

# St. Edward the Confessor

205 Jackson Avenue, Syosset, New York 11791

Growing in Faith, Love, and Christ





**THE PASTORAL TEAM** 

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

Administration Deacon Thomas Wm. Connolly, Director

**Pastoral Center Offices** Mr. Miguel DeLeon, Finance Director **RCIA** (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Sister Sheila Browne, RSM, Director

**Parish Social Ministry** Mrs. Donna Zaino, Coordinator

**Office Staff** Mrs. Maryann Waite Mrs. Luisa Ondocin

**Music Ministry** 

**St. Edward the Confessor School** 

Mr. Vincent Albrecht, Principal

Ms. Taylor Moran

Mr. Jeffrey Fox Mrs. Marilyn Fox Mrs. Cecilia Hayden

**Youth Ministry** Ms. Michelle Sena - Vision

**Religious Education** Mrs. Rosemary Pettei, Director Ms. Mary Calabrese, Director of Confirmation Mrs. Ann Braun, Secretary



# 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	
Religious Education Office	921-8543
RCIA	921-8030 ext. 135
Administration	921-8030 ext. 136
Bulletin Editor	921-8030 ext. 137
Facilities Scheduler	921-8030 ext. 137
St. Vincent De Paul Society	516-218-7837
PSM/Pantry	921-8030 ext. 140
Music Ministry	921-8030 ext. 150
Youth Ministry	921-8030 ext. 127
Pastoral Center Offices	921-8030 ext. 132

## Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday - Friday: Saturday:	9:00 AM 5:00 PM	In the Church In the Church
Sunday:	7:30 AM 9:30 AM	In the Church In the Church
	11:30 AM	In the Church

## Next Week's Presider Schedule

Saturday, Jan. 2	5:00 PM	Fr. Mike*
Sunday, Jan. 3		Fr. Mike*
*Deacons to Preach	11:30 AM	Msgr. Beckmann

## **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 for 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

## **When Attending Mass**

While attending Mass during the coming weeks please remember to wear your face mask at all times and to maintain social distancing. After Mass has ended you are requested to depart from church immediately afterwards, and not congregate in the gathering area. Thank You.

## **Our Weekly Offering**

December 20, 2020 Envelopes: \$ 13,970.00 192

We thank all who contributed to the support of our Parish!

Fr. Mike

## Websites / Social Media

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

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

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

YouTube - St. Edward the Confessor Church - Syosset Facebook Page - St. Edward the Confessor Church

# "Lord God, be my refuge and my strength."

## **Mass Intentions**

Mon. - 12/28 - Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs 9.00 am Erich A. Pieper Tues. - 12/29 - The Fifth Day of the Octave of Christmas 9:00 am Estela de la Rosa de Florimon Wed. - 12/30 - The Sixth Day of the Octave of Christmas 9:00 am Matthew J. MacKenzie Thurs. 12/31 - The Seventh Day of the Octave of Christmas 9:00 am For Our Parishioners 5:00 pm Sarah T. Roche Fri. - 1/1 – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God 9:00 Carmela Colucci 12:10 pm Wayne Watanabe Sat. - 1/2 – Mem. of Sts. Basil the Great, Gregory Nazianzen 9:00 am Robert, Ann and Edward Geber 5:00 pm Liam Francis McAvoy Sun - 1/3 - The Eninhany of the Lord

Sun. 1/0	The Epiphany of the Lord
7:30 am	August Munst and Franz Fischer
9:30 am	Alan (Bud) MacKenzie
11:30 am	Allen and Patricia Murray
7:00 pm	No Mass

Please remember that the church will be open daily for your own private devotions, which may include: An Act of Spiritual Communion, Praying the Divine Office, Praying the Rosary, or writing down your own intentions in the book found at the rear of the church.

## The Altar Bread & Wine

For the week of December 27—January 2, 2021

Is Given in Thanksgiving for 60 years of Marriage

**By: Mary Ann Marriott** 

## The Sanctuary Candle

For the week of December 27– January 2, 2021 Is Lit in Thanks

To All Our Parishioners

By: Fr. Mike and Staff

## **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 SEAL Cpl. Matthew V. Balestrieri, U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Joel Bernazzani, U.S. Air Force Pvt. John J. D'Amico, U.S. Army Airborne Ens. Ryan Dunleavy, U.S. Navy Sgt. Noah C. Estey, U.S. Marine Corps Pvt. Joseph Evola, Jr., U.S. Army SSgt. Michael Gregory, U.S. Army Special Forces Petty Officer 3rd Class David Griffin, U.S. Navy Lt. John Hagerman, U.S. Navy Pvt. Gary Harris, 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 Cpl. Erik Liebergall, U.S. Marine Corps Pvt. Jonathan Maldonado, U.S. Army Seaman Liam Pieper, U.S. Navy 2nd Lt. Richard Martin Prestegaard, 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 2nd Lt. John P. Trainor, U.S. Marine Corps Ist Lt. Michelle Turcios, U.S. Army Lt. Cmdr. Andrew Vann, U.S. Navy

## **Pray For The Sick**

Joseph Kempton Kathy Rooney Michele Wesch Katy Monte John Lamb, Sr. Robert Philipps Renata Sorace

John Hynson

Christiana Cheng Julianna Key Susan Giambalvo Alexandra Reuter

Frances Genovese Wangberg

## **Death to New Life**

Anthony N. Lembo



## The Readings for The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

#### Reading 1 - Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

God sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority he confirms over her sons. Whoever honors his father atones for sins, and preserves himself from them. When he prays, he is heard; he stores up riches who reveres his mother. Whoever honors his father is gladdened by children, and, when he prays, is heard. Whoever reveres his father will live a long life; he who obeys his father brings comfort to his mother.

My son, take care of your father when he is old; grieve him not as long as he lives. Even if his mind fail, be considerate of him; revile him not all the days of his life; kindness to a father will not be forgotten, firmly planted against the debt of your sins - a house raised in justice to you.

#### Responsorial Psalm – Psalms 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD, who walks in his ways! For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork; blessed shall you be, and favored. **R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.** 

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the recesses of your home; your children like olive plants around your table.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Behold, thus is the man blessedwho fears the LORD.The LORD bless you from Zion:may you see the prosperity of Jerusalemall the days of your life.**R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.** 

#### Reading 2 – Colossians 3:12-21

Brothers and sisters: Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Wives, be subordinate to your husbands, as is proper in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and avoid any bitterness toward them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, so they may not become discouraged.

#### Gospel – Luke 2:22-40

When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, They took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, just as it is written in the law of the Lord, Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord, and to offer the sacrifice of a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons, in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, awaiting the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord. He came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform the custom of the law in regard to him, He took him into his arms and blessed God, saying: "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel." The child's father and mother were amazed at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted - and you yourself a sword will pierce - so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived seven years with her husband after her marriage, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple, but worshiped night and day with fasting and prayer. And coming forward at that very time, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

## **Prayer to St. Michael**

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

## From Fr. Mike's Desk

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. This Feast is a devotional feast (as is mentioned in the Liturgical Sourcebook and Workbook for Lectors and Gospel *Readers*), meaning that this feast does not mark a particular event like the Nativity or the Resurrection. However, it is designed to promote a devotion to The Holy Family so it can serve as a model for modern family life. This feast was added to the Church's Calendar by Pope Leo XIII in 1893, and it was first celebrated on the Sunday after the Feast of the Epiphany. The Second Vatican Council moved this feast to be remembered on the Sunday that falls between Christmas and the Epiphany, thus linking the feast closer to Christmas. This also reminds us that God's presence is not only seen in Jesus the Babe of Bethlehem, but also as a part and member of a human family.

Many times when we contemplate the Holy Family we interpret this to mean that they were always a happy family. While I am sure that at many times they were happy, there were also many times they were unhappy or had to face their shares of trouble, just like your family and mine. After all a family that is always happy can only be found on TV Land or on the menu of some local restaurants and take outs. Yes, they had their troubles as we can see in the various Gospel accounts for this day (i.e. the Flight into Egypt, or how upset Joseph and Mary were when they could not find Jesus until they arrived at the Temple). Like all families they knew the loss of a loved one. especially as St. Joseph died before Jesus began the Public Ministry. So how did they get through all of these things and some of the things that even we go through? They relied on their strong faith in God, this very same faith that allowed the Blessed Mother to say yes, when the Archangel Gabriel appeared to her, just as Joseph had when he was told in a dream whose child it was that Mary was carrying. The same strong faith which brought the Holy Family to the Temple to fulfill the Law of Moses and likewise helped the Blessed Mother to hear and ponder the words uttered by Simeon and Anna as we see in today's Gospel.

This is the same faith which helped other Scriptural families accomplish so much. It helped Abraham leave his homeland and travel to the Holy Land as he believed God's promises to him would be fulfilled, and it allowed Moses' mother to put him in the small ark and send it down the Nile knowing that God would save her son. This is the same faith which can help us when we are faced with trouble or difficult situations. Bear in mind that this faith may not make the trouble go away, but it will give you strength to face trouble, endure it and hopefully gain insight and grow from the experience. No family is perfect, but each family should strive to do their best to love one another, to forgive one another and to support each other. This is what makes a family holy, and this what we found at Nazareth and what we can find right here in Syosset.

#### We close with the Blessing of Families from the Book of Blessings:

We bless your name, O Lord, for sending Your own incarnate Son to become part of a family, so that as He lived its life, He would experience its worries and joys. We ask You, Lord, to protect and watch over our families, so that in the strength of Your grace we may enjoy prosperity, and possess the priceless gift of Your peace. May the Lord Jesus, who lived with His Holy Family in Nazareth dwell also with our families, keep us from all evil and make us all one in heart and mind. Amen.

Merry Christmas! Fr. Mike

## **New Year's Masses**

Thursda	y, Dec. 31	5:00 PM	Fr. Hyacinth
Friday,	Jan. 1	9:00 AM	Fr. Donald/Fr. Mike
5,		12.10 AM	Fr Donald

There will be no evening Mass on New Year's Day. All Masses will be held in the church until the maximum allowable capacity is reached, and only then will there be an additional Mass in the Gym. Please arrive early, and following the Usher's directions on seating.

## **Next Week's Readings**

*The Epiphany of the Lord* January 3, 2021 First Reading - Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalms - 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 Second Reading - Ephesians3:2-3a, 5-6 Gospel - Matthew 2:1-12

# MEMORANDUM

To: All Clergy and Laity of the Diocese of Rockville Centre From: Lisa Honkanen, M.D., Director of the Office of Human Life, Family & Bioethics Re: Moral Questions Regarding the New COVID-19 Vaccines Date: December 15, 2020



As the first doses of the new COVID-19 vaccines, authorized by the FDA for emergency use, have begun to be administered to people in our country, a number of questions have arisen regarding the morality of accepting the new vaccines based on the link to abortion in their development and production.

The United Sates Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has released a memorandum, entitled Moral Considerations Regarding the New COVID-19 Vaccines. This document was authored by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, Chairman, Committee on Doctrine, and Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann, Chairman, Committee on Pro-Life Activities. A copy is attached to this memo, and the original may be found at <u>www.usccb.org/moral-</u> <u>considerations-covid-vaccines</u>.

In addition, the National Catholic Bioethics Center has released its own memorandum, entitled *Points to Consider on the Use of COVID-19 Vaccines*. A copy of this memo is also attached, and the original may be found at <u>www.ncbcenter.org</u>.

This memorandum is meant to give a very simple and general explanation of the morality of using the new COVID-19 vaccines regarding their remote connection to abortion. This memo does not address the personal decision of an individual as to whether to be vaccinated or not. For a more comprehensive Catholic moral analysis of the use of the new vaccines, we encourage you to read both memoranda from the USCCB and the NCBC, as well as going to the website of the Office of Human Life, Family and Bioethics of the Diocese of Rockville Centre for more information which will be updated periodically: <u>www.respectlife.drvc.org</u>.

Ideally, a vaccine will have no connection at any stage of development or production with the use of cell lines initially derived from an aborted fetus. Unfortunately, none of the three COVID-19 vaccines that will be ready for distribution to the public, either immediately or in the very near future, meets this criterion. The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, using mRNA technology, do NOT use morally compromised cell lines in the design, development, or production of the vaccine. A confirmatory test, however, employing a cell line connected to abortion was performed on both these vaccines. Thus, while neither vaccine is completely free from any connection to abortion, in this case the connection to the initial evil of abortion is very remote and finite. In contrast, the AstraZeneca vaccine, using viral vector technology, is more morally compromised because it relies on a cell line produced from a past abortion in the design, development and production stages of that vaccine as well as in a confirmatory test. Therefore, its connection to abortion, albeit remote, is both greater and on-going.

Consequently, on moral grounds related to their connection to the evil of abortion, it is recommended that, of the alternatives available in the very near future, the **Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are preferred to the AstraZeneca vaccine**.

Both the USCCB memo and the NCBC memo concur that, for grave reasons, it can be morally permissible for Catholics to receive a vaccine remotely connected to the evil of abortion if there are no reasonable alternatives available and they make known their objection to the use of morally compromised cell lines. Indeed, vaccination under these circumstances may be viewed as an act of self-love and charity towards one's neighbor in limiting a serious infectious disease. However, it should be noted that there is no moral obligation to vaccinate.

## Fr. Mike's Letter for Week 40 of the Corona Virus Crisis

The following letter was posted last week, prior to The 4th Sunday of Advent, on the St. Edward's website as well as on Flocknote.

#### **O HOLY NIGHT**

O holy night! The Stars are brightly shining. It is the night of our dear Savior's birth. Long lay the world in sin and error pining. 'Til He appeared and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices. For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.

Fall on your knees! O hear the angels' voices! O night divine. O night when Christ was born; O night divine, O night, O night Divine.

Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming. With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand. So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming. Here come the wise men from Orient land. The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger; in all our trials born to be our friend.

He knows our needs; to our weakness is no stranger. Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend! Behold your King, Before Him lowly bend!

This is one of my favorite Christmas Carols, and I like it so much because it serves as a reminder of what it is, we are celebrating this coming Friday December 25. God has become one of us in the person of Jesus and he has set us free from all sin, death, and darkness. He is the true light of the world, and He has come into the world to make all things new and bright.

This carol was composed by Adolphe Adam in 1847. Adam was a prolific composer of operas and ballets, and he got the idea from a French Poem Midnight Christmas written by Placide Cappeau. Cappeau had been asked by a parish priest to write such a poem. However, it was the Unitarian Minister John Sullivan Dwight, who was born in Boston, who gave us this Carol in English as we know it.

This year this hymn and Christmas is so badly needed because we as a world have lost sight of what is truly important and that is the love of God that is so perfectly made manifest in the birth of Jesus over 2000 years ago. Yes, the virus has taken a toll on all of us, some worse than others and it has caused a great deal of pain and sorrow. But Jesus is the true remedy for all this pain and sorrow, Jesus is the total cure from all this world can throw at us, and He offers us great comfort if we open ourselves to it and Him.

Try to do your best to focus on the joy of Christmas given to us by God our Father through the birth of His Son. Let us help each other to share it. Please accept my wishes to you and yours for a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Blessed New Year.

Fr. Mike

## **Parish Social Ministry**



#### 516-921-8030 Pantry Hours: 9:30-12:00 noon Monday-Thursday

Food: Mayonnaise, Jelly, Pancake Mix & Syrup, Shelf Milk, Oil, Jar of Tomato Sauce, Egg Noodles, Chili, Salad dressing, Ketchup, Mustard

Personal Grooming: Diapers size 5& 6, Shampoo & Conditioner, Mouthwash, Deodorant, and Bar Soap

Cleaning Supplies: Laundry Detergent, Dish Soap, any Cleaning Supplies Paper Products: Paper Towel and Toilet Paper

Thank you for your continued support, we couldn't help others without your help. Please only put non-perishable food and toiletries/cleaning products in the collection box in the church vestibule. If you have any fresh or frozen products drop them off at the pantry.

Parish Purl Ministry: Prayer shawls are available by request at both the Rectory office and the Parish Social Ministry office. We also have lap blankets for anyone in a wheelchair.

#### Be a Giving Angel this Christmas!

We have the gift cards ready for you to purchase. Let us make it easy for you to help others in need to have a little brighter Christmas this year. A volunteer from parish social ministry will be happy to assist you with your purchase, before and after each of the Masses. We accept cash, check (made out to St. Edward Church) or credit card. Each gift card is \$25.00 however any and all donations are appreciated.

## **Ancient Order of Hibernians**



If you are Irish or of Irish descent and want to share more about your heritage and current Catholic issues the Ancient Order of Hibernians is looking for you! The AOH is the oldest and largest fraternal further in the America. For organization information. please call. email text or Warren Scullin - Cell: 917-751-1661 Email: arthurscullin@gmail.com

## **The Sounds of Christmas**

A recording of the 2005 Advent Lessons and Carols is now available on YouTube and Facebook. Sr. Jackie is always in our hearts as are so many other lectors and choir members who have gone home to the Lord.

A recording of this year's Christmas Midnight Mass will also be posted on YouTube and Facebook.

See the front of the bulletin on how to find our YouTube and Facebook pages.

## We Need Your Help

We have **good news** and **bab news**... The **good news** is that we are starting to see a slow but steady increase in the number of people who are coming back to Mass on Sundays. We are so happy to see you again and we look forward to having everyone back together as a faith community. Now the **bab news**... the Federal Communication Commission is phasing out the 600 MHz frequencies currently in use by many Church congregations including St. Edward's. What this means is that our current sound system will not be able to comply or function with the new required frequency. Our sound system, which has served us well until recently, is the same system originally installed when our church was built, and includes the Holy Family Room and Auditorium. It has become antiquated and has failed several times. Replacement parts are virtually nonexistent. As a result of this and the FCC regulation, we must replace our sound system for the church, Holy Family room and Auditorium. Unfortunately, this does not come without a considerable cost. The best estimate we have received is approximately \$40,000. This could not have come at a worse time. Although we are blessed by your kind generosity, our weekly collections are lower than anticipated and as you know our fundraisers have been cancelled because of the pandemic.

So, we need your help! I am asking you to consider being a donor to help defray the cost of this system. I know times are tough for many and we are experiencing the need to tighten our belts as well, but the sound system is imperative for our liturgical services and school functions.

Please consider helping the parish out. Thanks and God bless!

## Baby Bottle Campaign to Benefit the Life Center of Long Island

The Life Center would like to thank the Parishioners of St. Edward the Confessor Parish for participating in our Baby Bottle Campaign. In your Last campaign in 2019, St. Edward the Confessor Parishioners donated \$4,773.50!!





We are still collecting baby bottles for our parish's recent baby bottle drive for the Life Center of Long Island.

## **DO YOU STILL HAVE A BABY BOTTLE?**

It's not too late to return your bottle. We will take them back full or empty. Please bring it to the church or rectory so that we may return it to the Life Center.

Thank you!



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