

The Correspondent

Monthly Newsletter of Saint Ann's Episcopal Church, Sayville, New York

January 2020

Volume XXVII Issue 1

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WEEKEND SERVICES

Saturday 5:00 PM - Holy Eucharist-Rite II Sunday 8:00 AM - Holy Eucharist-Rite II Sunday 10:00 AM - Holy Eucharist-Rite II

WEEKDAY SERVICES IN THE CHAPEL

Tuesday 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist

SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 1 - New Year's Day

Jan. 6 - Feast of the Epiphany

Jan. 19 - Annual Meeting

Jan. 20 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day



MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to spread the gospel of Christ in thought, word, and deed to our community and the world.



Happy New Year! And a blessed Epiphany season! We come to worship the King, just as the wise men did so long ago.

May you always feel welcome at St. Ann's!

Saint Ann's Episcopal Church January 19, 2020



Pursuant to the Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island and the Religious Corporation Laws of the State of New York, notice is hereby given of the Annual Meeting of Saint Ann's Episcopal Church, Sayville, New York, at 11:30 AM on Sunday, January 19, 2020.



BRUNCH WILL BE SERVED!



FROM THE EDITOR

Listening—it's one of the most important parts of communication! There is no communication if the words rise in the air from one person and fall on the floor when the other person isn't listening. There are probably a lot of conversations where folks are talking "at" each other instead of "with" each other, with unheard words lying in a pile on the floor! Bryant H. McGill says, "One of the sincerest forms of respect is actually listening to what another has to say."

Listening is a very powerful tool. You may feel as though you're doing nothing—just sitting there nodding and saying "mmm hmm," but make no mistake. You ARE doing something. You may be lightening another person's burden (a burden shared is half the weight). You may be showing them respect (as in listening to the homeless) when no one else does. You can make a person feel less alone when you listen and say, "I've felt that way too!" We can become closer and have a better understanding of each other when we listen—even if some of our ideas are in opposition to each other. We can still find SOMETHING we have in common, something we agree on.

On the other hand, what we think is a casual conversation may mean something much bigger to someone else. Think of how often our children pull something from out of the past and say something like, "but, Mom! You said I could have a pony when I was 12." That may have been 7 or 8 years ago, but that child was listening! Last year my lovely daughter-in-law made salmon for our Christmas dinner. I, who grew up having roast turkey unfailingly every Christmas, commented something like, "Oh, that's an unusual dinner for Christmas! But I like salmon." Well, she was listening, and this year my son proclaimed that they were having a roast for Christmas dinner since they thought I would like that better! Not only a roast—but a beautiful artistically created Beef Wellington! It was very tasty, and I don't think I made any careless comments this time!

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2019 Saint Ann's Episcopal Church

February Deadline Thursday, January 23

Saint Ann's Staff

| O O (111 | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Minister of Music | Kathy Senese | 589-6522 (Ext. 11) |
| Parish Administrator | Terry Freas | 589-6522 (Ext. 10) |
| Finance Manager | Gayle Brady | 589-6522 |
| Sexton | Lou Linbrunner | 589-6522 |
| Cemetery Manager | Janet Croce | 563-8203 |
| Treasurer | Tom Munkelwitz | 589-6522 |
| Web Master | Shin Chung | 650-7079 |
| Christian Ed Coordinator | Wendy Schmittzeh | 589-6522 |
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A Word from the Interim Rector **Father Hugh James**



Thoughts About Our Earth in 2020

Dear Friends,

Over the course of 2019, I became more aware of the impact that climate change is having on our world. The main reason for that is the activity of Greta Thunberg, and I consider myself privileged to have heard her speak in person at Battery Park in New York last September.

Other influences have included a documentary on the subject made by David Attenborough, and looking at websites such as https://sealevel.climatecentral.org/ which show the potential impact of climate change. One impact will be rising sea levels, and looking at some predictions for this you can see an enormous impact forecast for many areas of Long Island--including Sayville. I had never realized how many of the world's major cities are located at or near sea level, which means rising sea levels will have an impact on them. New York and London are two obvious examples.



The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world and all who live in it...

Psalm 24:1, NIV

So, as 2020 approaches, I've decided to make one of my New Year Resolutions a commitment to reduce my carbon footprint. By itself that will have little impact, but it is my small contribution to a much greater effort that is needed worldwide. So, I've decided to do three things. First, rather than turn up the heating in our home I will wear an extra layer. Second, rather than fly, I will travel by train or car when possible, and will fly less than I have in the past. In practice that means taking vacations within driving distance rather than flying, and visiting family in the UK less often than I might otherwise have done. Third, Susan and I will avoid buying items that are packaged in plastic, especially when that involves single-use plastics. That has already meant that we no longer purchase many food items from supermarkets that we often used. Instead we have chosen other brands, gone to a different store or made do without them. Why have I chosen to write about this in our church newsletter? It's because I see care for the environment as part of our Christian calling and duty. In the creation narratives in the early chapters of Genesis God gives mankind dominion over the earth, putting Adam (man) and Eve (woman) in the Garden of Eden, with the command to "till it and keep it". In other words, looking after and caring for our environment. In the catechism contained in our Book of Common

Prayer, one of the questions is "What does it mean to be created in the image of God?" The answer given is "It means that we are free to make choices: to love, to create, to reason, and to live in harmony with creation and with God." (1979BCP p.845) Elsewhere our Christian calling is described as follows, "All baptized people are called to make Christ known as Savior and Lord, and to share in the renewing of his world." (1979 BCP p531, from the Examination in the Ordination of Priests)

With all best wishes for 2020,

Hugh James+

Vestry Visions

The Vestry was very glad to see 2019 end with another great reduction of our deficit! If this trend continues, we may finally be able to operate the church without dipping into our savings account. Specifics of how we achieved this can be answered at our Annual Meeting. We really hope you can attend!

While we would always appreciate having a Wise Man arrive with a gift of gold, what actually is needed is for each of us to consider our individual pledging. This can be in one of several ways. Remember the old-time talent-and-treasure theme that we have had In prior years? In many cases, by using our God-given talents, we can do some of the things that otherwise must be paid for. That's the time and talent part. Have you considered a New Year's resolution to give some of your time to St Ann's? Consider the little things that can be done that enhance Saint Ann's and the services that it offers. This can be both physically and spiritually beneficial.

The Canons of the Episcopal Church make the Vestry responsible for finances and property. We can't do this alone. There are numerous projects / activities that can be done around the church properties that can be shared by parishioners so that we don't need to hire outside help. While not wanting to discourage any possible wise men arriving from afar with gifts, remember that you too can be a wise man and bring a gift to St. Ann's! Are we mentioned in your will? Several former members who have passed on did just that. Their contributions were a significant factor in our goal of eliminating our deficit spending.

Respectfully submitted.

Don Hester for the Vestry

VESTRY ELECTION

Warden

From the Class of 2020, there are four vacancies for 3-year terms. From the Class of 2021, there is one vacancy for a 1-year term. From the Class of 2022, there are two vacancies for 2-year terms

Nancy Koinoglou is the current Warden and is running again for Warden with no opposition. Don Hester, Diane Miller-Magnani, and Pat Osarchuk are at the end of their term but are willing to run again.

In addition, there are seven new candidates whom you will be asked to vote for: Rich Acierno, Greg Domoff, Paddy Hennessey, Jeanne (LaNatra) Monasterolo, Carole Sheppard, and Mona Tobin.

The voting results will be announced at the close of the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 19th.





UPDATE AND TENTATIVE TIMELINE

The Search committee has been meeting regularly to review the Parish Profile, the Office of Transition Ministry (OTM) Portfolio and to prepare for interviewing prospective candidates. As a reminder the Parish Profile is a detailed summary of who we are as a parish, and who we hope to become, and will be important reading for candidates for the rector position. The OTM Portfolio includes demographic information as well as narrative answers to several

questions regarding our worship community. Final revisions to both are near completion. The final draft of the Profile and the OTM Portfolio have been shared with our Diocesan Transition Minister, Canon Woodley. After receiving her feedback, we will make the necessary changes and then submit the Portfolio. It will be posted on the national Episcopal Church's database so that clergy can access it and apply for the open rector's position.

The Parish survey results are now available on the St. Ann's website.

Below is a projected timeline of events surrounding the Calling for our new Rector.

| ACTIVITY | DATE | STATUS |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Parish Summit | April 7, 2019 | Completed |
| Parish Survey | September 8, 2019 | Completed |
| Website updated | November | Completed |
| Parish Profile | January 15, 2020 | Completed/Approved |
| OTM Portfolio | January 15, 2020 | Completed/Approved |
| Post OTM and Profile | Late January for 4-6 weeks | Pending Pending |
| Receive Candidates | March 2020 | Pending Pending |
| Bishop approves list | TBD (To be determined) | Pending Pending |
| Interview process | Lasts approximately 4-6 | Pending Pending |
| | weeks | |
| Search committee | TBD | Pending Pending |
| recommends 2-3 names to | | |
| Vestry | | |
| Vestry interviews candidates | TBD | Pending Pending |
| Bishop interviews candidate | TBD | Pending Pending |

A special thank you to our writers, vestry and of course our committee members for their dedication and commitment to this journey.

Please continue to join the Search committee in prayer for the success of our search and do not hesitate to contact any of the Search committee members with any questions.

Happy New Year!

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Knoepffler, Chairperson











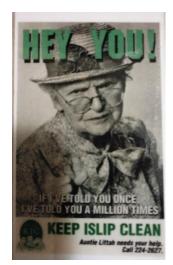
New Baby Congratulations!

Kaitlyn Margaret Barry Born Saturday, December 28 7lb 4oz

Bless baby Kaitlyn, Lord, and bless her parents, Holly and Brian. Help them adjust to their new normal as they welcome a whole new person into their lives, hearts and home. Give them even one whole night of sleep, and give them strength and energy when the nights are short. Blanket their home in peace, grace, and love. Thank you, Lord, for this new life.

THRIFT SHOP CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The Thrift Shop Christmas Luncheon was held on Monday, December 9, to celebrate all the volunteers who work so hard during the year. Special this year was a dedication to Jean Lap, long-time Sayville resident, St. Ann's parishioner, and Manager of the Thrift Shop for many years. Jean passed away this past year at the age of 98 and was much beloved by those in the church as well as in the Thrift Shop. Jean's daughter, Mary Jean Lap-Bohanick read this letter at the luncheon. It had been written by Jean about 25 years ago, early in her Thrift Shop Ministry. The photo at left, which is familiar to many, shows her as "Auntie Littah," part of a Keep Islip Clean program some years ago.



When I look back at my life, about 65 years of it were connected to St. Ann's. From the time my mother, recently widowed at that time, brought me to Sunday School. I was about 9 or 10. I became acquainted with the wonderful Bond family who had a strong influence on my early life. I remember the interesting Christmas pageants we used to give. I was an angel in one or two of them. I was confirmed here at age 12. My mother taught Sunday School and was Choir Mother of the boys' choir for a few years. But she became ill with cancer and died when I was 15. Mr. Bond was a great source of strength at this time. I moved into New York City to live with my aunt, where I finished high school and then went away to college in Virginia to study Speech Arts. Mr. Bond used to ask me to read stories to the children at Christmas and Easter. Later I joined the choir under Ruth Edwards. At the end of World War II, I married Theo here at St. Ann's. We had eight children who were baptized, went to Sunday School, and were confirmed here. Our youngest, Chris, became sick with brain cancer; he

survived for 11 years and died at age 20. Toward the end of his illness, Theo also became ill with a heart attack, Guillain-Barré syndrome, and had a gall bladder operation. Through all the ups and downs, my faith kept me in one piece. I learned patience and humility.

So, it wasn't one experience that turned me to Christ, but a lifelong series of experiences that strengthened my faith. As you get older, your faith changes. It takes on a new dimension with each experience. Going to Israel with Father Bob certainly opened a new phase for me in my faith. It made the Bible come alive as I picture in my mind the places we went to that Scripture speaks of and of the stories that are told.

Now, for two years, thanks to Father Bob, my life has taken a new turn and purpose with the Thrift Shop Ministry. It makes me feel useful in a different way by helping others people who need it. I've also grown to admire and enjoy the friendship of the volunteer workers there. I'm proud to be part of this growing vibrant family of St. Ann's and feel privileged to know so many of its wonderful people. -Jean Lap

Of course, the luncheon wouldn't be complete with the annual performance of "The Twelve Days of Christmas" starring Thrift Shop volunteers!





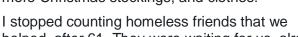
PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY MINISTRY

By Mary Mattarella (631-745-3745) stbarnabus@yahoo.com

Wow! What a beautiful, fun, and fruitful December mission!

I asked for help, and all of you came through! Rick, Rodney, and I were happy to be joined by Eileen, Margaret, Greg, Paddy and Trevor! At 6:40 AM, we boarded the train with five carts (one with a broken wheel), plus some extra bags and a couple of suitcases, filled to the brim with clothes, coats,

many socks, food, hygiene and a pile of festively filled Christmas stockings. The hilarity began as we scrambled to load the train--that train warning "watch the gap" actually came true. As Greg loaded the broken cart, one of its wheels fell into said gap, impossible to retrieve! We all laughed, and still managed to drag around the 3-legged cart the whole time! Of course, our friends from Zion Church met us, with a wonderful contingency of mission workers, complete with their load of beautiful food, more Christmas stockings, and clothes!



helped, after 61. They were waiting for us, already forming a line outside Penn station. Everyone was thrilled to receive all the Christmas goodies. Paddy waited on one lady, new to being homeless. This special soul burst into tears as Paddy handed her a filled Christmas stocking. It meant so much to her, as she hadn't received such a gift for a long time. My friend Paddy, always concerned for others, also had a tear in her eye. You see, my friends, these donations, gifts, AND REFERENCES FOR HELP that we give, have sometimes

meant hope, or the only meal someone would eat, or warmth-and truly sometimes the literal difference

between life and death. But ALWAYS it is directly meeting Jesus. As our government fails to truly help our mentally ill, our drug addicts, our homeless friends and those who have lost hope, it is now up to us. Let us rise up, and serve in the name of God.

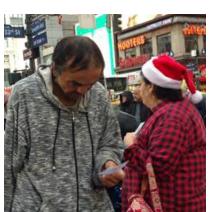


Thank you, and please consider coming with us to NYC on Saturday, February 1st.

Special thanks to Taylor Schmittzeh, for her collection of coats, and cashing in bottles for mission bucks, with Paddy Hennessey!

Love you all,

The Very Festive Mary







CHRISTMAS EVE AT ST. ANN'S

The choir was in fine form at both the 9:00 PM and 11:00 PM services on Christmas Eve, and two of the three Jones Brothers. who have been with us since they were in high school, made it more joyful as they accompanied the choir with their brass instruments. Doug Jones, who was recently married, spent Christmas with his new wife's family, but we had his brothers Conrad and Gary and an able replacement in Hayato Tanaka

who—although not a Jones-- is a wonderful musician! Our Christmas Eve was blessed by their presence.

Instruments of Praise

Some innovative musicians play instruments that actually melt at their fingertips. Their ice creations — everything from drums and a pipe organ to harps and didgeridoos — make awe-inspiring sounds (search online to hear for yourself).

> https://www.voutube.com/watch?v=YL-8zxvuuvE https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s_Glc4on24o



The unique challenges posed by dissolving instruments seem to increase their impact. "ICEstruments" sculptor Tim Linhart says concertgoers, whose bodies also are largely composed of water, often feel a "spiritual connection" to the music.

Although people don't melt, our physical bodies eventually return to ashes and dust. Despite that impermanence, God created us as wonderful instruments to make joyful noises for him: "Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!" (Psalm 150:6).

—adapted from The Wired Word

ST. ANN'S FOOD PANTRY

Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

We are grateful for another year of steadfast support from our parish family.

Your ongoing donations keep our doors open to those in need!

We would also like to thank the following contributors for their support in 2019, as well as our faithful volunteers!

ST. ANN'S SENIOR LUNCHEON





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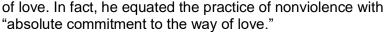


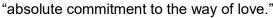


Many thanks to all who supported our request for gifts for the Adopt a Family appeal and toys for St John's children's Christmas party. You made a wonderful Christmas for many children!



Martin Luther King Jr., whose life and legacy we honor this month, spoke often about the power







Love, declared the minister and activist, "is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend." And, he said, anyone who's "devoid of the power to love" is "devoid of the power to forgive."

King distinguished between true love and "empty sentimentalism," however. He taught — and showed — that love is "the active outpouring of one's whole being into the being of another."

Jesus' sacrifice on the cross is the ultimate "active outpouring"

of love, and we can choose to follow his example daily.

"Because of Calvary I'm free to choose," writes Max Lucado in When God Whispers Your Name. "No occasion justifies hatred; no injustice warrants bitterness. I choose love. Today I will love God and what God loves."





Attention Cemetery Plot Owners:



Please be aware that when it snows only the Main Asphalt Road gets plowed. The other gravel / dirt roads will be plowed only if needed to conduct service for a new burial. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

-Janet Croce



OUR DAILY BREAD

Monday & Thursday, from 10:00 AM -12:00 Noon The food pantry is especially in need of these supplies.

> Soup * Chili * Eggs * Shelf Stable Milk **Canned meats * Frozen Vegetables**





The Food Pantry needs SOUP & CRACKERS for Souper Bowl Of course, cash donations allow us to shop for needed items.



Christian Yoga It's a New Year! Relax and Stretch with us... Thursdavs at 1:00 in the Parish Hall All welcome!



Fourth Wednesday Lunch & Meditation

Join us at Peg Costanzo's house every 4th Wednesday of the month at 12:30 PM for a meditation group, which meets at Peg's home in Patchogue. Bring your lunch and enjoy some conversation, scripture reading, prayer, and meditation. Great for relaxing and dealing with stress!

The next date is:



January 22nd

Make us your New Year's Resolution! Call Peg for questions or directions RSVP: 631-289-4689



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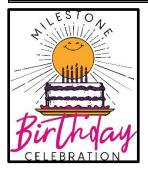


IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS REGARDING THE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES LIST, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 631-589-6522.

| Celebrating An Anniversary This Month | | | JANUARY Anniversaries | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|----|--------------------------|--|----|-------------------------------|
| 8 | Charles & Barbara King | 19 | Roland & Lynne Russell | | 21 | Anthony & Joan Palmieri |
| 15 | Kevin & Janet Adam | 20 | Donald & Stacy May | | 26 | John & Carol Ann St. Lawrence |
| | | 21 | Donald & Judy Hester | | | |



| 1 | Juancarlos Espinoza | 9 | Thelma Thuma | 14 | Robert Sheppard | 23 | Jenny O'Connell |
|---|----------------------|----|------------------------|----|-------------------|----|-------------------|
| | Michael Hynes | | Stephen VanderBorgh | | Daniel Limoli | 24 | Christie Clark |
| 2 | Charles King | 10 | Kyle Hughes | | Jeneane Patrovich | 25 | Sean Mattimore |
| 4 | Trudy Nasta | 12 | Dorothy Benedict | | Carrie Whitehouse | | David O'Donnell |
| | Oliver Rivas | | Donald MacKenzie | 17 | Kevin Adam | 26 | Ryan MacDonell |
| | Jennifer Rossi | | Theresa McGee | | Joseph Castelli | 28 | Mary Ann Davis |
| 5 | Aidan Donoghue | | Caitlyn Wolfe | | Alberta Sawyer | | Jennifer Lembeck |
| | Diane Miller-Magnani | 13 | Brian Chalmers | 18 | Eugene DeMott | | Caryn Wells |
| | Chris McNamee | | Ryan Lasko | 19 | Ryan Meinsen | 29 | William Kraft |
| 6 | Nancy Britts | | Zoe Lasko | | Evan May | | Courtney Weeks |
| | Stephanie Streek | | Carol Ann St. Lawrence | 20 | Geraldine Hoek | | Cassidy Weeks |
| 8 | John Cerillo | 14 | Evan Meinsen | | John St. Lawrence | 30 | Christie Strecker |
| | Richard Mugno | | Grant Richards | 21 | Andrea Sanseviro | | |
| | | | | | | | |



A special Happy Birthday to Alberta Sawyer who celebrates her 105th birthday on January 17th. She is currently living in Vermont and doing well! For those who are wondering, her address is:

The Gary House, 149 Main St., Montpelier, VT 05602

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Our Church History



By Connie Currie

❖ The Garden of the Unforgotten

MRS. JACOB (BERTHA) STRYKER Section 47- Lot 9 MRS. GEORGE (LOUISE) STRYKER Section 46 - LOT 9

Mrs. Jacob (Bertha) Stryker passed away on September 14, 1928, at the age of 51. She was born in Sayville and lived here all her life. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ohlsen, she married Jacob in St. Ann's Church with the Rev. Mr. Prescott officiating. She and her husband were lifelong members of the church. Bertha was a member of the Lady Foresters of America, as well as other local groups.

She was survived by her husband and one son, Harvey. An older son, Spencer, died two years before her death. She was also survived by three brothers, Henry Ohlsen of Washington, DC: Ira of Rockville Center; and Frank of Sayville. The Rev. Joseph H. Bond officiated at her funeral, and the burial was in the Garden of the Unforgotten at St. Ann's Church.

Mrs. George (Louise C. J.) Stryker, wife of George Stryker, died in her home on Montauk Highway, Bayport, after a long illness in early September of 1947. Mrs. Stryker had been born in Germany 78 years prior to her death, but she had lived in and around Sayville for 50 yearsin Bayport for 35 years. She was an active member of Metlakhatla Chapter O.E.S. and Star of Court, and Lady Foresters of America, both of Sayville. These organizations held servicers at Raynor's Chapel for her. The Rev. Lawrence Kelly officiated at her burial and interment in St. Ann's Cemetery.

She was survived by her husband George; one daughter, Mrs. Blanche Demarse; and two sons, Raymond and Curtis W. Stryker, both of Bayport.

Do not be dismayed by the brokenness of the world.

All things break. And all things can be mended.

Not with time, as they say, but with intention.

So go. Love intentionally, extravagantly, unconditionally.

The broken world waits in darkness for the light that is you.

--L. R. Knost



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+Christian Symbol+



Cross on the Rock

The rock is often used as a symbol of the Lord, our strength and firm foundation. A cross rising from the rock echoes many Bible verses that proclaim Christ as the rock of salvation; for example, "He alone is my rock and my salvation ..." (Psalm 62:2, ESV).

AROUND SAINT ANN'S Monthly Schedule

See Correspondent pages and Bulletin for changes/cancellations.
Check out the website at: www.saint-anns.org

Sundays

8:00 AM—Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM---Sunday School

10:00 AM—Holy Eucharist

7:30 PM—AA Meeting

Mondays

10:00AM—12:00 PM Food Pantry

6:00 PM—Vestry Meeting—Jan. 13

6:00 PM—Mission & Outreach—Jan. 20

8:00 PM—AA Meeting

Tuesdays

8:00 AM—Men's Group

9:00 AM—Holy Eucharist

6:00 PM—Children's Choir

7:00 PM—Adult Choir

Wednesdays

9:30 AM—12:00 PM Operation Hope 10:00 AM-3:00 PM—Thrift Shop Open

Thursdays

10:00 AM—AA Meeting

10:00 AM—12:00 PM Food Pantry

10:00 AM-3:00 PM—Thrift Shop Open

8:00 PM—AA Meeting

Fridays

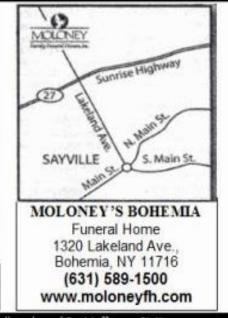
12:00-3:00 PM—Thrift Shop Open

Saturday

10:00 AM-3:00 PM—Thrift Shop Open 5:00 PM—Holy Eucharist



Conveniently located in your community, we are there when needed most. With a caring staff, comforting atmosphere, and only 3 miles from Sayville. We're close in all the ways you need.



Also serving families in: Lake Ronkonkoma, Central Islip, Hauppauge, Holbrook, and Port Jefferson Station

orrespondent

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