

november 28, 2021 first sunday of advent



st. lawrence o'toole & sacred heart parishes

Mass schedule

St. Lawrence

Saturday Vigil

5:30, 7:30 pm (Spanish)

Sunday

8:00, 9:30, 11:00 am, 12:30 pm (Spanish)

5:30 pm

Monday-Friday

8:30 am

Sacred Heart

Saturday Vigil

4:00 pm

Sunday

10:30 am

Daily Rosary

9:00 am

St. Lawrence Cemetery

Plots and cremation niches are available for purchase.

Cemetery office 845-279-2021 x201

call to schedule an appointment.

stlawrenceotoole.org

31 Prospect Street
Brewster, NY 10509
845-279-2021

sacredheartpattersonny.org

414 Haviland Drive
Patterson, NY 12563
845-279-4832

Instagram: [stlawrenceotoole_brewsterny](https://www.instagram.com/stlawrenceotoole_brewsterny)

Facebook: St. Lawrence O'Toole
& Sacred Heart

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YouTube: Saint Lawrence



10 meaningful advent traditions for catholic families

LACY- CATHOLIC ICING

The holiday season can be overwhelming, but there are so many wonderful Catholic Advent traditions from all over the world that can be easily implemented into your celebrations! Many of these are even easier to incorporate after you have initially started it, so add a few traditions here and there and watch your meaningful family traditions grow. There are so many meaningful Catholic traditions from all over the world, but let's look at these top 10.



1. St. Nicholas Day

St. Nicholas day rolls around every year on December 6, and celebrating this Saint feast day is a great way to remember who Santa Claus really is! Our favorite tradition is to leave out our shoes for St. Nick to fill with candy and small treats.

2. Advent Wreath

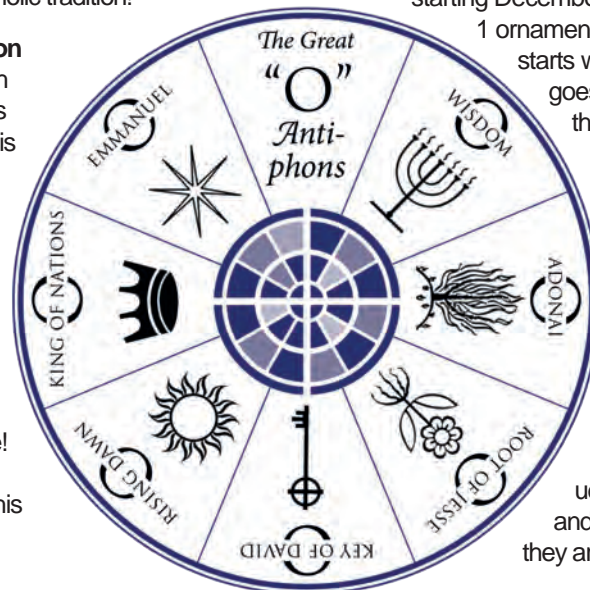
This is an Advent tradition that is near and dear to my heart as it is one of the only ways my family lived the liturgical year at home when I was growing up. In fact, it's on my top 15 list of ways to live liturgically at home! Once you have an Advent wreath, it's easy to pull out year after year. Don't miss out on this beautiful Catholic tradition!

3. Feast Of The Immaculate Conception

A holy day of obligation in the USA, which means that Catholics attend Mass on this day. It's a common misconception that this day is about Mary being pregnant with Jesus, when it's really a day to remember St. Anne being pregnant with Mary! Make sure your kids don't misunderstand this Advent feast day as many Catholics do!

4. Have An Interactive Nativity Set

Display a nativity set prominently in your home- up on the mantel is a great choice! This is an easy way to send a message of what's the most important reason for this season.



5. Attend Confession As A Family

At St. Lawrence confession is every Monday and Friday from 4:00 pm -7:00 pm. This is a great way to prepare for the coming of our Savior.

6. Feast Day Of St Lucy



This Saint feast day happens each year on December 13, and I can no longer imagine Advent without it! This day is a huge deal in Sweden, and we like to celebrate with the traditional Swedish saffron buns. Some years when I can't handle complicated baking, we opt for an easy St. Lucy bun alternative, which may or may not involve canned cinnamon rolls. There are many other traditions

surrounding this day including making gingerbread, dressing up as St. Lucy and star boys, singing songs, lighting candles, and even more!

7. Feasts Of San Juan Diego and Our Lady Of Guadalupe

Both of these beautiful feast days fall during Advent! The feast of San Juan Diego is on December 9, and Our Lady of Guadalupe is on December 12. There are lots of ways to celebrate these days, including recipes, crafts, printables, and more.

8. Pray the St. Andrew Christmas Novena With Your Family

This is a beautiful tradition. You can add it to your daily prayers, or do this in place of your current family prayers during the Advent season. Starts Nov. 30:

St. Andrew Christmas Novena

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born Of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen

9. Start A Jesse Tree

I love our Jesse Tree! Basically you have a small tree of some kind, and each day starting December 1, you hang

1 ornament on the tree. It

starts with Adam and

goes all the way

through baby Je-

sus on December

25, showing the stories of the Old

Testament leading up to the birth of our savior.



10. O Antiphons

Each night for the octave (8 days) before Christmas, we ask Christ to come, and call him by a different name. Each of these names starts with "O", such as "O Come O Come Emmanuel". An antiphon is a liturgical composition, and they are traditionally sung. Therefore, they are called the O Antiphons.



November 28, 2021

while we're at it

our vision Create a parish of missionary disciples whose personal relationship with Jesus Christ inspires others into a life-changing relationship with Him.

Dear Friends,

One of our best traditions is Thanksgiving, when we as a nation remember that everything we are and everything we have is a gift from a good God. Gratitude may be the most underrated virtue, but it is really essential.

We're giving thanks this year for 150 years of the Catholic Faith in Brewster and Patterson. Thanks to God and thanks for those who built our Churches, frequented the sacraments, and passed that legacy of faith on to the young. Gratitude means we have to pay it forward too.

For all these years, we have had many priests serve our parishes. Some were immigrants, others native New Yorkers. A couple were produced right here in our own community. But in 2021 we're all aware of how short we are on priests. Just ten years ago, we had five priests living and working at Sacred Heart and St. Lawrence. Now we have just one priest, with other priests who work elsewhere filling in to help weekends. I read about a priest in Albany who oversees 12 parishes! That could be the future here as well.

The situation nationally and here in New York is dire and if present trends continue, will lead to huge reductions in the availability of Mass and the sacraments.

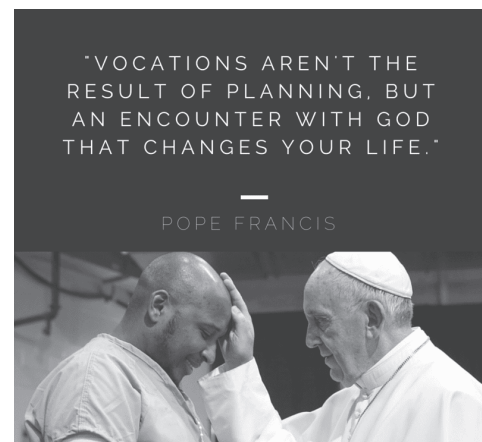
The numbers tell the story: there are only 297 Archdiocesan priests under age 75 available to work. We have roughly 286 parishes. Of those priests nearly half – 143 – are between the age of 60 and 75. With retirement age at 75, that means we face a future with half as many priests as today. That will mean more parish closures and mergers.

The Cardinal is very concerned about this and he has appointed 15 priests in various parts of the Archdiocese to lead renewed efforts at **inviting young men to the priesthood**. Fr. Jon Tveit at St. James in Carmel is in charge for our area, and he is inviting young men of high school and college age to join weekly for dinner and prayer with others at St. Kateri in LaGrangeville.

Let's encourage this. Let's also get on our knees before the Blessed Sacrament to pray for the Lord to send us many good and holy priests. Let's fast and sacrifice for young men considering the priesthood. And let's encourage our boys and our neighbors to be generous and dedicate their lives to something truly awesome – leading people to God and bringing Christ to his people in the Eucharist.

God bless,

Fr. Richard Gill





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MINISTRY



Are you in need of intercessory prayer and healing prayer? The new **Arise Prayer Ministry** may be for you. A small team of trained parishioners will pray with you for whatever need you have: life struggles, temptations, family problems, grieving lost loved ones, emotional and physical healing, and so on. The team will call upon the Holy Spirit to intercede and bring his grace and light into your life and show you how the power of God changes things for the better.

PRAYER SESSIONS BEGIN

- **Every third Monday of the month at Seasons of Praise** after priests' talk.
- **After the 11 am Mass**, and weekly thereafter. Our teams will be available for an hour and will get to as many people as possible.

Keep the memory of
your loved ones alive.

Dedicate a candle, Mass, flowers or
Altar Bread and Wine for someone.



Call the rectory at 279-2021x200
or email slot.sh.office@gmail.com
to get your dedications.

UPCOMING 150th ANNIVERSARY EVENTS



Wednesday, Dec 1 • 7:30 pm • DINING HALL

**FR. MICHAEL BRUNO, S.T.D. IS A PROFESSOR OF CHURCH HISTORY
at St. Joseph's Seminary in Dunwoodie.**

Fr. Michael Bruno will give a presentation on "The Church in New York in the 1800s." He will give some fascinating insights on how the Church grew from a single parish in the entire state of New York in 1785. Plus, he will outline the main developments that led to the surge in the Catholic population in the city and northward to our area, culminating in the founding of St. Lawrence O'Toole in 1871.



Sunday, Dec 19 • 2:00 pm • CHURCH/GYM

EXPOSITION OF SACRED RELICS - TREASURES OF THE CHURCH
Presentation by Fr. Carlos Martins of the Companions of the Cross

Our parish invites you to a teaching and exposition of Sacred Relics. There are over 150 relics, some as old as 2,000 years. Among the treasures will be the relics of St. Joseph, St. Mary Magdalene, St. Maria Goretti, St. Thérèse of Lisieux, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Faustina Kowalska. There will also be a fragment of the Veil that belonged to the Blessed Mother and some of the largest remaining pieces of the Wood of the True Cross in the world.



Saturday, Jan 15 • 5:30 pm • CHURCH/GYM

150th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION MASS
with **CARDINAL DOLAN**
RECEPTION FOLLOWING MASS



the groundbreaking

TINA GRANT

In January 1914, Fr. Phelan officiated at the funeral services for Mary Gilroy. Her husband, John, had predeceased her. John and Mary Gilroy held Masses in their home prior to our wooden church. Mary's obituary in *The Brewster Standard* read "Fifty years ago Mary and John were prominent residents of the village. True and reliable in all the walks of life they were highly esteemed by all here below, and now that they are reunited, they command the same recognition and experience the same happiness." It was a beautiful tribute to true disciples who gave unselfishly and humbly.

The parishioners' fondness for Fr. Phelan was noted on several occasions. In May 1914, The Daughters of Isabella held a reception to celebrate Fr. Phelan's 18th-anniversary ordination to the priesthood. He was presented with a "handsome leather recliner chair."

The parishioners supported Fr. Phelan as he supervised the building of the stone church. The fundraising efforts of The Knights of Columbus, The Daughters of Isabella (Catholic Daughters) and the Ladies of the Altar Society, and Fr. Phelan's challenging work are to be commended. Fr. Burns had laid the fundraising groundwork for a stone church. Fr. Phelan would lay the cornerstone.

The "St. Lawrence Building Association" made up of several committees, was spearheaded by Chairman Frank O'Brien, Recording Secretary T.J. Penanghty, Finance Secretary John G. Comaskey, and Treasurer Rev. Thomas P. Phelan.

Robert J. Reiley, a renowned architect, was hired as the skilled architect who would design our stone church. In total, he would design twenty-five churches, including contributing to the design of the altar frontal for the Lady Chapel during a renovation of St. Patrick's Cathedral in 1941.

In early 1914, The St. Lawrence Advisory Building Committee accepted Mr. Reiley's design for an English Gothic-style church. When completed, it would extend 50 feet by 109 feet with a clerestory and a tower 60 feet high, as pictured here. We owe much of the design of our stone church, including the shape, size, wood, decoration, adornments, and placement of our stained glass windows (several of which came from our wooden church), to Mr. Reiley. He captured our history and the presence of God beautifully.

With funds and design in hand, the first steps were taken to build our stone church.

Fr. Henry's small wooden church, which had served us well, was moved to the Eastview Avenue property St. Lawrence owned.

On Sunday, July 19, 1914, after the appropriate ceremonies, Fr. Phelan dug the first sod. It was a momentous occasion with three hundred parishioners in attendance.

The general contractor was John Kennedy & Co of New York City. The heavy granite used for the church was hauled from less than a quarter-mile away from the stone quarries of Charles W. Griffith. These quarries were located on Marvin Hill, behind our current railroad station. Parishioner Terence Gallagher lent his wagon and a team of horses to haul the massive cut granite stones to Prospect Street. Terence Gallagher was the father of Marguerite Gallagher, who had been St. Lawrence's oldest parishioner when she died at age 105 in February 2003. Jim Snidero, who worked and lived at Gallagher's farm in Doansburg, drove the rig.

Three months later, the moment had come. Fr. Phelan, his parishioners, and the community were excited for October 4, 1914, when the laying of the cornerstone of St. Lawrence's new stone church would take place.



how st. margaret of scotland prepared for christmas

PHILIP KOSLOSKI

St. Margaret had a deep prayer life that also included fasting before the feast of Christmas.

While the modern world has fully embraced a period of feasting before the celebration of Christmas, many saints in the past would fast in preparation of Christ's birth.

St. Margaret of Scotland was no exception. According to the biography, *St. Margaret, Queen of Scotland*, the royal saint led a deep life of prayer.

Let me speak first of her prayerfulness. In church, no one was so silent and composed as she, no one so wrapt in prayer. While she was in the house of God, she would never speak of worldly matters or do anything which savored of the earth; she was there simply to pray and in praying, to pour her tears. Only her body was then here below, her spirit was near to God. For in the purity of her prayer she sought nothing but God, and the things which are God's.

She adopted a life of fasting, which may have been on the extreme side and harmed her health.

As for her fasting, I will say this alone, that the strictness of her abstinence brought upon her a very severe infirmity. St. Margaret took upon herself such a fast before Christmas.

She kept a fast of forty days in preparation for the Feast of Christmas, consequently troubled with great pains. This 40-day fast is similar to what many other Christians have embraced over the centuries, making the season of Advent a season of fasting.

Today's celebration of Advent has become so mixed with Christmas that it is difficult to understand it as a season that was similar to Lent. Yet, this is how past Christians approached Advent, wanting to prepare their bodies and souls for the great feast of Christmas.

pray for

Please remember our brothers and sisters in the Lord who have asked for prayers:

Bridget Kenny ◦ Betty Dobbins ◦ Garecht/Pinzur/Sarlo Families ◦ Patricia Willis ◦ Catherine Sloomaker ◦ Demario Creaco ◦ Barry Newman ◦ Jerry Davis ◦ Danny Hernandez ◦ Russell Snyder ◦ Cindy Agosto ◦ Barbara Mc Guire ◦ Vincent Lambino ◦ Michael Tarr ◦ Lettie Friis ◦ JoAnn Montalbano ◦ Joan DiGioia Lucas ◦ Robbi Blacharski ◦ Judy McDermott ◦ John McCabe ◦ Ava DiBenedetto ◦ Noah Martinez ◦ Thomas Consolato ◦ John Taylor ◦ Marie Taylor ◦ Angelica Rivera ◦ Jason Morales ◦ Brianna Martinez ◦ Carole Manley ◦ Michael Taylor ◦ Larry Iazzetti, Sr. ◦ Kevin Valle ◦ Dianne Lamoureux ◦ Kathy Farina ◦ Megan Gersh ◦ Adran Ramirez ◦ Jerry Ranieri ◦ Arlete Turturro ◦ Daniel Lyons ◦ Andy Quinn, Sr. ◦ Rene Phoche ◦ Karen Scott ◦ Thomas Pavia ◦ James McCaughey ◦ Dulio Prado ◦ Matthew Anthony ◦ Robert Schacht ◦ Johanna Dew ◦ Tony Greco ◦ Jackie Pasquale ◦ Michael & Luise Lyons

Names will remain on the Prayer List for 90 days and then will be transferred to the prayer list in the Adoration Chapel. To add names to or remove names from the Prayer List, please email: SLOT.SH.Office@gmail.com

anniversary bracelets



Check out the beautiful limited edition bracelets designed for St. Lawrence O'Toole and Sacred Heart to celebrate 150 years.

Be sure to select St Lawrence in the drop down box at checkout and 20% of your total order will be donated!

annekoplik.com/product-tag/st-lawrence-collection/

meditation on the crèche

The San Damiano Fraternity welcomes you to a **Franciscan Christmas** meditating on the Crèche on Friday, **December 17** from 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm in the Church; followed by refreshments and celebration in the Parish Center Large Conference Room 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm.

quo vadis: a young men's discipleship group

Jesus wants you to follow him, but how? Quo Vadis is a new group, meeting weekly, for high school and college-age young men in Dutchess and Putnam Counties who are serious about their Catholic faith and interested in discovering God's will for their lives. Come for prayer, a shared meal, and real conversation with brothers in the faith and local priests. Quo Vadis is held **every Friday evening at St. Kateri Tekakwitha Church in LaGrangeville, starting December 10**. No weekly commitment is needed. Call Fr. John Wilson at (845) 227-1710 to RSVP or for more information. Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Archdiocese of New York.

mass intentions

Saturday, November 27

4:00PM *Sacred Heart* Gladys O'Connor
5:30PM Theresa Howe
7:30PM Spanish

Sunday, November 28

8:00AM Christopher Walsh
9:30AM Mary Welsh
10:30AM *Sacred Heart* Intentions of Judy McDermott
11:00AM Parmenio Sanchez
12:30 PM Spanish
5:30PM John Lynch

Monday, November 29

8:30AM Thomas, Tom, Peggy Cunningham & Family

Tuesday, November 30

8:30AM Westin Family

Wednesday, December 1

8:30AM Marge Hanft

Thursday, December 2

8:30AM Patrick Martin, Sr & St. Lawrence O'Toole Society

Friday, December 3

8:30AM Msgr. McCabe Scholarship Fund
7:00PM Sacred Heart of Jesus Society

Saturday, December 4

4:00PM *Sacred Heart* Marianne Gallecher
5:30PM Grace Marcello
7:30PM Spanish

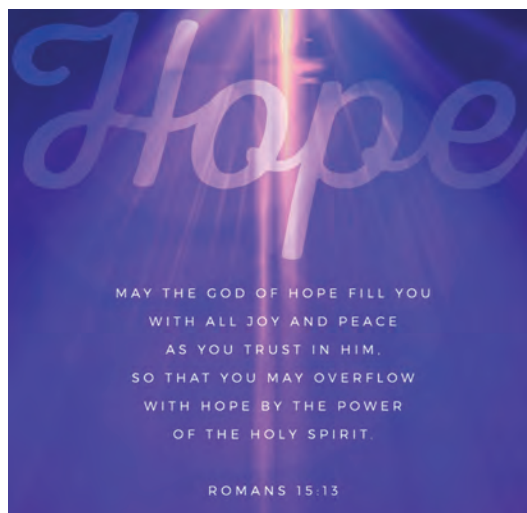
Sunday, December 5

8:00AM Paul Pember
9:30AM Patrick & Florence Sheerin
10:30AM *Sacred Heart* Marianne Gallecher
11:00AM Gregory Taylor
12:30 PM Spanish
5:30PM Antonio Galizia

dedications

St. Lawrence O'Toole

The **Paschal Candle** is dedicated for **John LaGuardia** at the request of Betsy Hansbury





LYNDA HOLLER
DIRECTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYING EACH OTHER TO HEAVEN



As November ends, the month of saints and souls, let's reflect on all the souls that have gone before us: the canonized saints, our sisters and brothers in Purgatory, and those who we fear may have died rejecting Jesus. As disciples, we need to stay in communion with all members of

the Body of Christ.

It is a wonderful practice for us to read the lives of the saints and choose at least one to connect with. Pope Saint John Paul II canonized many 20th Century saints, and subsequent popes are doing the same, so it is easier than ever to find holy men and women with whom we have commonalities. As with each of us, God put

them in diverse situations, asked them to fulfill innumerable roles and invited them to accept their own unique suffering. The common denominator is their determination to love and obey God to the best of their ability. Praying to them for their guidance and intercession will help us do the same.

I recently added an important prayer for the holy souls in Purgatory to my morning prayers. Our Lord instructed St. Gertrude the Great that each time this prayer is said, a vast number of souls are released from Purgatory: "Eternal Father, I offer Thee the most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with all the Masses being said throughout the world for all the holy souls in Purgatory. Amen." I hope you will join me in saying it daily.

Fr. Chris Alar, a Marian Father of the Immaculate Conception, teaches about the power of praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet for those souls we fear were separated from Jesus at the time of their death. He explains that since God lives outside of time, our prayers today can still appeal to God to pour out his mercy on them. He says that our prayers are, "like a squadron of dive bombers coming in from today to aid in the war being fought for souls at the time of their death." Our Catholic faith offers us so many opportunities to simultaneously learn from and help others – those in this world and the next.

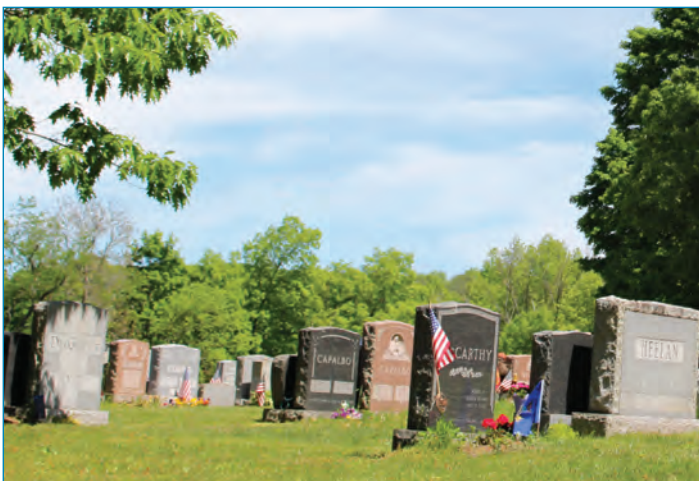
Scripture: Read Ephesians 5:1-5. What words stand out?

Call to Action: Make it a regular prayer practice to pray St. Gertrude's prayer for souls in Purgatory and the Divine Mercy Chaplet for those who have rejected God.

Come and pray before the Blessed Sacrament, participate in Mass and pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet together for Our Lord to spread his mercy to his Church and to the whole world.

Confessions 4-7

7:00 pm—Mass
7:45 pm—Adoration
8:00 pm—Benediction



Plan ahead and have peace of soul when you or your loved ones go home to the Lord.

Single and double burial plots available.

St. Lawrence O'Toole Cemetery
20 Turk Hill Road, Brewster
Contact the Cemetery Office at 279-2021 x201

parish support

At the time of print the collection numbers were not available.

Note: Regardless of whether you attend St. Lawrence or Sacred Heart, for convenience on a particular weekend, be assured your collection envelopes will be returned to the parish in which you are registered.

centennial renovations

OCTOBER

Gold Envelopes	\$ 2,290
Other Centennial II Gifts	\$ 3,000
WeShare	\$ 1,324
TOTAL	\$ 6,533

We have made another quarterly payment of \$36,000 and our loan balance is now down to \$435,000 from the original \$3.8 million. We are hoping to pay down the rest of our renovation loan by sometime in 2025. Thank you for your generosity.

MAYBE YOU'RE
ONE OF US

parish staff

Rev. Richard Gill.....Pastor
 Rev. Thomas Berg.....Weekend Associate
 Fr. Art Mollenhauer.....Weekend Associate
 Mark Shkrelil.....Deacon
 Julie Noce.....Pastoral Assistant
 Maureen Herbstritt.....Business Manager
 Karen DiTarantoDatabase Administrator
 Lynda Holler.....Director of Discipleship
 Sally Silvestro.....Director of Communication
 Cecilia Britez...Director of Evangelization and Family Program
 Dominick Russo.....Youth Minister
 Juan de Dios GonzalezDirector of Music
 Melody Salas-CurraSacred Heart Director of Music
 Theresa Scorca.....Coord. of Religious Education
 Clara Segreti.....Family Program Assistant
 Kim Santerre.....Director of Early Childhood Learning Center
 Irene Westin.....Adult Sacramental Administrator
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