30 p.m. = **MIDNIGHT MASS OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**  
for our Parish Family

**Dec. 25 - THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**  
7:30 a.m. = for our Parish Family  
10:00 a.m. = for our Parish Family  
12:00 noon = for our Parish Family

**Monday, Dec. 26 - St. Stephen, The First Martyr**  
8:30 a.m. = Doris M. Tierney

**Tuesday, Dec. 27 - Apostle and Evangelist**  
8:30 a.m. = Francis G. Golden

**Wednesday, Dec. 28 - The Holy Innocents, Martyrs**  
8:30 a.m. = Debra Edwards

**Thursday, Dec. 29 - St. Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr**  
8:30 a.m. = William - Louise Edwards

**Friday, Dec. 30 - Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**  
8:30 a.m. = Maria Girardi

**Saturday, Dec. 31 - St. Sylvester I, Pope**  
9:00 a.m. = William Luis & Deborah Edwards

**Saturday, Dec. 31 - Vigil Mass for the solemnity of  
MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**  
4:00 p.m. = Anne Pinto

**Jan. 1, 2017 - MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**  
7:30 a.m. = \_\_\_\_\_  
10:00 a.m. = Manuel and Serafina Dalman  
12:00 noon = Carlos Nieves Hernandez



### Weekly Collections Our Parish Family's Support on . . .

**December 18, 2016**

1st collection - \$3,658.00

Reserve Fund - \$ 832.00



*Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands, especially those from our parish family and community . . .*

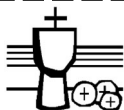
Seaman Daniel Brennan - USN  
SR Francis S. Cummings - USN  
SR Michael J. Cummings - USN  
Col. Jeffrey N. Davila, MD - USAF  
Francesca DiSimone-Biggins - US Army  
Lucia DiSimone-Biggins - USMC  
Ryan Foley - USMC  
Lt. Col. Jay Le Pore - USAF in Japan  
Col. Patrick J. Mahaney, Jr. - US Army  
Prescod Montgomery - US Army in Iraq  
Ensign II Steven Pasignajen-Trimble - US N/Persian Gulf  
Samuel Rios - USAF  
Darrin Sack  
Major Michael Volpe - US Army



**PLEASE PRAY . . .** for those anticipating a hospital stay, recuperating, the homebound in our parish, and in our families. Please keep this list near the place where you pray each day so that you remember them throughout the week.

Victor Andrea, Antonia Carlino, Lucille Chatznoff, Frances Cirincione, Dr. Nicolas C. Lansigan, Jr., Stephen Cucci, Jean De Santis, Robert Forlenza, Thomas Galvin, John and Connie Garbarino, Connie Gorrasi, Richard Hassel, Agnes Jennings, Bridget Kehley, Frank Labano, Rose Marchese, Louis Matos, Delia Murguia, Amy O'Donnell, Joseph Palumbo, Lee Poyntz, Carmela Rogan, Annette Scardigno, Louise Stanley

The **Bread and Wine** are offered this week in memory of **deceased members of McCoy family and Mary Bhatia** requested by **Anne**



before the Tabernacle this week the **Sanctuary Lamp** burns in memory of **Mary Rapp** requested by **her daughter**



**Pastor's  
Corner**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND THE BLESSINGS OF A HAPPY NEW YEAR 2017**

My Dear Parishioners,

I've sent you all my Christmas letter; and I've worked thoughtfully on my homilies for this precious Season. Just recently though, I have been told of an occurrence which needs to be shared here/now. It speaks to the reason that brought the Christ to be born; and the 'why' of our parish family:

"It's just a plain envelope on our Christmas tree every year. My husband used to hate the way the birth of our Savior is swamped with consumerism. One year, our son's karate team was competing with kids from a poorer section of town. My husband commented on the visitors' hand-me-down, poorly-fitting uniforms. I wondered about the morale of these kids if they had proper outfits, so I bought some and sent them anonymously to their coach. I placed an envelope on the tree telling my husband that the uniforms were my gift to him. He was thrilled, and that began a new family tradition – one year I sent teens with disabilities to visit the aquarium; food and household items went another year to a family whose home had burned down. Our children loved learning what was in Dad's envelope. Sadly, my husband died last year. Yet I cried with happiness on Christmas morning to find four white envelopes from my children. My grandchildren crowded round excitedly, saying, 'Open the envelopes, Gran!' "

Now a dictionary synonym for such *stewardship* is 'caring'. Following that synonym trail one finds 'loving'. And there we have it! **Love** is the answer. His love is the "why" Christ came to earth for us. That is his Gift, and so must it be our gift—as His chosen stewards and as a parish family—for all we meet.

I invite you all to come and share the joy of our parish family in this coming new year.

Keep smiling,

*Fr. Jacob*



**LEARNED AT HOME**

The mind of Christ is to be learned in the family.

Strength of character may be acquired at work, but beauty of character is learned at home.

--Henry Drummond



**St. Sylvester Youth Group**

reminds you . . . because of the holidays, the next collection date for our

**OK Clean Water Project**

will be **January 15<sup>th</sup>, Hospitality Sunday.**

Bring your contributions of rinsed, clean redeemable soda cans and plastic bottles to the **Parish Hall after that 10 a.m. Mass.**

To learn more go to:

<http://www.okcleanwaterproject.org/>

*Please do not leave bottles/cans in church or at the rectory*



**NOVEMBER STUDENTS-OF-THE-MONTH**

Grade 1-Francesco DiGangi

Grade 2-Ivan Ubaldo

Ava Danielson

Grade 3-Gianna Gazerwitz

Grade 4-Ricardo Leyva

Grade 5-Kiara Quinn

Grade 6-Raphaëlle Viau

Grade 7-Clara Viloria

Grade 8-Daniella Montedoro



**FOR THE ADULT TRICYCLE RAFFLE**

WE HAVE A



**WINNER..**



**GEORGE MENDOSA**



**"Cross Road FOUNDATION**

Dear Fr. Jacob,

Thank you very much for allowing us to conduct our 'Baby Bottle Campaign' at St. Sylvester's again this year. With donations at the door and 125 bottles returned, we were able to raise **\$2,389**. Please extend our gratitude to your parishioners for their support. Be assured that these funds will be well used as we continue to assist new and expectant mothers in need."