

# *St. Edward the Confessor*

205 Jackson Avenue, Syosset, New York 11791

*Growing in Faith, Love, and Christ*

**HOPE**

**LOVE**

**PEACE**

**JOY**



*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

*December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023*



## **THE PASTORAL TEAM**

Rev. Michael T. Maffeo, Pastor  
Rev. Hyacinth Jemigbola, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Celestine Nwosu, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Msgr. Donald McE. Beckmann, Sunday Priest  
Deacon James F. Murphy  
Deacon Barry P. Croce



## **Administration**

Deacon Thomas Wm. Connolly, Director

## **St. Edward the Confessor School**

Mr. Vincent Albrecht, Principal  
Ms. Fabiola Cormican, Secretary

## **Office Staff**

Mrs. Maryann Waite  
Ms. Luisa Ondocin

## **Pastoral Center Offices**

Mr. Miguel DeLeon, Finance Director  
Mr. John O'Connor, Facilities Manager

## **Parish Social Ministry**

Mrs. Donna Zaino, Coordinator

## **Youth Ministry**

Mrs. Michelle Schaaake - Vision

## **Music Ministry**

Mr. Jeffrey Fox  
Ms. Francesca Lunghi  
Mrs. Marilyn Fox  
Mrs. Cecilia Hayden

## **Religious Education**

Mrs. Rosemary Pettei, Director  
Mr. Vincent Albrecht, Director of Confirmation  
Mrs. Ann Braun, Administrative Assistant

# Quick Guide to St. Edward's Parish

Not registered? Please stop by our Rectory during office hours to be included in our parish family!

## Telephone Numbers

|                                      |                   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Rectory.....                         | 921-8030 ext. 150 |
| Rectory Fax.....                     | 921-4549          |
| St. Edward Confessor School.....     | 921-7767          |
| Religious Education Office.....      | 921-8543          |
| Pastoral Center Offices.....         | 921-8030 ext. 132 |
| Administration .....                 | 921-8030 ext. 136 |
| Facilities Scheduler .....           | 921-8030 ext. 136 |
| Bereavement Ministry.....            | 921-8030 ext. 137 |
| Bulletin Editor.....                 | 921-8030 ext. 137 |
| PSM/Pantry.....                      | 921-8030 ext. 140 |
| Music Ministry.....                  | 921-8030 ext. 150 |
| RCIA.....                            | 921-8030 ext. 150 |
| Society of St. Vincent De Paul ..... | 516-218-7837      |

## Next Week's Presider Schedule

|                  |          |                |
|------------------|----------|----------------|
| Saturday, Dec 30 | 5:00 PM  | Msgr. Beckmann |
| Sunday, Dec 31   | 7:30 AM  | Fr. Mike       |
|                  | 9:30 AM  | Msgr. Beckmann |
|                  | 11:30 AM | Fr. Hyacinth   |
|                  | 6:00 PM  | Fr. Celestine  |

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays - 12:30 to 1:30 PM in the Church

You may also make an appointment by calling the rectory at: 516-921-8030.

## Protect Our Children Hotline

If you or someone you know has experienced an incident of sexual abuse by clergy, an employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, please **contact law enforcement and the diocesan's Office for the Protection of Children and Young People.**

The Diocese maintains a special phone number to report these situations:

**Tel.: 516-594-9063**

## Rectory Hours

The rectory will be open during the following times:

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Mondays - Thursdays:  | 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM |
| Fridays:              | 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM |
| Closed for Lunch M-F: | 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM |
| Saturdays - Sundays:  | 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM |

Outside of these hours, please call: 516-921-8030

## Our Weekly Offering

|                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
| December 17, 2023      | \$ 15,446.00 |
| # of Envelopes         | 249          |
| Automatic Transactions | \$ 5,545.00  |
| # of Transactions      | 63           |
| Total                  | \$ 20,991.00 |

We thank all who support our Parish!

*Fr. Mike*

## Websites / Social Media

**Parish:** [www.st-edwards.org](http://www.st-edwards.org)

**School:** [www.stedwardconfessor.org](http://www.stedwardconfessor.org)

**Religious Ed:** [www.saintedwardre.com](http://www.saintedwardre.com)

**Facebook:** [stedwardsyosset](https://www.facebook.com/stedwardsyosset)

**Instagram:** [stedwardsyosset](https://www.instagram.com/stedwardsyosset)

**Formed:** [formed.org](http://formed.org)

**St. Edward's Mass is Online -**

The St. Edward's 7:30 AM and 11:30 AM Sunday Masses are recorded and posted online, both on YouTube and Facebook, and are available for viewing at any time.

**YouTube** - St. Edward the Confessor Church - Syosset

**Facebook Page** - St. Edward the Confessor Church

To watch the Sunday Masses on your smartphone, just scan this QR code.



***“Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths...”***

## Mass Intentions

### **12/25 - The Nativity of the Lord - Christmas Day**

12:00 am Marge & Patrick Driscoll  
7:30 am Dimitry Saint-Cyr  
9:30 am Deceased Members of the  
Fay and Kempton Families  
11:30 am Deborah O'Connor  
Christina Angelo  
Paula & Anthony Lembo  
Lillian (Ronnie) Frewin  
1:00 pm Aida Maffeo

### **12/26 - Feast of Saint Stephen**

9:00 am Charles Ehrhard

### **12/27 - Feast of Saint John**

9:00 am John J. Hickey

### **12/28 - Feast of the Holy Innocents**

9:00 am Ward Ogdon

### **12/29 - The Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas**

9:00 am Michael Keilty

### **12/30 - The Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas**

9:00 am Michael Albano  
5:00 pm Matthew J. MacKenzie  
Cecilia LeRose

### **12/31 - Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

7:30 am Catherine & George Assmus  
9:30 am Kathleen Robins  
11:30 am Dorothy Stannish  
Maria Giannuzzi  
Matilde Blanco  
6:00 pm William Chiarelli

## Military List

***“Lord, hold our troops in your loving hand. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen”***

Lt. Cmdr. Jameson Adler, U.S. Navy  
Cpl. Matthew V. Balestrieri, U.S. Marine Corps  
Maj. Joel Bernazzani, U.S. Air Force  
SPC. Ryan D. Donadio, U.S. Army National Guard  
Ens. Ryan Dunleavy, U.S. Navy  
Lt. Lauren Ehrhard, U.S. Air Force  
Sgt. Noah C. Estey, U.S. Marine Corps  
LCpl Spencer Gliner, U.S. Marine Corps  
SSgt. Michael Gregory, U.S. Army  
Lt. John Hagerman, U.S. Navy  
Lt. Amanda Hine, U.S. Navy  
Sgt. Christopher Hofer, U.S. Air Force  
Maj. Christian Kapey, U.S. Marine Corps  
Sr. Airman Michael LiBretto, U.S. Air Force  
Pvt. Jonathan Maldonado, U.S. Army  
2nd Lt. Richard Martin Prestegaard, U.S. Army  
Sgt. Brian H. McCabe, U.S. Army National Guard  
Petty Officer Sean T. Sattler, U.S. Coast Guard  
Lt. Brian Shields, U.S. Coast Guard  
SSgt. Paul Smith, U.S. Army  
Maj. James Tom, U.S. Army  
1st Lt. Michelle Turcios, U.S. Army  
Lt. Cmdr. Andrew Vann, U.S. Navy

***“If you know of any military personnel listed above who are no longer in the service, please call the Rectory at: 516-921-8030 to have their name removed.***

## Pray For The Sick

Kathy Rooney Kevin J. Frobey Renata Sorace  
Kate Goodman Russell Kendall

## The Altar Bread & Wine

***For the week of December 24 - December 30, 2023***

**Is Given in Loving Memory of**

***David Krieg***

***By: Laura Krieg***

## The Sanctuary Candle

***For the week of December 24 - December 30, 2023***

**Is Lit in Loving Memory of**

***Edwin Schantz***

***By: Anello Family***

## Pastoral Council

**Fr. Michael T. Maffeo, Pastor**

**Deacon James Murphy**

JoAnn Bonasera John J. Cleary  
Chris Coschignano June DeMarco  
Mary Fay Sr. Theresa Kelly  
Kevin Moran John O'Connor  
Bianna Zaino Donna Zaino

***“The Council serves as a forum of consultation for the pastor and members, primarily by engaging them in ongoing dialogue about the needs, feelings, hopes and reactions of parishioners.”***

***- Guidelines for Pastoral Councils, Sec. B.2***

***Please feel free to contact any council member, at any time, regarding your “needs, feelings, hopes and reactions.”***

***All council members can be reached through the Rectory Office at: 516-921-8030***

## From Fr. Mike's Desk

Today David asks Nathan whether he should build a temple for God. He was living in a nice house of cedar, while the Ark of the Covenant was kept inside a tent. Nathan, God's prophet, who spoke directly to the king, says that God will go along with his plan. He was God's anointed one and God had done wondrous deeds for David and Israel. Surprisingly, God told Nathan that David was not to be the one who would build a temple, but his son Solomon would, as we see in the Second Book of Samuel. While David is disappointed, God does give him some comfort, when He tells David his house will remain forever, and go beyond the state of Israel and beyond all who held Israel captive. The promise to David is fulfilled in the Birth of Jesus, and David's Kingdom is superseded by the Kingdom of God.

God has indeed surpassed David's hopes, desires, and plans, and even the Great Temple of Solomon. For the greater Temple and Ark of the Covenant, is spoken about in today's Gospel: Our Dear Blessed Mother. *"Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you shall conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus. He will be great, and He will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give Him the throne of David his father, and He will rule over the house of Jacob forever and of His Kingdom there will be no end."* As the Archangel tells her, she is the perfect dwelling place for the Most High. On the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, we are almost at the moment we have been waiting for (in fact today it begins at 4 PM). Humanity will be brought to a new level we never expected, and we will be made whole. For as God dwelled in a wonderful way in the womb of the Blessed Mother, we must keep in mind that He dwells forever in His new Temple the Church, and we are the Church!

Now as we come close to the end of this period of waiting, we must ask ourselves; are we providing the Holy Spirit a dwelling place in our Soul? Are we allowing the Spirit to be our Soul's constant guest or is He just someone you invite over for the holiday and then he must leave? Please allow the Spirit to work in your heart and Soul to make the new year a time of peace, love, and Christ.

Our Christmas Eve and Day Schedule goes as follows: **Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> the Fourth Sunday of Advent** we will have our usual Saturday Night/Sunday Morning Masses. Namely Saturday at 5:00 PM, Sunday Morning at 7:30, 9:30, and 11:30. As we move into the day the Masses will be for

**Christmas Eve and Day. Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**Christmas Eve.:** 4 PM Mass with Children's Choir in the Church, likewise we will have 4 PM Mass in the Gym. 6 PM Mass, 8 PM Mass, and Midnight all in the Church. **On Monday Christmas Day, our Mass Schedule** will be 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM, and the final Mass being 1 PM all in the Church. **There will be no Evening Mass on Christmas Day.**

As you know, the Christmas Collection is one of the most important collections here in our beautiful parish. Through this collection and your extreme generosity, we can pay many of the bills that we incur during the year. In the past, you have been exceedingly kind to our dear parish, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart. This year we are especially in need, and we cannot keep ourselves going without your help. Thank you for your generous heart and helping us.

***Happy Last Day of Advent!***

***Fr. Mike***

## Next Week's Readings

***Feast of the Holy Family of  
Jesus, Mary and Joseph***

**December 31, 2023**

**First Reading - Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14**

**Psalms - 128:1-2, 3, 4-5**

**Second Reading - Colossians 3:12-21**

**Gospel - Luke 2:22-40**

## Next Week's Gospel Question

In Luke's Gospel we hear that Mary and Joseph bring the infant Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem to be presented and consecrated to the Lord. When, according to custom, they handed Jesus to Simeon, he immediately recognized that he was holding the salvation of the world and praised God.

**Now that Christ has come into the world, do we recognize and accept Him as our Savior and our salvation?**





## 2023 Christmas Schedule of Masses

### **Christmas Eve - Sunday, December 24**

4:00 PM - Mass - Church - Msgr. Beckmann  
(with the St. Edward Family Mass Choir concert at 3:00 PM)

4:00 PM - Mass - Auditorium - Fr. Mike

6:00 PM - Mass - Church - Fr. Celestine

8:00 PM - Mass - Church - Fr. Hyacinth

### **Christmas Day - Monday, December 25**

Midnight - Mass - Church - Fr. Mike  
(with the St. Edward Adult Choir)

7:30 AM - Mass - Fr. Celestine

9:30 AM - Mass - Fr. Hyacinth

11:30 AM - Mass - Msgr. Beckmann

1:00 PM - Mass - Fr. Mike

*(There is no evening Mass on Christmas Day)*

### **New Year's Day - Monday, January 1** *(Not a Holy Day of Obligation This Year)*

9:00 AM - Mass - Church - Fr. Mike

12:10 PM - Mass - Church - Fr. Hyacinth



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Christmas 2023

To the People of God of the Diocese of Rockville Centre:

Merry Christmas to you and your families!

In recent years at Christmas, I have meditated on the relationship between the Nativity of the Prince of Peace and the Parable of the Good Samaritan.

I have been especially inspired by Pope Francis' analysis of the Parable of the Good Samaritan in the second chapter of his 2020 encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*. It is powerful and provocative, and I would recommend it for your mental prayer.

The short phrase in the Christmas Gospel narrative in the second chapter of the Gospel of Luke reads: "She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn."

"No room for them in the inn." No Good Samaritan stepped up to help the Holy Family. They were ignored and treated perfunctorily and impatiently. Some passed them by. Some pretended not to notice their plight.

Remember too that in the Parable of the Good Samaritan an "inn" is also mentioned. Luke 10 reads: "But a Good Samaritan while traveling came near him, and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn and took care of him."

The inn that the Holy Family approaches on the way to Bethlehem is a sign of rejection and indifference.

The inn in the Parable of the Good Samaritan is a sign of the Good Samaritan's compassion and commitment to go the extra mile and to make sure that the wounded man is taken care of until he is completely healed.

Contemporary literary criticism might very well emphasize that the use of "inn" by the Gospel writer in both the Nativity in Luke 2 and the Parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10 is not by accident.



In a sense, the phrase “there was no room at the inn” in the Nativity foreshadows and connects with the phrase in the Parable of the Good Samaritan describing the callous indifference of both the priest and the Levite toward the wounded man on the side of the road: “[H]e passed by on the other side.”

As Pope Francis says in *Fratelli Tutti*: “Each day we have to decide whether to be Good Samaritans or indifferent bystanders.”<sup>1</sup>

Our Lady, St. Joseph and the unborn Christ Child experienced the reality of people who decided to be indifferent bystanders.

The Christmas Gospel narrative from Luke 2 poses a question which is posed again later in the Parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10.

Will we be Good Samaritans?

Or will we be indifferent bystanders?

As the Holy Father reminds us, we make that choice every day.

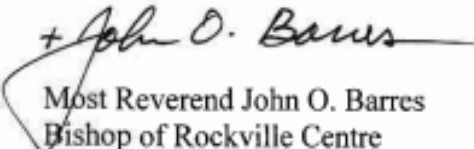
May our prayer, silent contemplation and creative family catechesis of the Nativity scene help us to be instruments of a Nativity Mystery. May the Good Samaritan Gospel revolution of humility, charity, mercy, tenderness and peace unite us in solidarity with the sick, the poor and the suffering, especially in the Middle East, Ukraine and all war-ravaged areas of the world.

May our commitment to “holiness and mission” bless our contemplative Synodal listening and our Eucharistic Revival and Evangelization.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your families!

May the Light and Love of the Christ Child animate and guide our global Catholic Missionary Spirit on this Christmas night and throughout the New Year.

Sincerely in Christ,



Most Reverend John O. Barres  
Bishop of Rockville Centre

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<sup>1</sup> Francis, encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*, October 4, 2020: AAS 112 (11) 969-1074, at no. 70.

## Parish Social Ministry



Tel: 516-921-8030

Pantry Hours: 9:30-12:00 noon Monday-Thursday and  
2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month

**Where there is kindness there is goodness; where there is goodness there is God.**

The goodness of the parishioners of St. Edward Confessor Church and the Syosset community has changed the lives of so many here in Syosset and beyond. For many of our pantry families, the increasing cost of living has made their difficult life circumstances more of a burden. Between the financial hardship and ongoing health related issues, life leaves them feeling hopeless and abandoned by God. The volunteers in both the Parish Social Ministry and our St. Vincent DePaul Conference help the less fortunate to witness the goodness of God.

Goodness is needed in the today's world. The world is full of need and longing. A gentleman from the neighborhood called me asking for a coat after we already gave away all the coats. I remembered him from the time we were open during the pandemic. I told him I would get him a coat. Two weeks later, he came by to pick up the new coat and he said "I am going to cry. I was so surprised to get a phone call from you about the coat. At first I thought it was a prank call." I also gave him a warm hat and offered him some food. I told him if he needed any assistance to please come by, we are here for you.

Another neighbor in need is helping her mentally ill sister to keep food on the shelves and to keep her apartment. I had not seen her either since the pandemic. I welcomed her back. We talked a while about the challenges of caring for a sibling with a disability. She was grateful for the food and especially to have someone who would listen to her. The power of simple goodness is astonishing.

The kindness of the parishioners continues to change lives by comforting someone who is sick or grieving, with prayers and with handmade prayer shawls. We are so fortunate to have parishioners who continue to volunteer their time to bring Communion to the Sick in Syosset Hospital, the elderly living in the nearby nursing homes and the homebound. We visit Cold Spring Hills Nursing Home with a small group of dedicated volunteers. Residents warmly welcome us and greet us with joy to receive Jesus and hear the Word of God. In October, we brought back the Hot Lunch Program for the residents living in the TOB Housing in town. Volunteers cook and serve the hot lunch. Residents come to the community room to enjoy a delicious meal and fellowship. We have an amazing outreach ministry here at St. Edward Confessor Church; every volunteer works tirelessly to give of their time to help our neighbors in need.

Let's continue to allow God to fill us with His goodness so together we can go out and astonish the world with more kindness and compassion. Unleash your goodness!

May God's love surround you at Christmas and always.

With gratitude, Donna





*Merry  
Christmas!*



DIOCESE of ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
**Office of Human Life,  
Family and Bioethics**

Rejoice and be glad that so great and good a Lord, on  
 coming into the Virgin's womb, willed to appear  
 despised, needy, and poor in this world, so that men who  
 were in dire poverty and suffering great need of  
 heavenly food might be made rich in Him.

~ *St. Clare of Assisi*

## Upcoming Bereavement Support Group



**Begins on 1/11/24**  
**Ends on 3/7/24**

The death of a loved one can be the most profound emotional experience we will ever endure. The grief which follows can be painful and challenging. The St. Edward's Bereavement Support Group provides an opportunity to be listened to, understood, nurtured and loved, and will give you methods and tools to help guide you through the grieving process. A new Group for those bereaved 6 months or longer is now being formed. The Group will meet once per week for two hours, for eight weeks beginning on Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

**Registration is required. Please register early as the Group will be limited in size. The registration deadline is: Monday, 1/8/24.**

To register, please send an email with your name and telephone number to:

[Bereavement@st-edwards.org](mailto:Bereavement@st-edwards.org)

If you prefer, you may call the Rectory at: 516-921-8030

Once your information has been received you will be contacted by John O'Connor, Bereavement Minister for The Diocese of Rockville Centre, who will confirm your registration and will provide you with additional information about the Group.

## St. Edward's Automatic Giving

### AUTOMATIC CONTRIBUTION FORM

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Type: Amex – Visa – Master Card – Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Deduction amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Frequency: Weekly – Monthly – Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Start date: \_\_\_\_\_ End date: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby authorize St. Edward the Confessor Church to charge my card as indicated above.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Catholic Ministries Appeal

We are only **4%** away from hitting our Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA) annual goal which will entitle St. Edward's to a rebate of over \$20,000.00. This money would be very helpful to our parish and is very much needed at this time.

If you have already sent in your pledge we are very grateful for your generosity. If you have not done so, please consider making a pledge. You'll not only be helping the tens of thousands of people serviced by your donation but you will be helping St. Edward's as well. Please be generous during this Christmas Season.

#### Newly Baptized



*Emerson Drew Meyer*

*John Otto Checca, Jr.*

*Leonardo Rome Saputo*

#### Death to New Life



*Roberta DiGiovanni*

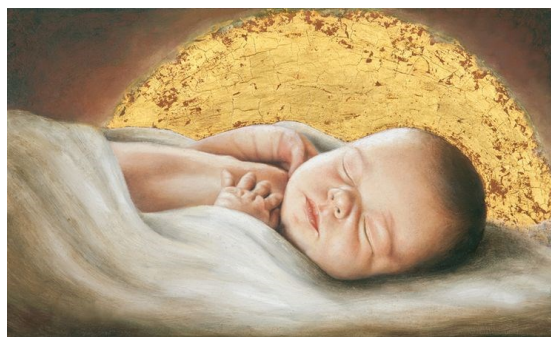


## 2023 Lights of Peace, Hope & Remembrance Christmas Tree Sponsor Form

*Please return this form with payment to the:* St. Edward's Rectory Office  
Attn: St. Edward's Christmas Tree Field



## Sacraments of Initiation for Adults



### SHARE THE GOOD NEWS!

At Christmastime people often realize that something is missing in their lives - a place to meet God. Do you know someone who is looking for a home? Perhaps it's the St. Edward's RCIA program?

For information, please call the Rectory: 516-921-8030



Give the greatest CHRISTMAS gift  
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priesthood?

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supportive,  
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marriage!



This experience will help you  
listen, share and connect more deeply  
with your spouse

Make this Christmas  
even more special  
Give the gift of a  
weekend away to  
focus on your  
relationship

**February 9-11**

Held at the  
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*"In this season of Advent, we are called to expand the horizons of our hearts, to be amazed by the life which presents itself each day with newness. In order to do this, we must learn to not depend on our own certainties, on our own established strategies, because the Lord comes at a time that we do not imagine. He comes to bring us into a more beautiful and grand dimension."* - Pope Francis, Angelus, 27th November 2016



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## **St. Francis Hospital Outreach Bus**

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**St. Edward the Confessor**

**205 Jackson Avenue**

**Syosset, NY 11791**

**January 4, 2024**

**10:00am – 2:00pm**

**(Last screening at 1:45pm)**



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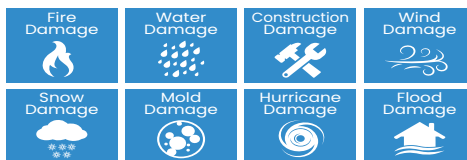
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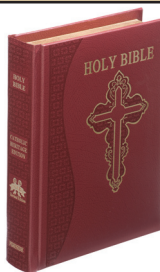


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