St. Edward the Confessor

205 Jackson Avenue, Syosset, New York 11791

Growing in Faith, Love, and Christ



Fourth Sunday of Advent December 21st, 2025



THE PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Michael T. Maffeo, Pastor Rev. Hyacinth Jemigbola, Associate Pastor Rev. Jude Mensah, in Residence Rev. Msgr. Donald McE. Beckmann, Sunday Priest Deacon James F. Murphy Deacon Barry P. Croce



Parish Staff

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Ms. Melanie Sena, Coordinator

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Music Ministry

Mr. Jeffrey Fox, Music Director Ms. Francesca Lunghi, Cantor Mrs. Marilyn Fox, Choir Director Mrs. Cecilia Hayden, Family Mass Choir

From Fr. Mike's Desk

Our Gospel Reading for this Fourth Sunday of Advent comes from the Gospel according to Matthew. Matthew tells us, "This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about." As we continue the reading, we are told that Joseph is greatly upset because he was told that Mary is with child and it is not his. He intends to quietly divorce Mary, hoping that the word of this does not go around the village; he knows that if it does, Mary will face many consequences, including death. Such was his plan, until that night when he had a dream (more like a vision), and the Angel of the Lord appeared. The Angel of the Lord tells Joseph not to be afraid to take Mary as his wife because the child she was carrying was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit!

Going back a paragraph or so, we read the beginning of Matthew's Gospel with the Genealogy of Jesus according to the house of David, starting with Abraham. What followed was that Abraham was the father of Issac, and was the father of Jacob, etc., etc. All the way down 42 Generations, where we are told Eleazar was the father of Matthan, Matthan was the father of Jacob, Jacob was the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary. Of her was born Jesus, who is called the Messiah. Joseph was chosen by God because he was a holy man who was faith-filled, and because he was of the house of David, of which the Messiah was to be born.

As we skip ahead in the gospel, we are told that Joseph was also told in the vision, "She will have a son, and you are to name Him Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins." As Matthew continues, "All this took place to fulfill what the Lord has said through the prophet; Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means God is with us."

This, of course, brings us back to our first reading for today from the Prophet Isaiah. The prophecy has a meaning about a human king. A human king who will do great things. But serves as a foreshadow to the Divine King, the

prophecy's second meaning. The Divine King who truly is God among us and has come to set us free. As we move closer to Christmas (which we will celebrate in four days), we should realize that God from the beginning had this plan for our salvation, from Isaiah to the Genealogy, to the Annunciation, to Joseph's dream. God has done this for us! For His plan is the salvation of Humanity. And all we have to do is participate in the plan, as Israel did and now as the Church does.

Happy Fourth Sunday of Advent and Merry Christmas from the Priests, Deacons, Pastoral Staff, and the other Staff members that keep Holy Name of Jesus and St. Edward's going.

Again, Merry Christmas!

Fr. Mike

Next Week's Readings

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

December 28, 2025

First Reading - Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14
Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5
Second Reading - Colossians 3:12-21
Gospel - Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Next Week's Gospel Question

In Matthew's Gospel we hear how was once again and angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, and told him to bring Jesus and his mother back to the land of Israel. Joseph did as he was told, but avoided Judea, and settled his family in the town of Nazareth, where he believed they would be safe.

Making decisions for your family, guiding them, and keeping them safe is an awesome responsibility. At least Joseph had an angel of the Lord to guide him. As parents, does your faith and the wisdom that has been handed down through the bible guide you in your decision making?

St. Edward's Calendar of Christmas Events

Mass, followed by Rosary Daily 9:00 am

St. Joseph Prayer Group Thursdays 7:30 pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Fridays following the 9:00 am Mass

Lunchtime with Jesus Fridays 11:30 am-12:00 noon

Evening Holy Hour Fridays 7:00 pm-8:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturdays 12:30-1:30pm

Daytime Confessions Mon. Dec. 22nd 2:00 pm-4:00 pm

Evening Confessions Mon. Dec. 22nd 6:00 pm-9:00 pm

CHRISTMAS EVE AND DAY MASS SCHEDULE For 2025 and 2026

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Mass in the Church - Fr. Mike

4:00 PM Mass in the GYM - Msgr. Beckmann

6:30 PM Mass in the Church - Fr. Jude

12:00 AM Midnight Mass in the Church - Fr. Mike

Christmas Day

7:30 AM Mass in the Church - Fr. Jude

9:30 AM Mass in the Church - Fr. Hyacinth

11:30 AM Mass in the Church - Msgr. Beckmann

1:00 PM Mass in the Church - Fr. Mike

There will be no 6:00 PM Mass

NEW YEAR'S EVE AND DAY MASS SCHEDULE

New Year's Eve

5:00 PM Mass in the Church - Fr. Hyacinth

New Year's Day

10:00 AM Mass in the Church - Fr. Mike

There will be no 12:10 PM or 6:00 PM Mass

As you prepare your home for a joyous Christmas with family and friends, allow yourself time to prepare your heart for Christ the Lord.

Join fellow parishioners in prayer, liturgy, meditation, reconciliation, scripture and music.



Christmas 2025

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

Merry Christmas!

Throughout this year, we have marked many significant milestones in the life of the Church leading us to the Lord's Nativity and this holy season of Christmas, most especially the passing of Pope Francis at Easter and the election of Pope Leo XIV in May.

What a gift it has been to walk these months with our new Holy Father, to learn from his teaching, and witness his example.

On October 4th, the Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi, Pope Leo released his first Apostolic Exhortation, *Dilexit Te - I Have Loved You*. It is a profound meditation on love for the poor and speaks powerfully to the mystery of the Lord's Birth and the grace of this season.

The Holy Father reminds us: "The Gospel shows us that poverty marked every aspect of Jesus' life. From the moment he entered the world, Jesus knew the bitter experience of rejection. The Evangelist Luke tells how Joseph and Mary, who was about to give birth, arrived in Bethlehem, and then adds, poignantly, that 'there was no place for them in the inn' (*Lk* 2:7). Jesus was born in humble surroundings and laid in a manger; then, to save him from being killed, they fled to Egypt (cf. *Mt* 2:13-15). At the dawn of his public ministry, after announcing in the synagogue of Nazareth that the year of grace which would bring joy to the poor was fulfilled in him, he was driven out of town (cf. *Lk* 4:14-30). He died as an outcast, led out of Jerusalem to be crucified (cf. *Mk* 15:22). Indeed, that is how Jesus' poverty is best described: he experienced the same exclusion that is the lot of the poor, the outcast of society. Jesus is a manifestation of this *privilegium pauperum*. He presented himself to the world not only as a poor Messiah, but also as the Messiah of and for the poor." (n. 19)

Before these words of Pope Leo, we recall the wonderful truth: Christ became poor so that we who are poor might become rich (cf. 2 Cor. 8:9). This is the good news of Christmas. We are not alone. We are not left to ourselves. A Savior has come - Christ the Lord.

As we celebrate the Christmas season, we remember with Pope Leo that "Christian holiness often flourishes in the most forgotten and wounded places of humanity." (n. 76)

How beautifully the followers of Christ have responded to the cry of the poor and looked with love upon the most vulnerable among us. As we rejoice in Christ's Birth, we renew our commitment to love others as he has loved us.

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

On Sunday, December 28th at the Cathedral of Saint Agnes, on the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, we will conclude our Jubilee Year of Hope.

We thank both Pope Francis and Pope Leo XIV for igniting hope within our families, the global mission of the Church, and the human family, and we contemplate the light and grace that radiates from the refugee Holy Family (73) and that radiates to every family.

Our Catholic biblical and sacramental worship, especially at the Catholic Mass, focuses and ignites both our global mission to the poor (n. 42) and our humble openness to being evangelized by the poor (n. 102), the treasures of our Church (n. 38).

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 this Christmas and throughout the New Year.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend John O. Barres Bishop of Rockville Centre



The mass is both a sacrifice and celebration, but when we forget that it is only because of the sacrifice that we have something to celebrate, we raise up generations of people who crave celebration and are ill-prepared to face the inevitable sacrifices of life. [33 Days to Eucharistic Glory, p.85]

Dear Jesus, You are the healer of my soul; take the blindness from my eyes, the deafness from my ears, the darkness from my mind, and the hardness from my heart. Fill me with the grace, wisdom, and courage to do your will in all things, Amen.

"Have mercy on me, God, in accord with your merciful love..."

Mass Intentions

12/22 - Monday of the Fourth Week of Advent

9:00 am Patrick J. Driscoll, Jr.

12/23 - Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Advent

9:00 am David Krieg

12/24 - Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Advent

9:00 am For Our Visitors to St. Edwards

4:00 pm (Church) John & Helen Carbone

Charles J. Orrico

Nicholas Norris

Brittany Rose La Grega

4:00 pm (Gym) For Our Parishioners

6:30 pm In Thanks for Our St. Edward's Clergy

Midnight Margaret & Patrick Driscoll

12/25 - The Nativity of the Lord - Christmas

7:30 am Phillip Incantalupo

9:30 am Deceased Members of Fay & Kempton Famlies

11:30 am Christina Angelo

Dorothy Stannish Eleanor A. Wilson Donald Duvernov

1:00 pm Deborah O'Connor

12/26 - Feast of Saint Stephen

9:00 am Charles Ehrhardt

12/27 - Feast of Saint John

9:00 am People of the Parish 5:00 pm Thomas Weppler

Patricia Oborski

Edwight Joseph Douge

12/28 - Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Jospeh

7:30 am Catherine & George Asmus

9:30 am Estelle Carnesi

11:30 am Virginia Sauls

Estelle M. Carnesi

Anna Incantalupo Robert & Loretta Esswein

6:00 pm For An Increase in Vocations

The Altar Bread & Wine

For the week of December 21 - December 27, 2025

Is Given in Loving Memory of

Fred Varacchi

By: Claire and Tom Drennan

The Sanctuary Candle

For the week of December 21 - December 27, 2025

Is Lit in Memory of

David Krieg

By: Laura Krieg

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

SPC. Ryan D. Donadio, U.S. Army National Guard

Lt. Ryan Dunleavy, U.S. Navy

2Lt. Patrick Dunleavy, U.S. Army

Lt. Lauren Ehrhard, U.S. Air Force

Sgt. Noah C. Estey, U.S. Marine Corps

Cpl. Spencer Gliner, U.S. Marine Corps

SSgt. Michael Gregory, U.S. Army

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

2Lt. Richard Martin Prestegaard, U.S. Army

2Lt. Aidan McCabe, U.S. Army

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

CPT. 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.

Pastoral Council

Fr. Michael T. Maffeo, Pastor

Deacon James Murphy

Patricia Beckerle JoAnn Bonasera

John J. Cleary Chris Coschignano

June DeMarco Mary Fay

Sr. Theresa Kelly John O'Connor

Brianna Zaino Donna Zaino

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

Quick Guide to St. Edward's Parish

Telephone Numbers

Rectory	516-921-8030 ext. 150
St. Edward Confessor School	516-921-7767
Religious Education Office	516-921-8543
Finance Director	516-921-8030 ext. 132
Facilities Scheduler	516-921-8030 ext. 135
Parish Business Manager	516-921-8030 ext. 136
Facilities Manager	516-921-8030 ext. 137
Bereavement Ministry	516-921-8030 ext. 137
Bulletin Editor	516-921-8030 ext. 137
PSM/Pantry	516-921-8030 ext. 140
Music Ministry	516-921-8030 ext. 150
OCIA	516-921-8030 ext. 150
Society of St. Vincent de Paul	516-218-7837

Rectory Hours

The rectory will be open during the following times:

Mondays - Thursdays: 9:00 AM to 4:30 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

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

Next Week's Presider Schedule

Sat., Dec. 27 5:00 PM Fr. Mike

Sun., Dec. 28 7:30 AM Fr. Jude
9:30 AM Msgr. Beckmann
11:30 AM Msgr. Beckmann
6:00 PM Fr. Hyacinth

Weekly Offerings

Dates	<u>12/13 - 12/14</u>
Collections	\$ 9,817.00
# of Envelopes	156
Automatic Transactions	\$ 5,870.00
# of Transactions	63
Total	\$ 15,867.00
Immaculate Conceptions	\$ 3,557.00

Thank you to all who support our Parish!

Fr. Mike

Websites / Social Media

Parish: www.st-edwards.org School: www.stedwardconfessor.org Religious Ed: www.saintedwardre.com Facebook: stedwardsyosset

Instagram: stedwardsyosset Formed: 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.



XXXX



Christine A. Pretto

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Pray for the Sick

Kathy Rooney Kevin J. Frobey Renata Sorace

Ron Gagliardi Mary Pieper Ashley Benkin

Paul Cannizzaro Cary Briganti Angela Trivits

Bulletin Submissions

All submissions are due to be received by the Bulletin Editor no later than noon on each Monday preceding the bulletin date. See the dates as listed below. Submissions are to be sent by e-mail to:

BulletinEditor@ST-EDWARDS.ORG

Submitted materials are to be in MS Word or Google Doc file format, and must be limited in size. Please do not submit material which will require a full page. If you have materials which you cannot edit or reduce in size such as PDF or image files then contact the Bulletin Editor prior to the submittal date to discuss the situation.

Please note that submitted materials do not require pre-approval by the Pastor. Materials received after the cutoff time as shown below **will not** be published in the next bulletin. **There will be no exceptions** to this procedure, so please be mindful of the submittal dates.

Bulletin Date	Submittal Date
Sunday, December 28 th	Thursday, December 18 th
Sunday, January 4 th	Friday, December 26 th
Sunday, January 11 th	Friday, January 5 th
Sunday, January 18 th	Friday, January 12 th

You Are Not Alone - Reach Out

If you are having thoughts of **suicide**, survived an attempt, know someone who did or are worried about someone who might, need a support group, or are in crisis, alone with nowhere to go, reach out.

Call or text 988, or text TALK to 741741.

Someone will be there for you, to listen, connect, support and guide you in a better direction.

The Saint Joseph Prayer Group



The St. Joseph's Prayer Group meets every Thursday night at 7:30 pm in the Church. Prayer pamphlets for how to pray the Rosary and Divine Chaplet will be made available to everyone. These

powerful prayers are gifts from Heaven, and we should believe in their great promises.

Adult Bible Study at St. Edward's

The Adult Bible Study Group meets each Wednesday from 7:00 to 8:30 PM in the Cenacle Room. Fr. Hyacinth leads this group.

All are welcome to attend.

Care for Our Common Home

Care for nature is part of a lifestyle which includes the capacity for living together and communion. Jesus reminded us that we have God as our common Father and that this makes us brothers and sisters. Fraternal love can only be gratuitous; it can never be a means of repaying others for what they have done or will do for us. That is why it is possible This love our enemies. gratuitousness inspires us to love and accept the wind, the sun and the clouds, even though we cannot control them. In this sense, we can speak of a "universal fraternity".

Pope Francis, Encyclical Letter Laudato Si' - Care For Our Common Home (2015) Sec. 228



• Thought of leaving or divorce? • Is your marriage heading in the wrong direction?

No Marriage is Beyond Hope.

Christmas Concert - Family Mass Choir

"The Family Mass Choir is giving a Christmas Concert at 3 p.m. on Dec. 24th, with the Christmas Eve Mass immediately following at 4 p.m.

Please come and enjoy a program of beautiful Christmas music that the Choir has prepared for you!"



🎁 St. Edward the Confessor Giving Day Tuesdays 🎁

This December, we're coming together as a school family to make a BIG difference!

Every Tuesday this month, we invite our amazing St. Edward community to support our Giving Day initiative.

Any donation—big or small—will directly help us revamp the heating system in our gym, creating a safer, warmer, and more comfortable space for our community.

Let's kick off the season of giving by investing in our children and their school! Thank you for your generosity and support.

https://stedwardconfessor.org/donate-to-st-edwardconfessor-school

ST. EDWARD'S

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE!

Wreaths: \$35

Grave Blankets: \$60

• 6-8 ft Trees: \$100

• 9-10 ft Trees: \$125

• 12 ft Trees: \$200

Sale starts Nov.28th

<u>Wed-Fri</u> 5:30-8:30pm

<u>Sat & Sun</u> 9am-8:30pm



Parish Social Ministry



Tel: 516-921-8030 Pantry Hours: 9:30-12:00 noon Monday-Thursday and 2nd Saturday of the month

Items Needed for Collection -

Food: Coffee, Tea, Mustard, Ketchup, Mayonnaise, Hot Chocolate, Oatmeal, Shelf Milk, Salad Dressing, Crackers, Chips

Personal Grooming: Shampoo, Soap, Razors, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Diapers sizes 5&6

Cleaning Supplies: Paper Towels, Laundry Detergent, Toilet Paper

Donations can be dropped off during pantry hours or left in the vestibule inside the brown box on the left hand side. Please don't leave a donation outside the pantry or office door. We appreciate any and all donations.

Thank you for your generous Thanksgiving food donations! 41 families received a turkey with all the trimmings and 24 families received a chicken with the trimmings. Thank you for all the coat donations. We were able to provide a coat for every family member.

Thank you for your Support!
With gratitude,
Donna Zaino
Outreach Coordinator

Upcoming Bereavement Support Group



Begins on 1/22/26 Ends on 3/19/26 The death of a loved one can be the most profound emotional experience you will ever endure. The grief which follows can be painful and challenging. The St. Edward's Bereavement Support Group provides an opportunity to be heard, 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 eight weeks beginning on Thursday, January 22^{td} at 6:30 PM.

Registration is required. Please register early as the Group will be limited in size. The registration deadline is: Monday, 1/19/26.

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

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 Support Group.

"The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

Psalm 24:18

A special Thank You

The Knights of Columbus wish to thank the following sponsors for the wonderful field of *Christmas Lights of Peace, Hope and Remembrance* on the font lawn of the church.

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St. Edward's Rosary Prayer Group

Syosset Limousine Service

Norma Triantafillou Belanne Ungarelli Naomi Verdirame

Terri Walsh Barrett Wilson Donna Zaino Debra Zaza

There is still time to sponsor and dedicate a tree to a loved one, living or deceased, or advertise a business, please pick up a sponsorship form from the church vestibule or rectory office.

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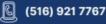
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YOUTH in GRADES 6-12 are invited to share their time, GIFTS & TALENTS as part of the SEC Youth Ministry by participating at the 6:00PM Sunday Mass and at our monthly meetings/community service events. Meet new FRIENDS and earn COMMUNITY SERVICE CREDITS for participation while helping the community.

YOUTH GROUP/VISION DECEMBER EVENTS:

COME FIND OUT ABOUT THE YOUTH MINISTRY 25-26 PROGRAM— See the REGISTRA-TION INFO below, Visit the <u>YOUTH GROUP TABLE</u> Before or After SUNDAY 6PM MASS, EMAIL US @ youth@st-edwards.org and FOLLOW us on INSTAGRAM @stedwardsyouth

Sunday, Dec. 7, 14, 21 & 28 6:00PM MASS: Teen Volunteers appreciated at 6PM Mass—please arrive by 5:45PM in Church Vestibule & earn community service credits.

Sunday, Dec. 7th FELLOWSHIP – COOKIES/TREATS provided at end of 6PM Mass in the Church Vestibule Courtesy of the Youth Group.

Sunday, Dec. 7th & 14th 5:30PM: CHURCH VESTIBULE – SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS DRIVE Sorting & Organizing Donations Collected

Sunday, Dec. 14th 4:30-5:30PM: YG MEETING/COMMUNITY SERVICE & CHRISTMAS

PARTY in Youth Office -Lower Level of School— FUN & GAMES & SNACKS will be served.

RSVP TO: youth@st-edwards.org

Sunday, December 14th 7:00PM VISION CHRISTMAS CONCERT (Immediately following 6PM Mass): Teens are invited to participate or listen with their friends and family to the Teen Vision Choir in their Christmas Concert (Approximately 30 minutes – REFRESHMENTS will be served after.)

Wednesday, Dec. 24th 6:30PM CHURCH- TEEN VISION CHOIR AT CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

VISION TEEN CHOIR: JOIN US-PRACTICE (5PM) & SINGING EVERY SUNDAY

6PM MASS - TEENS WE NEED YOUR VOICES Contact: msena@st-edwards.org

2025-2026 REGISTRATION & PARTICIPATION: It is never too late to get involved EMAIL US @ youth@st-edwards.org and make a difference!

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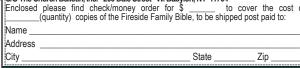
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