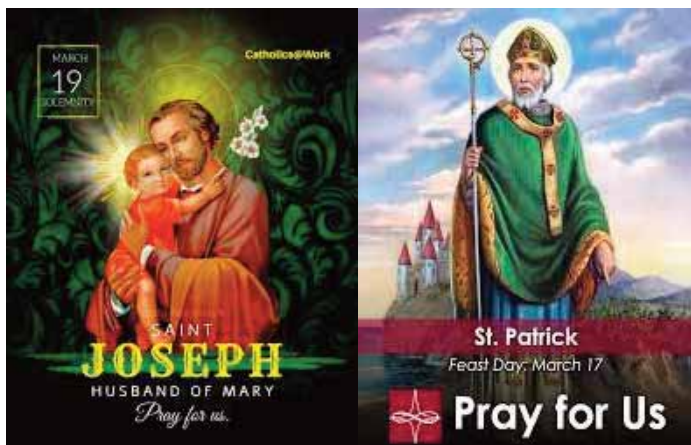


# 2024 Commemorative Journal *St. Joseph & St. Patrick's* *Annual Gala*

Sunday, March 17, 2024

Leonard's Palazzo

555 Northern Boulevard, Great Neck, New York



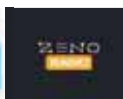
**St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church**

43-19 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Astoria, NY 11103

718 278-1611

[www.stjosephastoria.org](http://www.stjosephastoria.org)

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## 2024 St. Joseph Church Gala Program

**3:00 PM:** Auction of Sports and Entertainment Memorabilia Opens.  
Enter our 50/50 Raffle and be the lucky recipient of 50% of the pool.  
Thank you in advance for supporting our fundraisers for this Gala!



**3:05 PM:** Blessing by Father Tanisma  
Enjoy Cocktail Hour and Open Bar

**4:15 PM:** Welcome

**4:25 PM:** Award Ceremony – Celebrate our honorees & Scholarship Recipient

**5:00 PM:** Enjoy Dinner & Dance to the sounds of Pia Entertainment

**7:00 PM:** Auction of Sports & Entertainment Memorabilia Closes

**7:50 PM:** 50/50 Raffle Draw

**8:00 PM:** Gala concludes

**8:15 PM:** Bus for pre-registered guests leaves for St. Joseph Church



Did you know that everything offered by our Parish from Palms, Collection envelopes, Holy Water Bottles, Candles, etc. are paid by us? We depend on Fundraisers and generous donations to supplement Mass collections so we can preserve the church for generations to come. Your generosity at today's Gala is very much appreciated. If you would like to donate: Download QR Code. Select menu on your phone on the lower right-hand side of App/ Select Giving. Select Gala. THANK YOU!

**Wishing you safe travels back home! God bless You and Your Family.**



## **Message from the Pastor of St. Joseph RC Church**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ it is with great joy that I write to you on the occasion of our annual Saint Joseph, Saint Patrick Gala! As I write these words, I can't help to think of all of you, the good people of Saint Joseph's who make this wonderful parish a tapestry of faith, hope, and love. I have witnessed these tremendous Cardinal virtues in my encounters with so many of you. I have gotten to know your names, and some of you have shared some of your stories with me. Each of your stories are sacred, and each of you are very dear to our Lord Jesus. I am truly blessed to be your Pastor, and I humbled by your expressions of faith, hope and love. I think about our three honorees this year Marlene Kaselis, Lily Daleo, and Gregorio Avila. Each of them exemplifies these Cardinal virtues in the way they express their love for Jesus. I think of Gregorio's infectious smile, how he welcomes parishioners on Sunday, and he is always ready to help. I think of all the hard work he does in decorating the Church by designing our Altar cloths. When I think of Marlene, I think of all the people that she helps to feed each week in our food pantry. I also think of her



devotion to decorating the Church for Jesus, and yes, those baskets of gifts. She truly is a blessing. When I think of Lily, I think of her smile as an usher, her dedication as a money counter, how she helps with the school of religion, her gift for fundraising, and her love for coordinating and planning our wonderful trips.

I would especially like to express my thanks to the Gala Committee spear headed by Mayra Di Rico. Mayra and the committee have worked together to make this Gala a success. It is parishioners like them who make Saint Joseph's a beacon of light in Astoria. Our parish is moving in the right direction in my short time here we have accomplished so much, and as a team we can accomplish so much more. As I have told you in the past the parish must be centered on one thing and that one thing is the Holy Mass. At Mass Jesus enters into our joys, struggles, and victories. He accompanies us on our individual paths and gives us His peace. A parish that is centered around Christ can never fail. I am confident that our Lord will move our wonderful parish into its next phase. Great things are happening here at Saint Joseph's, and it is all because of all of you. I may be the captain of the ship, but our ship cannot move without all hands-on deck. May God bless the good people of Saint Joseph's this day and always.

In Christ,

Rev. Vincent Chirichella, MA, M.Div., M. Psych, BS, RT



**God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him. 1 John 4:16**





## Office of the Bishop

*Diocese of Brooklyn*

310 Prospect Park West  
Brooklyn, New York 11215

March 2024

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Congratulations and blessings!

On behalf of the Diocese of Brooklyn I write today to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the parish family of St. Joseph as you gather together in celebration of the 2024 St. Joseph and St. Patrick's Annual Gala!

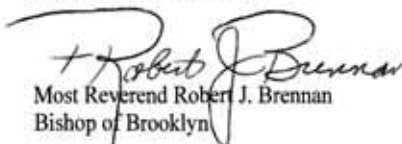
For decades, St. Joseph parish has been a cornerstone in the Astoria community, so many generations of families have been lucky to call St. Joseph's their home, as the parish has helped them to grow spiritually and continues to provide outstanding ministry to the community to this very day.

Congratulations to all of the 2024 St. Joseph and St. Patrick's Annual Gala Honorees! These dedicated men and women have shown great pride in their parish life and their everyday work. Thank you for all that you do!

Thank you for the opportunity to extend my congratulations and gratitude to all those who have dedicated themselves to the mission of St. Joseph's parish! It is my pleasure to acknowledge your pastor, Father Vincent Chirichella, and all the dedicated pastors who preceded him, along with all clergy and religious who have served the parish in so many capacities.

Be assured of my prayers especially during this joyous evening!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

  
Most Reverend Robert J. Brennan  
Bishop of Brooklyn



## Evangelization Award

### Marlene Kaselis

*The Evangelization Award is for those parishioners who exemplify excellence in bringing other parishioners closer to the faith.*

Marlene was born in Binghamton, NY. At the age of seven she moved with her parents to Sunnyside, NY, where they lived for about 18 years. After graduating from Holy Cross Academy for Young Ladies in Manhattan (has since been demolished), it was time to seek employment.

After various positions she ended up in the world of sports marketing. Her first job in this genre was with the National Hockey League Services, the marketing end of the National Hockey League. It was here she learned to appreciate the game of hockey, as one of the benefits of the job was tickets to the Ranger games. After about 5 years she decided to leave the League and took a job with Capital Sports, where she stayed for about 30 years. During her tenure there she worked on a Tennis Challenge, Ski Challenge, Fun Run, 1980 Winter Olympics, The Millrose Games at Madison Square Garden, Old Timers Baseball Game, US Tennis Open in Forest Hills and the US Tennis Open in Flushing, The Liberty Bowl in Nashville, Tennis Championship in Amelia Island, Fla., and the WTA Championships in California. The company had been sold to Octagon and she continued working for them for about 15 years. Although she worked on other events such as the Gravity Games, her focus was the tennis tournament in Florida. She spent two to three months a year in Florida, setting up the event.

She needed something to do in retirement, so she got permission from Fr. Harrington and proceeded to scrap and paint the fence at the church/rectory and school. After that she applied to Mount

Sinai Queens for a volunteer position. She was accepted and worked in the nursing department. On March 1, 2010, she received the Hospital Auxilian & Volunteer Achievement Award from the United Hospital Fund. In 2014 she received a Certificate of Appreciation for her work in the Nursing Department.

In 2009, she volunteered for Mike Bloomberg's Mayoral campaign. Every morning, she would go to the subway and give out flyers. She was given a Certification of Recognition for her efforts and an invitation to the inauguration.

At St. Joseph's, she has been a Lector, taught Religious Education for 6 years, makes the baskets for our raffles, oversees the decorating of our church for the various holidays and manages the food pantry. The food pantry has grown from about twenty-five families to currently seventy-five plus. We have moved from the basement of the rectory to a room in the convent. Fr. Vincent has provided us with ample storage space and has been supportive of our needs.

She is immensely proud of her son, Nick, has a wonderful dog in Dakini and two rescued cats.

Marlene was featured in Catholic News on 12/20/2023 in the Pulse of the Parish for all the work she does in decorating St. Joseph Church.





## Service Award

### Lily Daleo

*The Service Award is for those parishioners who exemplify excellence in volunteering, and spearheading programs and projects.*

Lily was born in the Bronx to Margaret & Paul Daleo. She grew up in Astoria and graduated from LIC High School. She is a true Astoria native living there her entire life.

Lily worked for Burberry for 30 years and she retired from there 9 years ago. Enjoying time at the Gian Piero Bakery after work, she became friends with Pat Freeman, Alice Freeman, and Pat Avitable. All three encouraged her to get more involved with St. Joseph Church. Lily started helping at the Rosary Meetings. Monsignor Ryan then asked her to become an Usher, which she still does 20 years later. Getting involved with the St. Joseph Academy, Lily volunteered to help with Religious Education by being a door monitor and has done this role as well for ten years. Father Miceli asked Lily to be a Financial Counter and again she accepted and continues to do this today.

In 2018, Lily started organizing trips for St. Joseph Church. This past year, Lily organized trips to Rhode Island, Canada, see Moses, and a Christmas Show. Currently she is working on a trip to Cape May & Martha's Vineyard and a one-day excursion to see Daniel. While Lily is technically retired her cell phone has not received that notification. It rings constantly with inquiries about trips and events.

Lily's service also extends to helping at the Golden Age Club weekly meetings, volunteering for the Padre Pio 4-day Festival, and Fundraising for the Annual Gala and the Festival, Lily raised over \$ 6,500. "I am proud to help St. Joseph Church. It is my second home and I want to see it preserved for many more generations to come. I have made dear friends and feel blessed that I am able to make a difference." When Lily is not volunteering for St. Joseph Church, she enjoys going to see the Mets and trying her luck at the Casinos.





## Leadership Award

### **Gregorio Avila**

*The Leadership Award is for those parishioners who proactively identify needs at the church and fulfill them. They lead by example to inspire others.*

Gregorio Antonio Avila was born on February 7, 1961, in Olancho, Honduras. Growing up he became an upholsterer and met his future wife Rosa in 1983. Two years later life smiled upon him with his first son, Alexander. In 1984 as they were ready to welcome his second born, Josue, Gregorio was faced with a tough decision. With tears in his heart, he migrated to the United States in 1989, as his beloved Rosa and his two sons stayed behind. Gregorio knew this sacrifice was the way to wonderful possibilities for him and his family.

He started his life in the United States living in Rockland, New York, where he worked as a restaurant dishwasher. In 1990 the journey led him to Astoria, New York. Here he would reunite with his beloved Rosa. Through perseverance he continued his career in upholstery.

In 1992, Gregorio and his family started coming to St. Joseph's parish. After many years of hard work and tests of faith for both, Gregorio became a resident of the US in 1997 and was able to bring his two sons from Honduras. In 2008, he decided to marry Rosa at St. Joseph's Church. Shortly after they were consecrated as members of the Guadalupana Association. Gregorio is active in organizing fundraisers and church events. He is the leader of "Los Ujieres." He also participates in the Nativity production that brings Christmas cheer to our parishioners; He most recently participated in the Passion of Christ Production. Gregorio's talents have made a difference at St Joseph Church. The altar linens used today, and the decorative flags were his design and donation.

Gregorio has worked hard through many life challenges always with a giving spirit. But no matter the difficulties, his drive and spirit help him do anything that may seem impossible. Gregorio's heart lights up whenever his wife, two sons and grandchild (Mason) are gathered to share some time together.



2024 Gala  
Scholarship  
Winner:

**Ethan Joseph**

Exemplifies the Academy Mission of an Exemplary St. Joseph Catholic Academy Student:

- ✓ Well-Rounded
- ✓ Well- Mannered
- ✓ Well- Educated
- ✓ Responsible
- ✓ Compassionate

**Member of the  
Class of 2024**

Accepted to the Highly Competitive – REGIS High School in NYC



## 2023 Honorees

### Evangelization Award:

Delia Lili Chirinos

### Service Award:

Joe DiPietro



## The Tablet: January 20, 2024 Article



ASTORIA — Parishioners of St. Joseph Church in Astoria like to joke that they can set their watches by Father Edward Cassar, a kindly retired priest in residence at their parish. He's that precise. Every morning at 8 a.m. sharp, Father Cassar opens the church's adoration chapel and exposes the Blessed Sacrament so that the faithful can have a closer, deeper connection to Jesus Christ. Twelve hours later, exactly at 8 p.m., he returns to the chapel to retrieve the Blessed Sacrament, offers Benediction, and closes the chapel for the night. "I have a routine," he said. And during those in-between hours, he often visits the chapel to pray and be there in case parishioners want to talk to him about their troubles. For Father Cassar, his daily devotion to the Blessed Sacrament is his way of trying to bring people closer to the Lord. "Your life is better if you let Him in," he explained. Parishioners like Matthew Gallagher appreciate the chapel and admire how Father Cassar takes care of it. "It's nice to know that the chapel is open seven days a week and that you can stop in to say a prayer. And Father Cassar is there every day," he said. On some mornings, there are people waiting for Father Cassar when he arrives to open the chapel. Father Vincent Chirichella, pastor of St. Joseph Church, said Father Cassar is setting a great example for others. "And at a time like this,

when we are in the middle of a big Eucharistic Revival, what he's doing is important," he added. Father Vincent Chirichella pastor of St. Joseph's Church says Father Edward Cassar "holds his own Holy Hour" in the chapel each day. The nation's Catholics are currently in the midst of a three-year National Eucharistic Revival that was launched by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2022. Dioceses across the nation were asked to organize their own Eucharistic Revival celebrations. The Diocese of Brooklyn's revival, which was originally scheduled to take place in October, will take place in the spring. The National Eucharistic Revival will culminate in 2024 with the National Eucharistic Congress, which will take place July 17-21 in Indianapolis. The idea is to promote a main tenet of the faith — that Jesus Christ is truly present in the Eucharist and that Communion isn't merely symbolic.

According to a 2019 survey by the Pew Research Center, only 31% of U.S. Catholics believe that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist. Father Cassar, who was ordained 54 years ago in his native Malta, has always had a devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, even as a child. "It's been a part of my life for a long time," he said. As a young man, he watched Archbishop Fulton Sheen on television talking about the importance of the Blessed Sacrament, and it left a big impression on him. Father Cassar carried that devotion with him through his various priestly assignments — vocations that took him to several countries around the world, including Australia and Ethiopia. He brought it with him when he arrived in the U.S. in 1972 to serve in the Diocese of Brooklyn. After serving at various parishes over the years, he retired a few years ago and arrived at St. Joseph Church two years ago — the same time Father Chirichella, with whom he had served at Our Lady of Grace Church in Gravesend, was assigned there. The chapel, which had been dormant and was reopened by Father Chirichella shortly after he got to St. Joseph, provides an important sanctuary for the faithful, Father Cassar said "It gives people a chance for a little one-to-one time with Jesus, "It's like Jesus talking to the woman at the well," he explained, referring to the famous passage from the Gospel of St. John.



## **St. Joseph Prayer**

Joseph, by the work of your hands and the sweat of your brow, you supported Jesus and Mary, and had the Son of God as your fellow worker.

Teach me to work as you did, with patience and perseverance, for God and for those whom God has given me to support.

Teach me to see in my fellow workers the Christ who desires to be in them, that I may always be charitable and forbearing towards all.

Grant me to look upon work with the eyes of faith, so that I shall recognize in it my share in God's own creative activity and in Christ's work of our redemption, and so take pride in it.

When it is pleasant and productive, remind me to give thanks to God for it. And when it is burdensome, teach me to offer it to God, in reparation for my sins and the sins of the world.

*(Note: This prayer was taken from the booklet "Devotions to Saint Joseph" by Brian Moore, S.J., printed and published by the Society of St. Paul.)*





## St. Patrick Prayer

May the Strength of God pilot us. May the Power of  
God preserve us. May the Wisdom of God instruct us.

May the Hand of God protect us.

May the Way of God direct us. May the Shield of God  
defend us.

May the Host of God guard us Against the snares of the  
evil ones, Against temptations of the world.

May Christ be with us! May Christ be before us!

May Christ be in us, Christ be over all!

May Thy Salvation, Lord, always be ours,

This day, O Lord, and evermore. Amen



# St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church



**Address:** 43-19 30th Ave, Astoria NY 11103 (Church and Rectory)

**Phone:** 718-278-1611

**Website:** [www.stjosephastoria.org](http://www.stjosephastoria.org)

## **Mass Times**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 12:00 PM

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday – 8:00 AM

Saturday (Italian) – 4:00 PM

Saturday Vigil – 5:00 PM

Sunday – 7:45 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM (Spanish), 12:00 PM

## **Adoration Chapel**

The Adoration Chapel is located at 28-47 43rd Street and is open daily  
Monday to Sunday from 8 AM to 8 PM.

**Confession:** Saturdays, after the 8 AM Mass.



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# *ST. JOSEPH RC CHURCH*

## *PARISH STAFF*

Rev. Vincent Chirichella

Rev. Jean Farda Tanisma

Rev. William C. Farrugia

Rev. Jean Laguerre

Rev. Edward Cassar

Rev. James A. Kuroly

Deacon Raul Ruiz

Sam Fujii

Mayra DiRico

Joanne Pasquariello

Margaret Camilien

Yuliana Restrepo

Silvia Rivera

Pastor

Parochial Vicar

Weekend Assistant

In residence

Retired Priest/In residence

Weekend Assistant

Deacon

Director of Music

Part-Time Bookkeeper

Part-Time Secretary

Part-Time Secretary

Youth Ministry

DRE/ Secretary



## **LEARN ABOUT OUR PARISH CLERGY**

### **REV. JEAN TANISMA, PARROCHIAL VICAR**



Father Jean Farda Tanisma, was born in Haiti on November 23rd from a strong rooted Catholic family. He studied Philosophy and theology at Grand Séminaire Notre-Dame, Portau-Prince. He was ordained a Priest, June 26, 1997, for the diocese of Jérémie, Haiti. For 25 years, Rev. Tanisma had good experience of priestly ministry in his diocese as

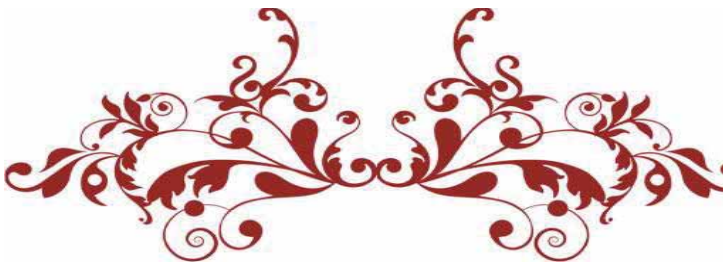
Former diocesan Director of the: Minor Seminary, OPM, diocesan magazine Cana, Education Desk. Former pastor of St. Paul's conversion, Léon. Since 2001, he started his summer ministry in the Diocese of Brooklyn. From 2015-2019, short terms ministry in the diocese of Brooklyn. During that period, he finalized his research and wrote his doctoral dissertation in School of Church, as a Parochial Vicar at Nativity of the Virgin Mary Parish in Ozone Park, Queens and then at Saint Brendan Parish, Brooklyn (January - March 2019) before he returned to Rome to discuss and publish his thesis to become Doctor in "utroque jure creatus and pronunciatu" Father Jean Farda is an Alumni of Pontifical University Holy Cross, School of Church Communications from 2010 to 2019. In addition, Father Jean was trained at the School of Church Communication. He is passionate about working for the benefit of evangelization, spreading the Good News with enthusiasm and curiosity to reach the heart of the virtual and/or physical audience. "We use God's gifts to spread and support the Kingdom of God. "Father Jean strives to see parishes use all the means of communication in their proper use to create full participation. Father Jean Farda TANISMA is interested in "language, as mean of communication and culture." Besides his Haitian Creole, and French, he speaks English, Spanish, and Italian

## REV. EDWARD A. CASSAR, RETIRED PRIEST, *IN RESIDENCE*



Fr. Edward was born in the island of Malta. While Malta has its own language and culture, it resembles the Italian culture very much. After Fr. Cassar finished High School, he attended St. Liberta College for Philosophy and then completed four years at St Laurence of Brindisi Seminary for Theology. Fr. Cassar was ordained a priest for the Capuchin Franciscan Order in Malta on March 22, 1969.

Immediately after his priestly ordination, he was sent to the Gregorian University in Rome for a post graduate course in Pastoral Theology and Missionology. Two months after Fr. Cassar returned to Malta from Rome to volunteer as a Missionary in Ethiopia, Africa where he was stationed in Addis Ababa and the Mission Station of Gigija. Fr. Cassar came to the US in 1972 to attend the New York Medical and Dental Assistants on a scholarship and graduated as a Medical Laboratory Technician. He has been in the Brooklyn Diocese for 50 years. For 17 years he worked in two parishes in Queens. He speaks English, Maltese, and Italian. Fr Cassar is passionate in being a priest for people.







## **FR. BILL FARRUGIA, RETIRED PRIEST**

Father Bill attended Cathedral College, Brooklyn, NY; Niagara University, NY (BA); Our Lady of Angels Seminary, Albany, NY (Ordained in 1963); Webster University, St. Louis, MO (MA), and the United States Air Force's Air Command and Staff College, Montgomery, AL.

Father Bill has been ordained 61 years, during which he has served as a parish priest at St. Gabriel the Archangel, Brooklyn, NY; Incarnation Church, Queens Village, NY; high school guidance counselor at Monsignor McClancy High School from 2001-2010 and Air Force chaplain for 25 years, retiring as a Colonel in 1993. Father has a FAA commercial pilot license and is a certified flight instructor with 3,000 flight hours.

He has happily volunteered to assist at St. Joseph for the last 25 years and loves every minute of it!

## **WEEKEND ASSISTANT, REVEREND JAMES A KUROYL**

Father Kuroly was born in Queens, New York and attended Saint Anthony of Padua and then Cathedral Preparatory Seminary High School. He attended Saint John's University for a degree in Philosophy while continuing his discernment at Cathedral House of Formation, Douglaston. After graduation, he entered the Seminary of



Immaculate Conception, Huntington. He was ordained a priest in 2007 and was assigned to Our Lady of Sorrows, Corona. He then served as faculty member and assistant principal at Cathedral Prep. During this time, he also served as the Spiritual Director of the Jornada Movement and chaplain for the office of youth and young adult ministry. He was then appointed pastor of Saint Rose of Lima, Rockaway. In 2019, Bishop DiMarzio assigned him Rector-President of Cathedral Prep. In 2022, Bishop Brennan made him the Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

## **DEACON RAUL RUIZ**

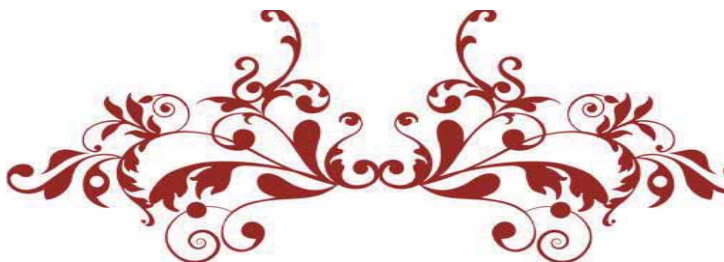
Deacon Raul was ordained in 2013. He is a native of Honduras and is fluent in English and Spanish. He has served the St Joseph Church parish in Baptisms, Cursillo, Divine Mercy, Hospital visits, Prayer services at Wakes, and Funerals of parishioner. Deacon Raul serves the diverse Hispanic ministries in the Parish.



## ***REVEREND JEAN LAGUERRE, IN RESIDENCE***



Fr. Jean Laguerre was born in Haiti on April 8, 1962, and speaks English, Spanish, French and Creole. Fr. Jean Laguerre attended Grand Seminaire Notre Dame d'Haiti and graduated with a degree in Philosophy, Theology and Sociology. His passion to help the elderly and the sick led him to become a Hospital Chaplain. He was ordained Priest on June 29th, 1995, in Jacmel, Haiti. Fr. Laguerre enjoyed the priesthood and enjoyed celebrating the Holy Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, the Penance and the Sacrament of the Sick. Fr. Jean Laguerre was sent to reside at St. Joseph, Astoria effective December 1, 2019, while remaining chaplain of Mount Sinai of Queens Hospital.



**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & SECRETARY**  
**MRS. SILVIA RIVERA**

**DRE**

Silvia Rivera Born in Ecuador. She has a bachelor's degree in education and worked as a teacher for about 10 years. Before she started working at St. Joseph church she worked as a coordinator for the Early Intervention Program, she was also a volunteer for Bridge to life. Silvia started working at St. Joseph's church as a secretary back in September 2006. She worked with Mgrs. John Harrington, Rev. Vincent Miceli and now Rev. Vincent Chirichella. She obtained the Diocesan Lay Leadership Certificate through the School of Evangelization of Brooklyn; Silvia is a catechist and



an instructor for the (RCIA) Religious Education Program for adults. She also is the coordinator for parish activities, and maintains the church's social media, like Facebook and Website. Silvia is fluent in Spanish, English and Italian. Silvia loves working at this parish. Throughout the years, she has met wonderful people that have enriched her faith with their own personal stories. Silvia's passion is helping people and giving them advice, and her time to all the ones that would like to listen and be listened to. Silvia is married with three kids and two grandchildren. She loves spending time with family and friends. Silvia enjoys reading, coloring, and knitting. She celebrates life every single day as this could be the last one. She is prolife and her quote is: *Life is beautiful! Life is a miracle! from beginning to end.*

## **PART-TIME SECRETARY**

### **Mrs. Giovanna (Joanne) Pasquariello**

Joanne was born in Italy and came to Queens, New York at the age of nine. The main component of her Italian culture is her devotion to her town's patron Saint Rocco. Later in life, Joanne named her son Rocco to honor Saint Rocco. Joanne and her husband, Jerry named their daughter after his patron saint - Maria Santissima Della Neve. Joanne is fluent in English and Italian. She has extensive experience in the corporate world. In addition, Joanne is a member and volunteer at the Italian American Social Clubs in Astoria. These clubs share their devotion to Saint Rocco and Maria SS Della Neve. Joanne is passionate about helping the catholic community of St Joseph.



## **PART-TIME SECRETARY**

### **Margaret Camilien**



Margaret Camilien is a native of Haiti and has lived in Brooklyn, New York since 1992.

Margaret has been working in the Garment industry as bookkeeper for the financial Department for many companies. GMA/Cappelli New York for 17 years, Group Zanier, Tawil Associates and Bentex Group. Margaret received a diploma of Hotel Management and Travel Agent from Haiti.

Certification of computerized bookkeeping in New York. Margaret has a passion to help assist people in need. Margaret believes there is one true God, eternally existing in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

## **PART-TIME BOOKKEEPER**

### **Mrs. Mayra DiRico**

Mayra's parents fled Cuba when she was just a baby for freedom and a better life in the U.S. Growing up in Astoria, Mayra was determined to live up to that promise. In her thirty-three plus career in Corporate America, Mayra received numerous awards and honors including Crain's New York's "40 under 40", El Diario Latinas 2006 Distinguished Woman, Flushing Town Hall COCA Award, and the Eagle Award from the National Eagle Leadership Institute. She held executive positions at HSBC, Astoria Bank and Sterling National Bank. Mayra



holds a degree in Marketing and International Business from NYU graduating summa cum laude and a master's degree in Banking from the University of Virginia. She is fluent in English, Spanish and Italian and held a Series 6, 63 and life and health license. The tragic accident she witnessed of her beloved Mother in 2019 changed her life bringing her closer to GOD. She decided to quit the corporate world and dedicate her time to her family, friends, and community. Mayra joined the Lectors for the Spanish Mass at St. Joseph Church. Mayra's passion includes the beach, writing and making a difference in the life of others. St Joseph Church has been her parish since she took her first communion. She resides in Astoria with her husband Joe, and their children Daniel and Jessica. Her motto is that every day is an opportunity to learn and become a better version of oneself.



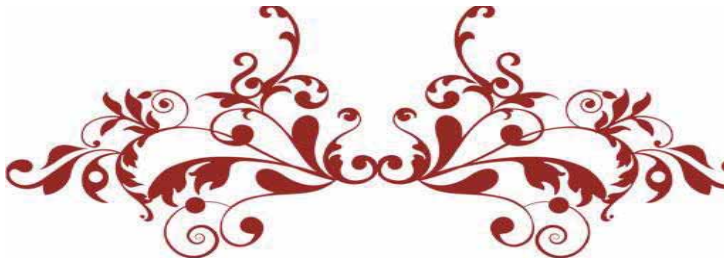
## **DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY**

### **Sam Fujii**

San Francisco native, Sam Fujii is a New York musician and educator whose fascination for how the voice works has led to a versatile career of performing, teaching, and music directing. Before coming to St. Joseph's, he previously served as Director of Music Ministry at Church of the Immaculate Conception in Westhampton Beach, St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Jersey City, NJ and the College of Mount Saint Vincent in Riverdale, NY. He regularly performs sacred and operatic music in venues



throughout the tri-state area. With over fifteen years of teaching experience, Sam has developed creative lessons for both individual and group instruction to guide students in learning about vocal efficiency, anatomy, and voice care. He maintains a voice teaching studio in Manhattan where he also offers sessions that include piano, organ, Reiki, and meditation. Sam holds a master's degree in Vocal Performance from the Manhattan School of Music and a bachelor's degree in Choral Music Education and Vocal Performance from Saint John's University in Collegeville, MN.





## **YOUTH MINISTRY**

### **Yuliana Restrepo**

Yuliana was born in Colombia. She moved to Boston with her family and lived there for 19 years where she had her first volunteer experience with the church at the Holy Redemmer. She had her first encounter with Jesus in 2006



and with his love and mercy, her life changed. She moved to Astoria after getting married to David and is now the mother of Mateo. Her passion for the past 15 years has been to serve the Lord by helping teenagers and young adults discover God. Fluent in Spanish and English, Yuliana's passions include cooking, hiking, and dancing. St Joseph Church has been her parish and her spiritual blessing since she moved to New York. Her motto is “to love family and work hard to make a difference in the world on a daily basis.”

## **HARRY, THE DOG**



Harry is a Havanese, the national dog of Cuba. While Harry is small, he is sturdy in structure and personality. He has a spirited personality and a curious disposition, and is notable for his springy gait, a characteristic that distinguishes the breed from all others. Harry is the ideal

family pet. He is a social companion and thrives on being surrounded with love. Harry is 7 years old.

## ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH SACRISTANS

Our Sacristans play a vital part in the preparation for liturgy in the church. Without them our liturgy, Mass, adoration, and some activities would not be possible. They arrive in church first, open the doors, turn on the lights and the sound system, and prepare everything before everybody else arrives. Then, at the end, they close and lock the church, being the last to leave.

***Our sacristans are Joe Nelson, Irene Torres & Guadalupe Astudillo***



**ST. JOSEPH CHURCH  
MINISTRIES &  
GROUPS**



**Come Join one of our Ministries and/or exciting Groups.**

**Ministries**

- ❖ Altar Servers
- ❖ Choir (English; Spanish; Italian & Children)
- ❖ Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist (English, Spanish & Italian)
  - ❖ Lectors (English, Spanish & Italian)
  - ❖ Religious Education
- ❖ RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)
  - ❖ Ushers (English & Spanish Masses)

**Groups**

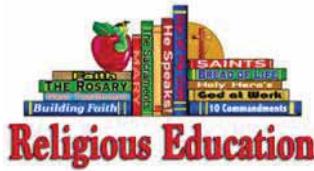
- ❖ Bereavement Group
  - ❖ CYO Sports
- ❖ Girl Scouts Troop # 4210 & #4501
  - ❖ Golden Age Club
- ❖ Hispanic Groups: Carismáticos; Cursillo & Grupo Guadalupano
  - ❖ Men's Group
- ❖ Prayer Groups: Divine Mercy & St. Padre Pio
  - ❖ St. Therese of Liseux Society Group
  - ❖ Stitches
  - ❖ Youth Group

# YOUTH GROUP

## World Youth Day 2023



**ST. JOSEPH PARISH  
OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION**



**Religion Classes: All grades First – High School**  
**Starting with the Sunday 9:00 AM Family Mass**  
**Then children attend St. Joseph School for Religious**  
**Instructions from 10:15 AM – 11:30 AM.**



May God bless our faith-filled parish, our pastor, Rev. Vincent Chirichella and his staff, our catechists, our volunteers, our parishioners, our children, and their parents. May we all enjoy the patron feast of St. Joseph.

Mrs. Silvia Rivera  
Director of Faith Formation



## ***SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR DEVOTED CATECHISTS AND VOLUNTEERS***



Blanca Aviles, Amira Barreta, Katarina Briggler, Julie Butkovic, Henry Bryan, Nicole Caceres, Henry Cachia, Fernando Campana, Maria Pia Carpenter, Patricia Colella, Eva Contreras, Danny Fajardo, Kristine Laconi, Yazmin Montero, Patricia Schrader, Thomas Pinto, Migdalia Ramos-Diaz, Narcisa Rodriguez, Carina Velazquez

**Volunteers:** Victoria Armas, Gissabella Calle, Sahamile Calle, Cordeiro Harrison, Michele Dominguez, Cindy Flores, Fragoso Kelly, Grazia Mazza, Montero Arielle, Edwin Peralta, Aiden Ramos, Alan Robalo, Alexander Perez, David Salazar, Wendy Quizpilema, Jacqueline Verdugo.

**Door Monitor and Front Desk:** Cristina Almonte, Lili Daleo, Frances Ottomanelli, Sonia Alarcon, Luzceli Bravo, Porfirio Hernandez & Ines Sanchez.



# RCIA

## **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

If you are an adult who is not baptized and who is seeking information about the Catholic Church, you are invited to: "COME & SEE."

## **RCIA is the process for you.**

If you are a baptized non-Catholic adult seeking information about the Catholic Church, you are invited to "COME & SEE."

## **RCIA is the process for you.**

If you are a baptized Catholic who is seeking to complete initiation into the Catholic Church through the Sacraments of Confirmation and/or Eucharist you are invited to "COME & SEE."

## **RCIA is the process for you.**

If you have been married civilly, but not yet in the Catholic Church and are interested to receive the Sacrament of Matrimony and are missing any Sacrament of Full Initiation you are invited to "COME & SEE."

Please call the Parish office to register at 718-278-1611  
Or send an email to [religious.ed@stjosephastoria.org](mailto:religious.ed@stjosephastoria.org)

Classes start in October.





# THE RITE OF WELCOMING AND ACCEPTANCE 2024



The Rite of Welcoming and Acceptance was celebrated by Rev. Vincent Chirichella. We welcome our Catechumen and candidates that will receive their sacraments of Initiation.

RCIA adults preparing for the sacraments of Baptism, Profession of Faith, First Communion and Confirmation.

**English Class: Meets each Thursday from  
7:00 PM – 8:15 PM  
Instructor: Silvia Rivera**

**Spanish Class: Meets Sunday morning from  
9:00 AM – 10:15 AM  
Instructor: Delia Lili Chirinos. (Spanish preparation)**

## ST. SHARBEL MONTHLY HEALING MASS

Please join Fr. Vincent Chirichella  
and his brother, Deacon Michael  
(Usually held 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the Month at 7:30 PM)



# THE ST. JOSEPH CHURCH JOHN A. RERECICH FOOD PANTRY

Available the first and third Thursday of each month starting at 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM. Bags of groceries are distributed to needy families in our Food Pantry Room. No families are turned away.

We now service and help approximately 75 families. Through the generosity of church parishioners, as well as grants from the food bank of New York, we can continue this service.

Special thanks to: Marlene Kaselis and volunteers: Ian Saraceni and Giovanna Saraceni

Last year we changed the name of our Food Pantry to the St. Joseph Church John A. Rerecich Food Pantry to honor one of our Parishioners. We expanded the storage capacity that has allowed us to meet higher demands.





# THE MUSIC MINISTRY

The Music Ministry of St. Joseph's unifies the communities within our parish through a shared love of music and devotion to our Catholic faith at masses, concerts, and other events throughout the year. In collaboration with local artists, our English, Italian, Spanish, and Children's choirs seek to serve as a bridge promoting fellowship within the larger community of Astoria.

Sam Fujii  
Director of Music



# ALTAR SERVERS



Loving Father, Creator of the Universe, you call your people to worship, to be with you and each other at Mass. Help me, for you have called me also. Keep me prayerful and alert. Help me to help others in prayer. Thank you for the trust you've placed in me. Keep me true to that trust.

I make my prayer in Jesus' name, who is with us in the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Accordingly, Servers have a solemn responsibility to do their assigned duties with dignity and reverence. Our parish has Altar Servers (boys and girls), who start after their First Communion. All that is required is a desire to serve at the Altar of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We thank and congratulate our faithful Altar Servers for their assistance at Mass.



***Los Monaguillos de San José se hacen presente con un saludo a Nuestra Parroquia de San José. Somos jóvenes que servimos con Amor Reverencia y Dignidad en cada Celebración eucarística. Gracias Señor por tú llamado y confianza en nosotros.***

## EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION



The Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion serve the people of St. Joseph Parish by assisting with the distribution of Holy Communion at both weekday and weekend masses. They also bring Holy Communion to the homebound parishioners, and some are called to bring Holy Communion to patients in nearby hospitals. The ministry of assisting the Priests in bringing the Body and Blood of Jesus to the people of God is open to all fully initiated Catholics, 18 years of age or older, who are active in the parish and faithful to the attendance of Mass.



# Lectors

The Lectors of St. Joseph Parish serve the people by their proclamation of the Holy Scriptures at Mass during the week and on weekends. The Lectors receive training on how to properly proclaim the Word of God and have workbooks that they use to reflect on the Scriptures as they



prepare during the week to read the Sunday or weekday Scriptures. They attend Days of Reflection that enhance and enrich their spiritual lives and help them develop a true love of Scripture. The ministry of Lectors is open to all fully initiated Catholics who are active in the parish.



# Ministros Extraordinarios de la Eucaristía



Los ministros Extraordinarios de la Comunión felicitan a la Parroquia San José de Astoria por celebrar la Fiesta de nuestro Patrón San José. los ministros servimos en la Misa Dominical repartiendo la Comunión a los feligreses. También llevamos la Comunión a los enfermos a los hogares.

***¡QUE DIOS BENDIGA A NUESTRA PARROQUIA DE SAN JOSÉ***



## **PROCLAMADORES DE LA PALABRA (Misa en español)**

Los Proclamadores de la palabra, son los ministros laicos que Proclaman la Palabra de Dios durante la celebración de la Santa Misa. Se reúnen cada último domingo de mes.



## **BAPTISMAL CLASS INSTRUCTORS**

Before the celebration of baptism, the Church expects parents and sponsors to be formed in the meaning of the Sacrament as well as its responsibilities (Canon 851).

We offer this class prior to the scheduled baptisms.



## MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY (USHERS)



The Ministers of Hospitality (Ushers) are outgoing parishioners who warmly greet the people as they come into church for Mass as well as other parish functions. They are also responsible for the efficient and orderly flow of the Offertory Collection as well as organizing the Offertory Procession. They are

responsible for the security and safety of parishioners and neighbors attending Mass and all activities that take place in the church.

The Ministers of Hospitality are active members of St. Joseph Parish who enjoy interacting with other parishioners and visitors. If you would like to serve as a Minister of Hospitality, please contact Father Chirichella, or Lillian Daleo, who is the coordinator of the Ministers of Hospitality.



## ACOMODADORES



Los ministros de hospitalidad, al igual que otros ministros de la liturgia, son ante todo miembros de la Iglesia. Participan en tareas específicas como acogiendo a las personas que llegan a la Iglesia, dándoles la bienvenida, recogiendo la colecta y también permanecen unidos en la Santa Misa con el resto de la asamblea. Si usted está interesado/a en ser parte de este ministerio por favor comuníquese con el Señor Gregorio Ávila o uno de sus miembros para unirse a este magnífico ministerio.



## GRUPO ORACIÓN DE SAN JOSÉ



El Grupo Fuente de Sanación se formó en el año 1970 en casa de la Sra. María Ruby Mediavilla. En el año 1977 se pasó a la parroquia San José hasta la fecha de hoy.

Este grupo se reúne todos los viernes de 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM, en donde se reza el rosario, se hace alabanzas, adoración y predica.

***Te invitamos a compartir con nosotros, ven y participa.***





# STITCHES *Prayer Shawl Group*



Our group began September 2009 at the suggestion of Father John Harrington. We are benevolent fiber artists that meet to knit and crochet items for local hospitals, charities, and other organizations. We meet in the spirit of community and hope to inspire others to utilize their talents to assist those in need. Currently we donate to homeless shelters, domestic violence shelters, NICU units at local hospitals and Bridge to Life.

Our meetings are free, open to the public, and everyone is welcome. Instruction is available for beginners.

Feel free to join us or stop by to learn more about our group. We meet the third Friday of the month from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM in the Gathering Space.



Not pictured are Colleen, Debbie, Diana, Kate, Lucy, Rosemary, and Sui.



# GRUPO GUADALUPANO



Se inició en el año 1995.

Nuestra misión es evangelizar con el Santo Rosario en los hogares.

Nuestras reuniones son los martes a las 8:00 PM.





## HOSPITALITY BREAKFAST

First Sunday of each Month after  
all Sunday Masses



## FINANCIAL COUNTERS



## **GRUPPO DI PREGHIERA DI S. PADRE PIO**



Il gruppo di preghiera di S. Padre Pio celebra con Don Vincenzo,  
per la festa di S. Giuseppe.

Ringrazia la comunita. Invita tutti a pregare con noi ogni  
martedi nella cappella a le 2:00 PM.

Buona Festa! Viva S. Giuseppe!



## **SAINT THERESE OF LISEUX PRAYER GROUP**



Lead by Fr. Vincent Chirichella  
Meets on the last Tuesday of each Month  
Church At 12:00 PM

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,  
Holy Rosary  
Meditate with a reflection on the life  
of St. Therese

## ST. JOSEPH'S GOLDEN AGE CLUB



The goal of the St. Joseph's Golden Age Club is to provide a safe meeting place for our senior members/parishioners as well as to enhance new and existing relationships.

This is accomplished by providing stimulating fun activities, such as arts and crafts, games, and celebrating special events. These activities are led primarily on a voluntary basis by parish members.

Th club meets every Wednesday after the 12 PM Mass in the Family Room.



## THE DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP



The Divine Mercy Prayer Group was officially formed September 2016 during the “**Year of Mercy**.” Since then, the group has been meeting every Friday after the 12 PM mass. We are always looking for new members.

The mission of the group is to pray for the Divine Mercy and for the intentions of each member. We pray for our pastor and priests, family members, the Universal church, our country, peace in the world, healing, etc. Our two main goals are prayer and charity. In the past few years, we have helped several Charities, and needy families have a joyous Christmas.

Please join us every Friday in prayer and become part of The Divine Mercy Prayer Group.



## THE CURSILLO MOVEMENT



El cursillo de cristiandad es una vivencia , un encuentro personal del hombre con Dios. Un instrumento suscitado por el Espíritu Santo para anunciar el Evangelio.

Su objetivo es la Conversión, transformando a las personas en mejores seres humanos para ser mejores cristianos.





# Bereavement Group

Finding  
Support in Our  
Time of Loss



The Bereavement Group is led by Father Vincent. Meeting is once a month at 7:00 PM in the Conference Room. Anybody that is interested in attending needs to call the rectory office to find out about the next Bereavement meeting.

***We support one another in a shared loss yet knowing that our grief experiences are unique to us***



## MEN'S GROUP

Are you a man over the age of 18?  
Are you looking to deepen your faith in Jesus, and the Church? Please join Father Vincent for the Men's Group. We learn about our faith, talk about encountering the world we live in as men of faith, read, and reflect on the Scriptures, talk about fatherhood, and Leadership. We also look at the ways the Lord can heal our brokenness. We meet on the first Saturday of every Month at 11 AM. To sign up please call the parish office.



***Please bring a Bible for the meeting.***

## GIRL SCOUT TROOPS

Girl Scout troop #4210 are happy and grateful to have a home at St. Joseph's. We meet regularly in the School cafeteria and participate in service, environmental, and character-building projects throughout the year and, of course, our annual cookie sale is also a big hit!



### Girl Scouts Troop #4501



St. Joseph's Girl Scout Troop 4501 consists of a wonderful group of girls between the ages of 5 and 10. The girls are learning independence, courage, the importance of

friendship and they are developing ways to work together to improve their community.





# ST. JOSEPH CYO PROGRAM

St. Joseph CYO program has been around for over 50 years. The program consists of dedicated volunteers who give their time to the children of the parish and outside the parish. Our coaches teach basic/advanced skills and rules of the game. At St. Joseph we also strive to teach the girls the importance of teamwork, communication, camaraderie, and leadership.

St. Joseph's CYO Volleyball program is open to all girls, ages 9 to 18, from Third grade through High School who live within or belong to St. Joseph Parish. Each season, our program consists of an average of 100 girls, and the program is a completely volunteer - run program.

The program runs from October through April, registration is in early September. Practices are held on Tuesday or Wednesday nights in the school gym. Home games are held on Sundays in the school gym, while away games are played on Saturday or various weeknights at participating parishes within the Diocese of Brooklyn.



**RCIA Catechumens**  
**During the Easter Vigil 2023**  
**Catechumens received their Sacraments of Initiation**



**RCIA Candidates**  
**During Pentecost, 2023**  
**Candidates received their First Communion and Confirmation.**



## FIRST COMMUNION CLASS 2023



## CONFIRMATION CLASS 2023





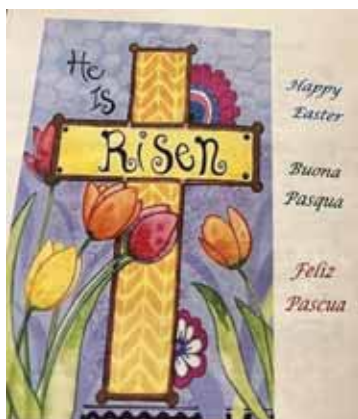
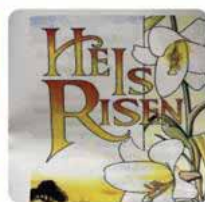
# LENT SEASON



## GOOD FRIDAY PROCESSION



EASTER VIGIL  
EASTER CELEBRATION





# PHOTOS THROUGH THE YEAR



## TRIP TO SEE MOSES, LANCASTER, PA



## TRIP TO CANADA, NIAGARA FALLS





## ***CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION***



## ***Christmas Vigil Mass with our Religious Education Children***



# PADRE PIO FESTIVAL



## PRAYER TO SAINT PIO

O God,  
You gave Saint Pio of Pietrelcina, Capuchin priest,  
the great privilege of participating  
in a unique way in the passion of Your Son,  
grant me through his intercession  
the grace of ...  
which I ardently desire;  
and above all grant me the grace of  
living in conformity  
with the death of Jesus,  
to arrive at the glory  
of the resurrection.  
Glory be to the Father... (three times)



# PADRE PIO FESTIVAL





# PADRE PIO FESTIVAL



# CHRISTMAS SEASON AT ST. JOSEPH

## Tree Lighting Ceremony



## Breakfast with Santa







## RENEWAL OF VOWS



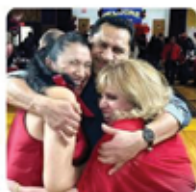
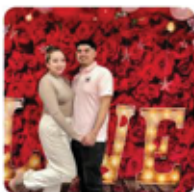
### *Prayer*

We pray for these couples in their continued life together. We are thankful for the joy they find in each other and the hope they declare in this act of re-marriage. May they always be strengthened to keep the vows they have made and cherish the life they share, and to honor each other in love.

Spirit of God, in whom we live and move and have our being, you have given us the life and grace of human love that draws us to each other.

Amen.

# SAN VALENTINE'S PARTY



Thank you to all the members of the Cursillistas Group for organizing this lovely party.





# THANK YOU TO OUR CHURCH VOLUNTEER CLEANERS

There is one group of people who on a weekly basis do a job that is unseen and seldom given thanks to– the CLEANERS. These volunteers give up their time to make the House of God look at its best.

*My Lord,* we all Thank this group of parishioner volunteers for the wonderful job they do.

*Dear Saint Teresa, our friend in Heaven, please send down your blessing to our parish family and especially to those who help keep our church, and grounds clean and tidy. Amen.*



*Your service is greatly appreciated!*



## The New St. Mary's II Mausoleum

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FINANCIAL ADVISOR**

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Reverend Monsignor Sean G. Ogle  
*and the*  
DeSales Media family

*are proud to support the*

ST. JOSEPH & ST. PATRICK'S  
ANNUAL GALA

*and congratulate*

*this year's honorees*

MARLENE KASELIS, LILY DALEO,

*and*

GREGORIO AVILA

THE *TABLET*

NUESTRA-VOZ



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DeSales Media is a Catholic ministry in the Diocese of Brooklyn. We are at once a media holding company, a full services agency, and a technology provider.

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*Prayerful Congratulations  
and Best Wishes to all the Honorees  
at the*

*St. Joseph & St. Patrick's Annual Gala*

Very Reverend James A. Kuroly  
Rector-President

Cathedral Preparatory School & Seminary  
Elmhurst, NY



**Congratulations to  
St. Joseph Church & the Honorees**



***Leo Cinquemani &  
Michael Venditti***

***21-77 31<sup>st</sup> Street #107 Astoria, NY 11105***



*F. DeVITO FUEL CORP.*

**congratulates honorees**

**Lily Daleo, Marlene Kaselis & Gregorio Avila**

for their service and dedication to  
St. Joseph Church and the Community.

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# *Best Wishes to the Honorees!*



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## St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church located in Astoria, NY



Our beloved St. Joseph Parish dates back to 1879 when the first church was erected as a mission of St. Mary, Help of Christians, in Winfield. The parish buildings, circa 1907, included a convent, a new church, and a rectory – all along 30th Avenue. The current rectory was built in 1928 and the current convent building in 1938.

In the 1890's the Parish School was opened.

In the 1920's the new parishes of Precious Blood, Immaculate Conception, and St. Francis opened.

In the 1980's, the Food Pantry opened.

In 1950 & 1990, there were major renovation projects completed.

Our sincere thank you to the 11 Pastors who served from its inception, guided by God, to enhance and preserve our Parish and build a strong community grounded on Faith.

### **Fr. Vincent Chirichella became the 12<sup>th</sup> Pastor of St. Joseph RC Church. The following is a recap of our milestones under his leadership and direction:**

- Chapel of Adoration Opened
- New Air Conditioning Units installed in the Church
- New Bi-Lingual Website launched. Social Media expanded to include Twitter; Instagram; and Tabella.
- Formation of 6 New Groups & Youth Ministry
- Padre Pio Festival reinstated
- Addition of Monthly Healing Masses & Spiritual Programs
- Launch of St. Joseph Radio and YouTube Channel
- Established a new Shrine for Cancer Survivors
- Replaced the Sound System
- New Outdoor Signage in our Prayer Garden
- Exterior lighting upgrades & painting and wood restoration of the interior foyer
- Erected a new outdoor Shrine of Saint Joseph and the Child Jesus



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Commemorating the Feat of Saint Joseph. We express our great appreciation and gratitude for the good work of the parish throughout the years.

**The Xuereb Family**



# Antonio Guadagnino, CPA

Wishes to commemorate St. Joseph's Church on its Feast Day and congratulates the honorees.



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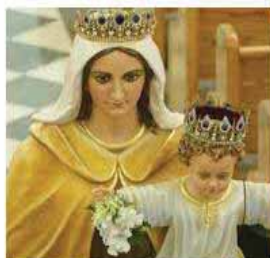
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**Prayerful Congratulations** 

on your  
St. Joseph and St. Patrick's Annual Gala

From your friends at Our Lady of Mount  
Carmel – Annunciation of the BVM Church



Thank you to all the Priests,  
Religious & Deacons who have  
served your parish over the  
years!

**Monsignor Jamie J Gigantiello, Pastor**

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel – Annunciation of the BVM  
Williamsburg, Brooklyn**

# **New York-Presbyterian** Queens

**New York-Presbyterian medical groups** connect expert doctors with patients close to home to expand coordinated care and healthcare services across the regions we proudly serve.

## **Astoria Primary Care**



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- ❖ Ambrose Pipia MD - Family Medicine
- ❖ Julie Patel MD - Family Medicine
- ❖ Saghar Karim MD - Family Medicine
- ❖ Joseph Cooke MD - Pulmonary

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**Location: 27-47 Crescent Street Astoria**

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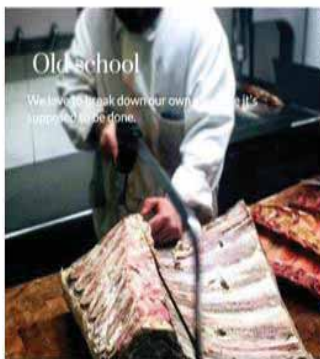




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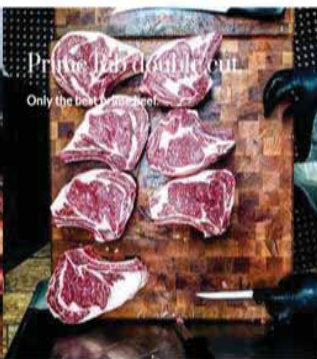
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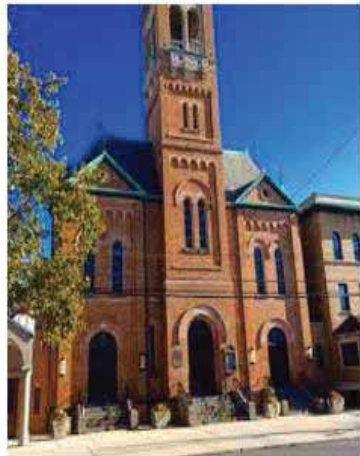
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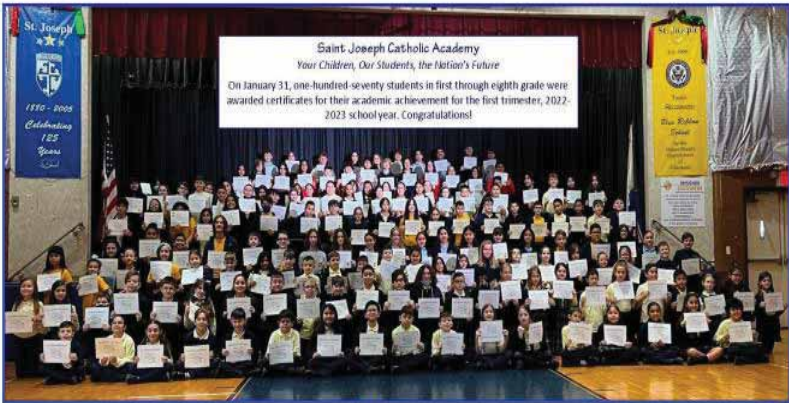
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### NEW YORK STATE TEST RESULTS 2023 Percentage of Students Scoring at Levels 3 and 4 (Students who met or exceeded the proficiency standards for their grade):

2023 NYS Testing Program	New York City (only NY City Public Schools-no Charter Schools, no Non-public Schools data)	Diocese of Brooklyn (Academies and Schools within the Diocese with appropriate grade levels tested)	St. Joseph Catholic Academy
Grade 4-ELA	52.5%	60.95%	<b>60.5%</b>
Grade 6-ELA	47.8%	62.66%	<b>67.6%</b>
Grade 7-ELA	51.7%	68.89%	<b>84.6%</b>
Grade 4-Math	52.3%	54.98%	<b>60.5%</b>
Grade 6-Math	45.5%	56.27%	<b>76.4%</b>
Grade 7-Math	51.2%	62.30%	<b>92.5%</b>

Please Note: Percentages reported include all tested students (general education and students with disabilities as reported by New York City and Diocese of Brooklyn).

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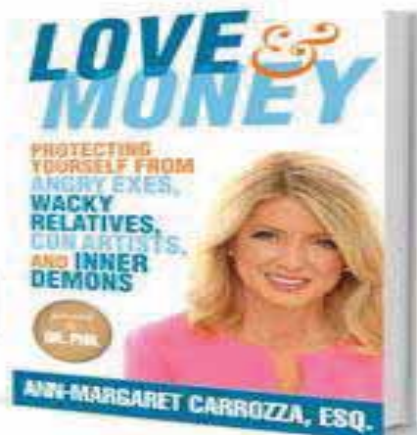


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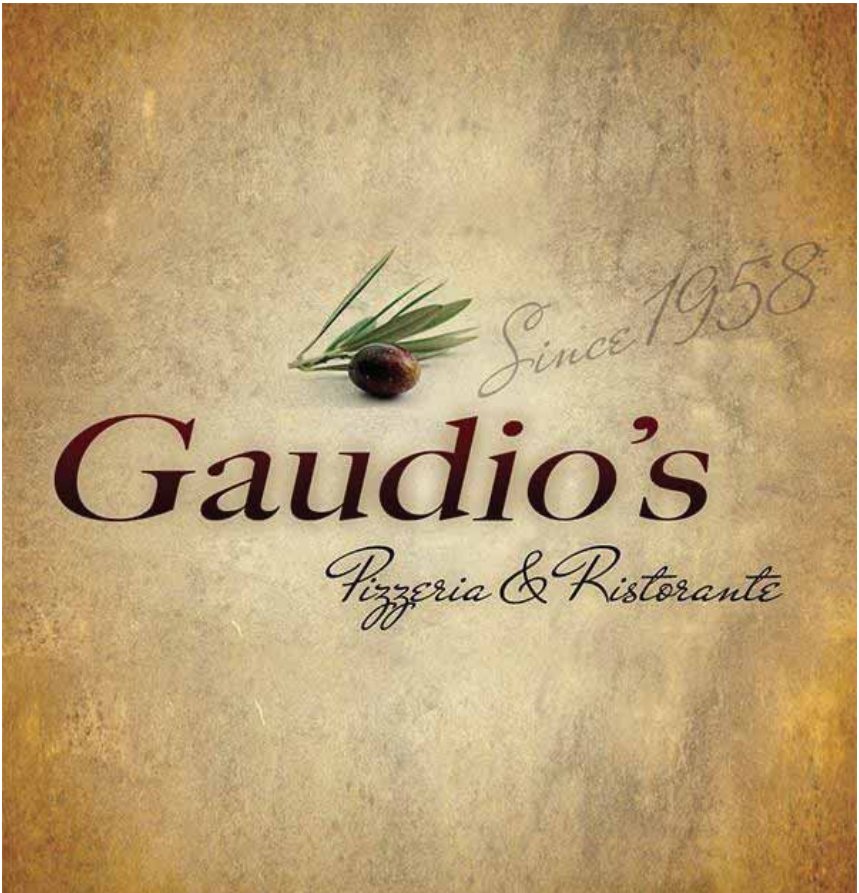
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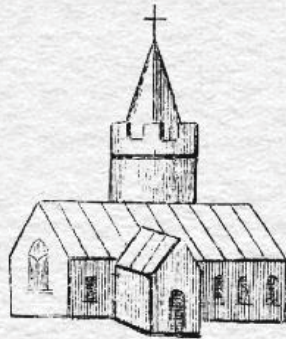
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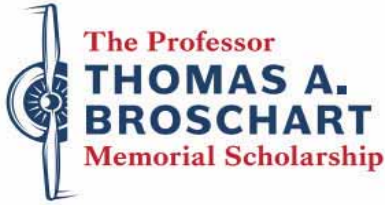
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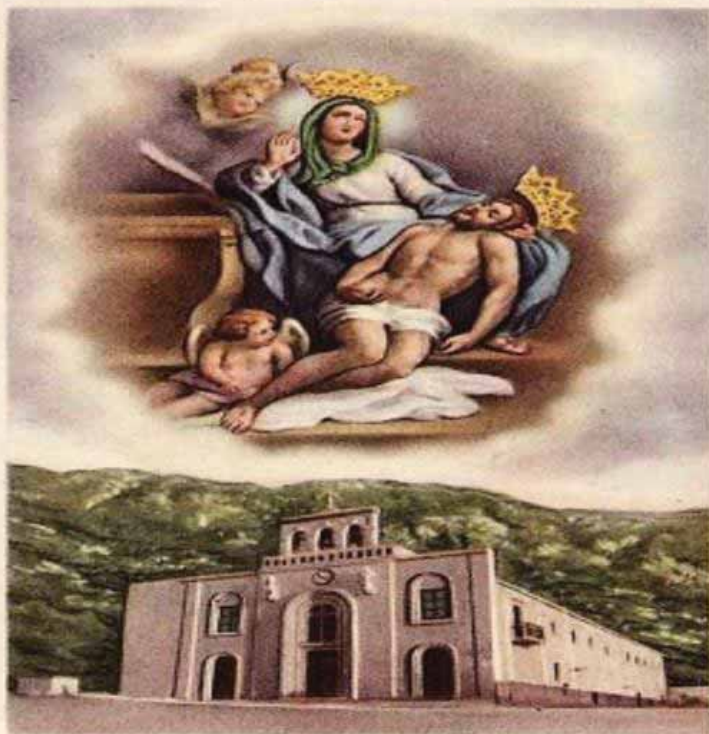
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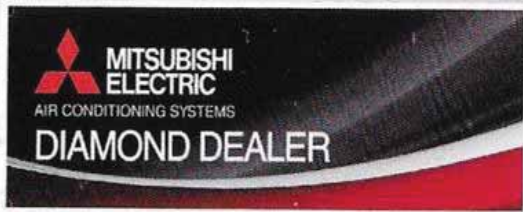


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**Marlene Kaselis**

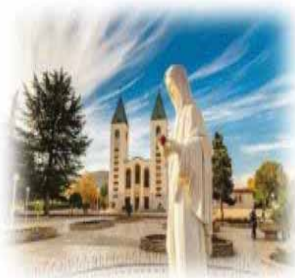
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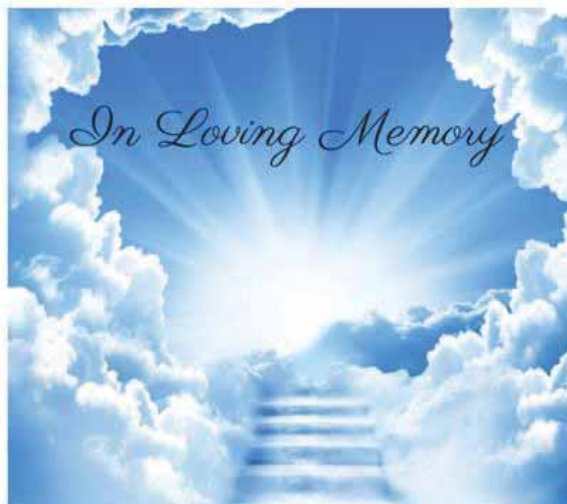
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God granted us the example of the **Blessed Carlo Acutis**, who used his computer talents to construct a Eucharistic Miracle website on the Information Highway.

May **Blessed Carlo** protect us from the scams, misinformation, disinformation, and temptations of the Information Highway.

Further, teach us patience as we try to navigate the operating systems of these tools (computers, I-pads, smart phones, etc.) that bring the Information Highway to us.

As **Blessed Carlo** controlled his journey on the Information Highway; may we also control our journeys on the Information Highway and not the Information Highway control us.

John Brendel



## St. Thérèse of Lisieux and St. Teresa of Avila

### 2 ways, 1 goal



St. Thérèse of Lisieux

Born: January 2nd, 1873

Died: September 30th,  
1897

Feast Day: October 1st

Third woman to be named  
Doctor of the Church.

St. Thérèse of Lisieux believed and taught us to see the value and holiness in little actions that may seem mundane or meaningless. These are not nuisances or interferences with life – but rather are “our” life! We are called to do it with holiness, embracing it as our work or service to others. We can find joy and God in even the smallest action. The little things are the big things and we can find holiness in the work in front of us. St. Thérèse’s idea of practicing small acts with great love is a path that anyone can follow regardless of their circumstances in life. This is the little way that St. Thérèse has become well known.

St. Teresa of Avila was a woman  
“for others.”



St. Teresa of Avila

Born: March 28th, 1515

Died: October 4th, 1582

Feast Day: October 15th

First woman to be named  
Doctor of the Church.

A Carmelite Nun

Though a contemplative, she spent a good deal of her time and energy working to reform herself and the Carmelites. She founded over a half-dozen new monasteries. She traveled, wrote and fought always to reform. In herself, in her prayer and in her life, in her efforts to reform, in all the people she touched. She lived out her “unconditional love for the Church” by serving and defending it in the face of division and conflicts. St. Teresa was a woman for others, a woman who inspired! St. Thérèse of Lisieux and St. Teresa of Avila; though similar: having the same name, being both Carmelites, being both Doctors of the Church and having their Feast Day in October; had two very different ways to serve God. Each found their own unique way to serve Him. It is important for us to understand that Saints were ordinary people just as we are. There is no set rule on how we serve Him, Simply, that we do in our own unique way, using the gifts that our Lord gave us.

**God Bless you as you grow in discovering your unique way to serve our Lord and grow in Holiness as you grow closer to Him.**

# Congratulating:

*St Joseph's & St Patrick's Honorees:*  
*Evangelization Award: Marlene Kaselis,*  
*Service Award: Lily Daleo,*  
*Leadership Award: Gregorio Avila*  
*In Gratitude for Your Dedication, Impact & Care*  
*In Embracing The Gift of Life.*



*"Yours are the eyes through which Christ looks  
compassion into the world." -St. Teresa of Avila*

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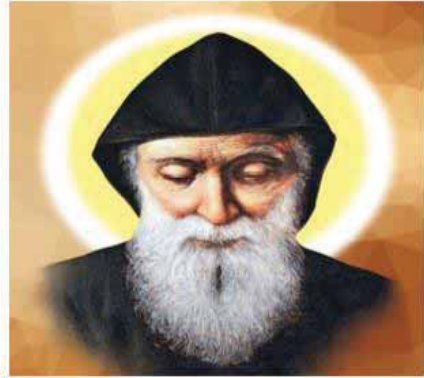
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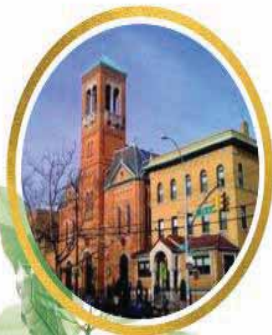


# The Co-Cathedral of St. Joseph



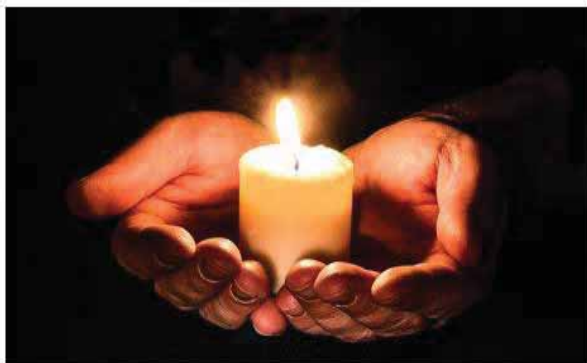
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**Congratulations to Marlene Kaselis, Lily Daleo &  
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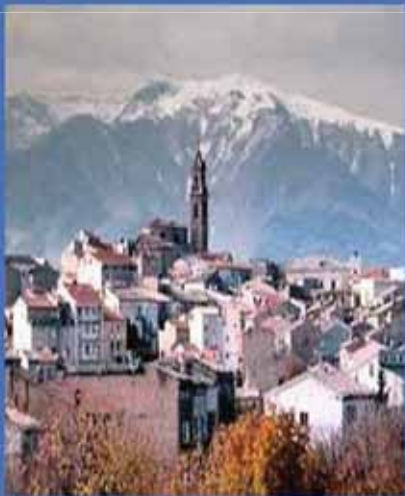
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Congratulations to **Marlene, Lily and Gregorio** for their awards and thanks to all those who worked so hard to make this gala a great success!



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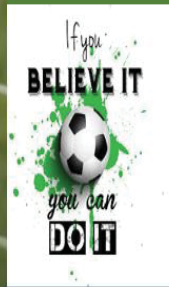
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**Gregorio Avila,**

por su servicio a  
nuestra Parroquia.

Que Dios continúe  
bendiciendo su vida.

Familia Chirinos &  
Torres



**Felicitaciones a mi esposo**

**Gregorio**

por su reconocimiento, que le  
otorga la Iglesia San José por todo  
su servicio que presta a la Iglesia.

Que Dios te siga bendiciendo  
grandemente y te siga iluminando,  
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Thank you to this year's  
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God Bless our Angel on Earth –

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and Jill Olt, Jr., and his grandchildren  
Brittney & Gerald III



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*In Loving Memory*  
✠  
**The Marsalisi Family**



*With Love,*  
**Orsola Marsalisi**



**En Memoria a**  
**Livia Hortencia Orellano**

Mi bella sobrina – gracias por los bellos momentos que compartimos y que volvemos a compartir cuando nos encontremos en el Reino de Nuestro Padre Celestial.

Siempre en mi corazón.

**Tu Tía Lili Chirinos**

*Angel*





In Memory of  
My Beloved Uncle  
Father Giancarlo Iocco



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**JOHN & MARIA SARACENI**  
and **FAMILY**



In Loving Memory of  
My Father and Mother  
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*With Love*  
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and **FAMILY**



*"Begin nothing on earth unless it has its end in Heaven; do not walk on a path that does not lead to Heaven."* St. Sharbel



In Loving Memory of  
Agostinho DeGouvea,  
Thomas Falcón and  
My Beloved Aunt,  
Martha Plenca.



Love, Irene-Luisa Torres

✠ *May You Rest in the light of the Lord.* ✠



Madonna Di Pompei

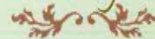
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Amato, Giovannina &  
Michael Delli Gatti, and  
Amalia Sosa



In Loving Memory of My  
Husband Luigi Fusco



With Love Angela Fusco



*In Loving Memory*



*Vivian Nobile Exposti*



My wife passed away a little more than a year ago. She was my loyal and devoted wife, and a friend to her family and to St. Joseph Catholic Church for over 50 years. Vivian dedicated her life to teaching health at Thomas Edison High School. She taught for 37 years in the public school system. She also was a mentor to thousands of teenagers for their character and well-being. The World is a better place because of Vivian's efforts, and she is deeply missed.

My wife passed away from Pancreatic Cancer that she had been fighting for 21 months. Vivian is the letter "C" for Champion. She fought until the 12<sup>th</sup> Round. Her determination, fortitude and spirit never wavered; she never quit trying to stay alive. I believe that God needed an Angel and chose her. God bless you in Heaven.

**Your Loving Husband, Edward.**



In Loving Memory

**Annunziata, Antonio,  
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With Love,  
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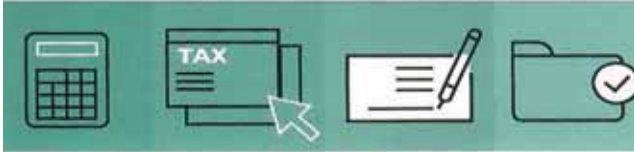
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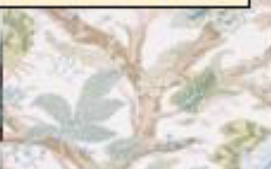
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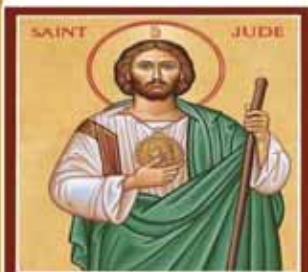
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of My Loving  
Parents

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Dorothy Groat







In Loving Memory of  
My Mother

**Bienvenida Rodriguez**  
and Father-in-Law  
**Miguel Mercado**



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**Deacon Jacob Rodriguez**  
and Family

**Prayer to St. Michael  
The Archangel**

Saint 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, thrust  
into hell  
Satan and all evil spirits  
Who wander through the  
world  
For the ruin of souls. Amen.



In Loving Memory  
**Patricia Freeman & Patricia**  
**Avitabile** From Lillian & Margaret



*In Loving Memory of*  
**Charles Lugo.**  
*Rest In Peace, Beloved Brother.*  
*Until we meet again.*  
*You are gone, but never forgotten.*



*Love,*  
*Yvonne Eliassani*  
*Frances Lugo*  
*Anthony Lugo*



*In Memory of Elizabeth*  
*"Betty" Pietromonaco*  
*Beloved Wife, Mother & Nana*

*Love, Your Husband Benny,*  
*Son Michael & Family*





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**Elizabeth Di Campi**

Love you, Your children  
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In Loving Memory of

**Giuseppe Gizzi**

Love you Forever,  
Your wife Rosa Gizzi,  
Carmine & Giovanna



Gained his angel wings on 5-29-2003



In Loving Memory of My  
Beloved Parents, Grandparents,  
Brother, Sister and All  
Deceased Family Members.



Love Maria Collazo & Family



In Memory of My Beloved Parents'

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May St. Joseph and St. Patrick  
bless you always.**





**THE STITCHES GROUP**

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**Congratulates**

**Marlene Kaselis, Lily Daleo, & Gregorio Avila**

**Blessed St. Joseph's Day & Happy St. Patrick's Day**



Congratulations to  
**Lily, Marlene & Gregorio**

**Happy St. Patrick's Day**  
**Blessed St. Joseph's Day**  
The Divine Mercy Prayer  
Group





## Lector Ministry



**The Spanish Lectors of St. Joseph Church**

congratulate this year's honorees:

**Marlene Kaselis, Lily Daleo & Gregorio Avila**

May God bless them for all they  
do for our parish.



**The St. Joseph**

**Cursillista Group**

congratulate the honorees  
for their service and  
dedication to our parish.

**God Bless St. Joseph**

**Guadalupano Group of St Joseph Church**



*Congratulates the honorees:*

*Marlene Kaselis, Lily Daleo & Gregorio Avila*

*for their devotion and dedication.*

*Best wishes to St. Joseph Church on this Gala  
celebrating St. Joseph and St. Patrick.*



**Caro Padre Pio  
grazie per tutto l'aiuto che  
gratuitamente mi doni...  
grazie per la tua continua  
presenza nella mia vita.**



*Padre Pio Prayer Group*





### **The St. Joseph English Ushers**

**Congratulate Marlene, Lily & Gregorio**  
for their service and dedication to our  
Parish.

**God Bless our Clergy, Parishioners,  
Community and Supporters**



**Los Ujieres de San José**  
felicit a  
**Gregorio Avila**  
por su dedicación y  
trabaja para nuestra  
parroquia.  
**Felicidades.**

# CONGRATULATIONS!

\* *The Religious Education Program*  
*Congratulates Ms. Lillian Daleo, who has been*  
*volunteering in our Program since 2013 as a Door*  
*monitor. Thank you for your Commitment &*  
*dedication during all these years.*



*Congratulations to the Honorees of this year.*



*Evangelization Award:*

*Marlene Kaselis*

*Service Award:*

*Lily Daleo*

*Leadership Award:*

*Gregorio Avila*



*We thank you for all the years of Service helping in our Parish and*  
*giving a Good Sample to the Religious Education Program.*



## **Congratulations Lily on receiving the** **Service Award**

We appreciate all your hard work as a  
Financial Counter, Usher Leader, RE Greeter,  
Padre Pio Wheel Professional &  
Trip Coordinator.

God Bless you for all you do!

**Love, the Financial Counter team of:**  
**Mayra, Irene, Margaret, Orsola & Lucia**





---

**Renovación Carismático**  
***Congratulate Marlene, Lily & Gregorio***  
***on being honored.***  
***May God bless all the clergy of St. Joseph Church***

---



**The St. Joseph Church CYO Group**  
congratulate the honorees.  
May St. Joseph and St. Patrick bless  
our parish.



**The Extraordinary  
Ministers of the  
Eucharist**  
congratulate:  
Marlene, Lily & Gregorio  
God Bless St. Joseph  
Church



**Los Ministros Extraordinarios  
De La Eucaristía**  
felicitamos a nuestra  
parroquia de San José por su  
aniversario  
**Bendiciones**



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## *Special Mentions*

**Congratulations to Lillian on her Award!**

Love, Roma & Michael

\*\*\*\*\*

**Blessings to Lily, Marlene & Gregorio!**

Love, M & R O'Hara

\*\*\*\*\*

**Congratulations to Lily & Marlene Love,**

Lili & Manuel Chirinos

\*\*\*\*\*

**Congratulations to all the Honorees!**

Yvonne Sfogliano

\*\*\*\*\*



*In Loving Memory of*  
*In Loving Memory of: **Maria & Francesco Messina***  
From: Andy Messina  
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*In Loving Memory of: **Michael & Delia Cavanaugh***  
From: Margaret Cavanaugh  
\*\*\*\*\*

*In Loving Memory of: **Paul & Margaret Daleo***  
Love: Lillian  
\*\*\*\*\*

*In Loving Memory of: **Maria and Carmen Valverde***  
Love: From Your Family  
\*\*\*\*\*

*In Loving Memory of: **My Husband: Bill McClean***  
Love: Jean McClean  
\*\*\*\*\*

*In Loving Memory of: **Benito Eleanor & Joseph Alfonso***  
Love: Cynthia Alfonso  
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*In Loving Memory of: **Mom & Dad & Brother Richard***  
Love: Stephanie Fravola

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*En Memoria de Nuestros Padres: **José E Mejia***

De sus hijos Manuel y Lili Chirinos

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*En Memoria de Nuestros Padres: **Livia A Espinoza***

De sus hijos Manuel y Lili Chirinos

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*En Memoria de Nuestros Padres: **Luis F Chirinos***

De sus hijos Manuel y Lili Chirinos

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*En Memoria de Nuestros Padres: **Carmela Layme***

De sus hijos Manuel y Lili Chirinos

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*In Loving Memory of our Parents: **José & Eneyda Alonso***

Love, Mayra & Joe DiRico

\*\*\*\*\*

*In Loving Memory of our Parents: **Nicolo & Nicola DiRico***

Love, Mayra & Joe DiRico

\*\*\*\*\*

*In Loving Memory of: **Mike Dzanoukakis***

Love: Rosemary Dzanoukakis

\*\*\*\*\*





*In Loving Memory of my wife: **Therese Winters***

Love, William & Family

\*\*\*\*\*

*In Loving Memory of Nonna: **Maria Di Pompo***

We love and miss you 

\*\*\*\*\*

*In Loving Memory of my Husband: **Francesco Gianatiempo***

Love your wife, Antonietta

\*\*\*\*\*

*In Memoria di Nostri Genitori: **Angelo e Serafina Curatolo***

**Antonio e Rosina Spatola**

Con amore, Figli, Ermelinda e Giuseppe Spatola

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*En Memoria de: **Domingo Carrasco & María Castro***

De Ramona Carrasco

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*God bless you on your 4<sup>th</sup> year in heaven*

**Thomas J Sherlock**

Love forever, Karen Sherlock

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## Thank you message from Father Vincent Chirichella

**“The Bible states that those who give bountifully will receive bounty in heaven. ”**

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Together we will continue to build a strong community here in Astoria.

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