

## Church of St. Boniface Martyr

Serving the People of God

in Sea Cliff, Glen Cove, Glen Head, Glenwood Landing and surrounding communities

The Very Reverend Dom Josef Norys, Can. Reg., Pastor Reverend Stanislaw Choragwicki, C.M, Parochial Vicar We are a pilgrim people on a journey toward the Kingdom of God

### The Epiphany of the Lord: Sunday, January 5, 2025

**Mass Schedule** Saturday: 9am, 4pm; Sunday: 8am, 10:30am Mondays - Fridays: 8am

Holy Day Masses 8am, 7pm

**Confession** Saturdays 3pm - 3:45pm

**Church Hours** 6am - 6pm

Miraculous Medal Novena after 9am Saturday Mass

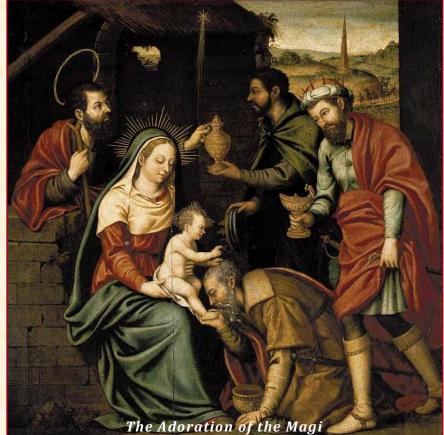
**Rosary** Mondays-Fridays after 8am Mass; 8:30am Saturdays

Holy Hours 3pm Saturdays (Church); 2pm Wednesdays (Chapel)

Parish Information 145 Glen Avenue Sea Cliff, NY 11579 516-676-0676 www.saintboniface.org; stbonchurch@gmail.com www.facebook.com/StBonifaceMartyr/

#### **Parish Office Hours**

Tuesdays through Thursdays: 9am-12pm; 12:30-3pm. *The office will be closed December 23 through January 6.* 



Nicolás Borrás, 1570s. Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

**Outreach Pantry & Thrift Shop** Saturdays 10am-1pm. Call: 516-676-0676 x125 Jody Fleischmann and David Meagher

**St. Vincent de Paul Society** If you know neighbors in need, please call Jovanna Lemonda at 516-676-0676 x124

# Liturgy Schedule

### First Saturday, January 4

3pm Confession 3pm Holy Hour 4pm Mass

The Epiphany of the Lord, Sunday, January 5 8am Mass 10:30am Mass: Liboria Natoli

Monday, January 6 8am Mass: Eva Greenberg

Tuesday, January 7 8am Mass

Wednesday, January 8 8am Mass

Thursday, January 9 8am Mass

Friday, January 10 8am Mass: Nanette Calderon

Saturday, January 11 9am Mass



As the Universal Church looks toward the Jubilee Year 2025 (the 2,025th anniversary of the Incarnation of our Lord), the USCCB is thrilled to support the Holy Father in this *"event of great spiritual, ecclesial, and social significance in the life of the Church."* 

Pope Francis stated in his February 2022 letter announcing the Jubilee:

"We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire..."

# Let Us Pray

### For Our Deceased

Kathleen McCormack, Patricia Merrick

#### For Our Sick

Bea Bohm, Josephine Marra, Lorraine Petschauer, Annette Ragusa.

Names will remain on the sick list for six weeks. Please email stbonbulletin@gmail.com to renew your loved one. Requests must be made by a family member.

#### **Eucharistic Ministry to the Homebound**

If you know someone who is homebound and would like to have someone bring them Holy Communion, please call Jovanna Lemonda at 516-676-0676 x124.

#### **For Our Military**

Lieutenant Commander Melissa Buffa, US Navy Captain Nicholas Cavallone USAF Fr. Azubuike Igwegbe, Chaplain, US Army Jake A. Hojnowski, Sailor E-3, US Navy Christian Pace Laderer, MMN3, US Navy First Lieutenant Conor Lynch, US Army Lieutenant Commander Michael R. Ragusa, US Navy Colonel Bryan Schiller, Army Reserve Lieutenant Commander Drew Whitting, US Navy Lieutenant Colonel Christina Merrick-Wright Lieutenant Colonel Bradley Wright, US Army.

### A Prayer for Our Country

O Most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Mercy, at this most critical time, we entrust the United States of America to your loving care.

Most Holy Mother, we beg you to reclaim this land for the glory of your Son. Overwhelmed with the burden of the sins of our nation, we cry to you from the depths of our hearts and seek refuge in your motherly protection.

Look down with mercy upon us and touch the hearts of our people. Open our minds to the great worth of human life and to the responsibilities that accompany human freedom.

Free us from the falsehoods that lead to the evil of abortion and threaten the sanctity of family life. Grant our country the wisdom to proclaim that God's law is the foundation on which this nation was founded, and that He alone is the True Source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and pursuit of happiness.

O Merciful Mother, give us the courage to reject the culture of death and the strength to build a new Culture of Life. Amen.

-https://www.menofthesacredhearts.org/

# **Events This Week**

Sunday, January 5 9:15am Faith Formation Families

Monday, January 6 6:30pm Youth Group 7:30pm Charismatic Prayer Group Zoom

**Tuesday, January 7** 4pm Grades 4 & 5 Faith Formation Classes 5:30pm Grades 6-8 Faith Formation Classes

**Thursday, January 9** 7pm Knitting Circle 7:30pm Scripture Study Zoom

Saturday, January 11 7:30am Men's Ministry

### St. Vincent de Paul

Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, where the Magi find the newborn king and offer him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

In the spirit of the Magi, please put your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul donation box so that comfort and peace can once again be given to a newborn child.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society meets at 7pm the third Wednesdays of the month in the school building. Please call Jovanna Lemonda for more information at 516-676-0676 x124.

# St. Boniface Outreach

Jody Fleischmann & David Meagher: 676-0676 x125

**Food Pantry:** Due to the growing need for more food, we rely on your generosity. Giving food is not charity; it is an expression of humanity and compassion.

We are currently in need of:

jelly, cereal, mac & cheese, spaghetti sauce, canned corn, canned beets, solid white tuna, canned peas & carrots, soap, dish detergent, toilet paper, toothbrushes, toothpaste.

Thrift Shop: Open Saturdays 10am-1pm.

# **Ministry Meetings**

#### **Third Sundays: Bereavement Support Group**

We meet in St. Boniface School, 145 Glen Avenue, Sea Cliff. The group meets monthly and is facilitated by two experienced grief counselors, Dr. David Meagher and Linda Rose. No fee, but PRE-registration required. For details and registration, contact David Meagher at davidkmeagher@gmail.com, 516-676-0676 x131; or lrosecsw@hotmail.com.

#### **Mondays: Youth Group**

8th-12th graders are invited to the Youth Center, Room 10 in St. Boniface School, on Mondays from 6:30pm-8pm. Follow us on instagram username: stbonyg. Join our facebook page 'St. Boniface Martyr Youth Group'. Contact Youth Ministers, April and Leo at 516-297-9886 or stbonym@gmail.com.

#### **Mondays: Prayer Group**

Zooms Mondays 7:30-8:30pm. Praise with us! Call John and Rosemary Murello for details at 516-676-2767.

### **Tuesdays & Fridays: Women of Faith Book Group**

Meets monthly in the Parish Center at 10:30am Fridays, 7pm Tuesdays and 7:30pm zoom the following Tuesday. New members welcome! Contact Pat at pattomfox@gmail.com for more details.

#### **Thursdays: Knitting Circle**

Meets weekly at 7pm in the parish center. Beginners welcome. For details, please call Nancy Furlong at 516-759-5869 or brknit@optonline.net.

#### **Thursdays: Scripture Study**

Zooms Thursdays from 7:30pm–8:30pm to deepen and share our appreciation of the Word of God. Call John and Rosemary Murello at 516-676-2767 for details.

#### Second Saturdays: Men's Ministry

Meets monthly on the second Saturday of the month from 7:30am to 8:45am. Join us in Room 11 in St. Boniface School for a bit of breakfast, prayer, videos and discussion. Next meeting **January 11**. Email richlucidi40@gmail.com for more info.

#### **Third Saturdays: Third Order Lay Carmelites**

Meets monthly 10am-12pm in the parish center. Lay Carmelites of St. Titus Brandsma seek God's will and presence in the ordinary circumstances of life in solidarity with others. Please call Flora at 516-656-9375 or Ann Hunt at 516-676-0330. for more information.

# From the Bishop

### **DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE**

Office of the Bishop

To the People of God of the Diocese of Rockville Centre: Merry Christmas to you and your families!

Last Christmas, we celebrated the 800 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of that glorious and historic night when St. Francis of Assisi arranged the first Nativity creche scene in a small cave outside the Italian village of Greccio in Italy. St. Francis was inspired to do this after visiting the historical place of Christ's birth on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land — the humble stable in a Bethlehem cave.

The large creche set in St. Peter's Square last year commemorated this 800th anniversary by having the figure of St. Francis of Assisi expressing adoration, awe and wonder across the Crib from Mary and Joseph. Last September, we celebrated the 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Francis receiving the gift of the "stigmata" — the mystical wounds of Christ in his hands, feet and side. In 2026, we will celebrate the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Francis' death.

There is always a powerful connection between the Manger Crib and the Golgotha Cross of our Savior. St. Francis of Assisi lived this connection so powerfully. In *Admirabile Signum*, Pope Francis writes: "Indeed, the place where this first nativity scene was enacted expresses and evokes these sentiments...from the time of its Franciscan origins, the nativity scene has invited us to 'feel' and 'touch' the poverty that God's Son took upon himself in the Incarnation. Implicitly, it summons us to follow him along the path of humility, poverty and self-denial that leads from the manger of Bethlehem to the Cross. It asks us to meet him and serve him by showing mercy to those of our brothers and sisters in great need (cf. Matthew 25:31-46)."

As we spiritually draw near to Bethlehem at the end of this year, we pray for those who suffer in the Holy Land and the Middle East, in Ukraine and all war-torn areas of the world. We pray too for the persecuted Church around the world and we pray for religious liberty in our country and in all countries. St. Francis of Assisi understood the problems of the world and more than 800 years later, after he created the first creche, he is still close to the Church and to the world.

Many of you have seen the bronze statue of Atlas directly across from St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. It was created by the sculptor Lee Lawrie and installed in 1937. The sculpture portrays the mythical ancient Greek Titan Atlas holding the burden of the heavens on his shoulder. St. Francis of Assisi is no myth, but at times he has been compared with Atlas in how, through the centuries, he carried the burdens of the Church on his shoulders with his radical and pure Gospel witness. In fact, Pope Innocent III, after meeting St. Francis, had a dream that St. Francis was holding up St. John Lateran Basilica, the visible sign and symbol of the universal Church, amidst the storms and earthquakes of history and crisis.

Configured to Christ crucified and having lived daily with the stigmatic wounds of Christ, St. Francis helps to animate and inspire the mission of mercy of the Catholic Church through the centuries. St. Francis of Assisi intercedes for each of us at every moment to help rebuild the Biblical and Eucharistic evangelizing mission of the Church that Jesus Himself founded on Long Island and beyond.

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,

+ Joh O. Barres

Most Reverend John O. Barres Bishop of Rockville Centre

PO Box 9023, Rockville Centre, NY 11571 ~ phone: 516.678.5800 ~ fax: 516.678.3138 ~ bishopsoffice@drvc.org

# Youth Group Wrapping Giving Tree Gifts



## This Week at Home

#### Monday, January 6

#### Consolation and Desolation

"Do not trust every spirit but test the spirits to see whether they belong to God," warns John the apostle. Indeed, it is critical to discern God's will. St. Ignatius of Loyola writes about the states of consolation (joy, peace, being settled) and desolation (fear, anxiety, being unsettled) in prayerful decision-making. Per St. John's encouragement to deepen our spiritual awareness, take time today to learn about Ignatian discernment. Consider how you can practice prayerful discernment.

#### **Tuesday, January 7** *Abundance*

Jesus takes five loaves and two fish to feed the vast crowd gathered to hear him preach. The disciples are skeptical as Jesus turns a small amount of food into an abundance that feeds five thousand people. Invite your family to reflect on the abundance with which God has blessed you. Gather at the end of the day and say a prayer of gratitude, naming some of those blessings.

#### Wednesday, January 8

#### Take Courage

In today's Gospel, Jesus walks on water during a storm to reach the disciples. They are terrified, but Jesus says to them: "Take courage, it is I, do not be afraid!" The wind dies down and the disciples are astounded. Their hearts are hardened, as they cannot comprehend Jesus' self-revelation as the Son of God. Find a church in your area that offers Eucharistic adoration. When you go to pray, consider how you can keep your heart from hardening. How can you surrender your fears?

### Thursday, January 9

#### Liberty

Highlighting Jesus' mission of liberation, the Gospel proclaims that he will especially serve the marginalized and forgotten, bringing "glad tidings to the poor." From the first reading, we hear that "God is love." Further, "We love because he first loved us." Set time aside this week to serve someone who is afflicted or oppressed. While you serve, pray with John the apostle's words: whoever does not love another "whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen."

#### **Friday, January 10** *Withdraw to Pray*

Jesus cleanses a leper and, while word of his ministry spreads and crowds gather to listen to him, he withdraws "to deserted places to pray." Amid his healing and preaching, Jesus models the importance of cultivating a prayer life. Spend time creating a prayer space in your home. This should be a space to which you can withdraw, like Jesus. Set time aside to pray in this space at least once every week.

#### **Saturday, January 11** *Idols*

Take John the Baptist's words to heart: "He must increase; I must decrease." To do so, "be on your guard against idols," as the first reading states, and consider what takes you away from God. Before going to sleep tonight, prayerfully review your day. How did you give glory to God? What "idols" distracted you from doing so?

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*Il Gesù salva la Navicella di San Pietro* Adrien Manglard, 1730. CC BY-SA 4.0 <https://creativecommons.org/ licenses/by-sa/4.0>, via Wikimedia Commons

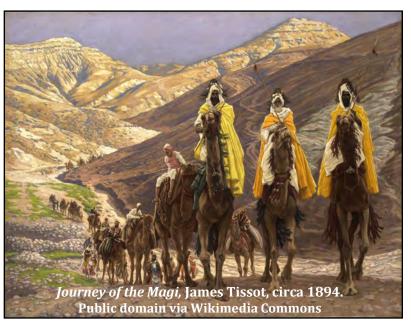
## Reflections on the Readings

#### **Caravans of Camels**

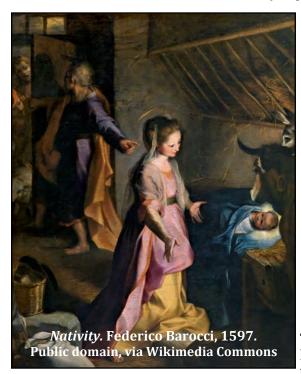
About those camels, we are not too sure about them. Yes, every nativity scene shows the Magi seated on stately dromedaries, or leading their beasts of burden by bit and rein. But, quite honestly, the story of the Magi never tells us how they got there. They could have traveled on foot, in chariot, on horseback, on elephants, or by camel—but we just do not know.

The reason we keep putting them on camels in our art is because of Isaiah's prophecy. He predicted that caravans of camels would fill Jerusalem and that people from the East would come bearing gold and frankincense. "Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem!" he proclaims. "Your light has come."

In Matthew's story, the Magi realize that Jerusalem's light has come. They follow the star and bring their gifts of gold and frankincense.



Myrrh, too. By telling about these gifts, Matthew turns our attention back to Isaiah. Reading that prophecy, we realize that the light Isaiah mentioned is the Light of the World, Jesus Christ. When we see the Magi seated on camels, we are remembering Isaiah. When we remember Isaiah, we remember the light that came to shatter the darkness of our world. Those camels carry hope



#### Secret Plan

The birth of Jesus became the worst-kept secret in the history of the world. All along, people knew God had a plan. God had told everyone from Adam and Eve, to Abraham and Sara, to Moses and Miriam, to David and Bathsheba, to Hosea and Gomer, to Mary and Joseph that there was a plan. Nobody fully understood it. Nobody knew how God would bring the plan to fulfillment. But they all believed. They had seen God work mighty deeds in their lives, and they believed that one day the promise of redemption would be fulfilled.

Jesus was God's secret. When Jesus was born in humble surroundings outside of royalty and pageantry, only a handful of people even began to realize what God had done.

But the secret got out. Angels appeared in the sky. Shepherds showed up. And Magi traveled from a faraway land. Everyone was finding out God's two great surprises: Jesus was born as the promised Messiah, and he came not just for his own race but for all the people of the world.

The Letter to the Ephesians says, God's mystery "was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit." Jesus was born,

and he came to save each of us, no matter what family we come from, what we believe, or how we behave. The mystery of God's love is open now to the whole world. That is the epiphany, the revelation of God's secret.

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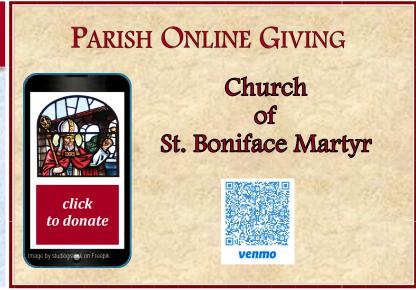
### Monthly Donations

### November

Stewardship: \$32,466 Maintenance & Repair: \$2,618 All Saints: \$1,312 Fuel: \$672 Human Development/Home Missions (DRVC): \$607

### **Faith Direct**

Signing up for e-giving is easy. You can set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift. Visit Faith.Direct/NY820



# **Parish Information**

### Our parish online calendar is available to the public! Go to our website: www.saintboniface.org and be sure to check the bulletin board in the vestibule for upcoming events.

**Pastor:** The Very Reverend Dom Josef Norys, Can. Reg.; domjosef@gmail.com

**Parochial Vicar:** Reverend Stanislaw Choragwicki, C.M, in residence; choragwicki@yahoo.com

**Deacon:** Tom Fox: 676-0676 x 126; stbondcntom@gmail.com

The Sisters of Jesus the Saviour: 676-0676 x101

**Business Manager:** Eileen Krieb; 676-0676 x 110; stbonfinance@gmail.com

**Director of Music & Liturgy:** Jeffrey Schneider; 676-0676 x105; stbonmusic@gmail.com

**Director of Religious Education:** Lorraine O'Sullivan, 671-0418; stbonreligioused@gmail.com

**Youth Ministry:** April Meier, Youth Minister; Leo Capobianco, Assistant Youth Minister; 516-297-9886; stbonym@gmail.com

**Office Administration:** Joan Schiller. 676-0676; stbonchurch@gmail.com

**Bulletin Editor:** Julie Byrne 676-0676 x128. **Deadline: Monday 10am** unless otherwise indicated. Intentions requested after deadline will not appear in the bulletin. After you receive approval from Fr. Josef, please email stbonbulletin@gmail.

**Webmaster:** Robert Lynch; stbonweb@gmail.com 516-782-7494

CYO: Call Kevin Kelly at 676-0676 x 122

Virtus Coordinator: Christine Whited stbonvirtus@gmail.com; 676-0676 x132

**Bereavement Support**: David Meagher 676-0676 x131. davidmeagher@gmail.com

**Registration:** We welcome new members to our parish family. Please contact the parish office.

Parish Trustees: Donna Calamis, Vincent Agosta

**Pastoral Council Members:** Vincent Agosta, Kevin Burke, Julie Byrne, Donna Calamis, John Canning, Karen Croce, Jody Fleischmann, Kevin Kelly, Maryellen Kerr, Eileen Krieb, Jovanna Lemonda, Rich Lucidi, Robert Lynch, Carolyn Rassiger, Bill Schiller, Jeff Schneider, Jane Serpico, Frank Sujecki, Christine Whited

**Baptism:** Fourth Sunday of the month at 10:30am Mass. Please contact the office to arrange an interview and class. Godparents must have received the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation) and live in harmony with the Catholic Church.

**Matrimony:** Engaged couples are to call the parish office before any other arrangements are made. A minimum of six months is needed.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):** Are you or someone you know curious about the Catholic faith? We welcome those not baptized, those baptized in another Christian tradition and those baptized Catholics who have not received First Communion Confirmation to join our inquiry class. Contact Jane Serpico at 676-0676 x130 or stbonRCIA@gmail.com for details.

#### **Diocese of Rockville Centre**

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PO Box 9023; Rockville Centre, NY 11571 516-678-5800; bishopsoffice@drvc.org; www.drvc.org



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