

# *Easter Sunday*



*St. Cassian Church*

# SAINT CASSIAN PARISH

187 Bellevue Avenue Upper Montclair, NJ 07043 • (973) 744-2850 • stcassianchurch.org

## The Resurrection of the Lord April 5, 2026



### MASS SCHEDULE

#### *Lord's Day*

Saturday: 5:30PM

Sunday: 7:30AM; 9:30AM; 11:30AM

**Weekdays:** Tuesday through Saturday: 8:15AM

**Holydays:** 8:15AM and as announced

### Sacraments:

**Baptisms** are celebrated on Sundays at 1:00PM throughout the year except during Lent. Baptisms on a Saturday can be arranged.

To baptize your child at St. Cassian, your family should be registered parishioners. Parents and godparents are encouraged to attend a preparation class. Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements for the date that you would like for your baby's Baptism.

Scan to download Parish Registration form:



**Marriage** arrangements must be made at least one year before the desired date with the Parish Office. Please do not make firm plans for the reception prior to speaking with a priest.

**Confessions** are heard every Saturday between 4:15PM-5:00PM in church

### Served by:

Rev. Fr. Steven D'Andrea, Pastor

Rev. Msgr. Anthony Kulig, Assisting Priest

Rev. Dcn. Roberto Demetillo, Deacon

Stephen Powers, Director of Music

Keri Misurell, Director of Faith Formation

Maria Llanes, St. Cassian School Principal

Nicholas Dudzic, Director of Liturgy &

Altar Server Moderator

### Parish Contacts:

Parish Office .....(973) 744-2850

Fax.....(973) 744-6187

Email.....parishoffice@stcassianchurch.org

Website .....www.stcassianchurch.org

Religious Education Office.....(973) 744-2850

Music Office .....(973) 744-7864

St. Cassian School.....(973) 746-1636

Fax.....(973) 746-3271

Email.....info@stcassianschool.org

Website.....www.stcassianschool.org

### Parish Office Hours:

Mon. thru Fri. 9:00AM—3:30PM





**For those who are ill:**

- |                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| John Acha                | John Marrin        |
| Victor Adragna           | Sr. Idoia Martinez |
| Maria Banzon             | Russell McDonnell  |
| Shawn Barrett            | Wendy McNeil       |
| Anne Bordanaro           | Douglas Miller     |
| Leo Botwin               | Zoila Moncada      |
| Judy Burke               | Sandra Nicastro    |
| Gustavo Caceres & Family | Yvelicez Nunez     |
| Dominek Capela           | Ed Olsen           |
| Violet Carbone           | Alaria Orloff      |
| Gladys D'Andrea          | Edward Pasino      |
| Maryellen DePalma        | Mildred Pasino     |
| Al Del Vento             | Don Peters         |
| Francis Dooley           | Geraldine Pompei   |
| Letitia Elias            | David Quigley      |
| Maria Falcone            | Sharon Rappleyea   |
| Courtney Fingar          | Nancy Repetto      |
| Marie Garcia             | Gianna Rios        |
| Isabella Gaven           | Arlene Schneider   |
| Ollie Gelston            | Andrea Seminara    |
| Carol Gesualdo           | Stella Skinner     |
| Carmen Gonzalez          | Gary Smith         |
| Donna Hains              | Elizabeth Smith    |
| Michael David Higgins    | Lynette Steiner    |
| Anne Hughes              | Doug Svozil        |
| Irena Kapitula           | Lee Swearer        |
| Helen Konefal            | Lindsay Trembulak  |
| Peter Kueken             | Cathy Walsh        |
| Jeannette Lauture        | Matthew White      |
| Elizabeth Leuven         | Mieke Wiggin       |
| Armando & Marta Lopez    | Mary L. Wood       |
| Cassie Lopolus           | Fumiko Yozawa      |
| Molly Mack               | Dr. Tatsuzo Yozawa |
| Leigh Major              | Amelia Zoino       |
| Marcia Mann              | Mario Zoino        |

**FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:** +Karen Burgin  
+Joan Julianelli

**ALTAR BREADS ARE GIVEN IN MEMORY OF THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE ZIEGLER & MATTNER FAMILIES**

**SANCTUARY LAMP BURNS IN MEMORY OF THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE ZIEGLER & MATTNER FAMILIES**

**Mass Intentions for the Week of April 5th**

<b>Sunday, April 5th</b> Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord	7:30AM	People of the Parish
	9:00AM	People of the Parish
	10:30AM	People of the Parish
	12:00PM	People of the Parish
Tuesday–Saturday morning Masses are celebrated at 8:15 AM; Monday morning Mass is private		
<b>Monday, April 6th</b> Easter Monday	9:00AM	+Andrew Kornas
<b>Tuesday, April 7th</b> Easter Tuesday	+Mark Monley	
<b>Wednesday, April 8th</b> Easter Wednesday	+Deceased Members of the Edward F. Gaffney Family	
<b>Thursday, April 9th</b> Easter Thursday	+ Paul J. O'Leary	
<b>Friday, April 10th</b> Easter Friday	- Good health & God's blessings on Rev Fr Steven D. D'Andrea (60B)	
<b>Saturday, April 11th</b> Easter Saturday	+Rosalie and +David D'Andrea	
<b>Sunday, April 12th</b> Second Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday	5:30PM	+Sheila Byrne & +John Maragliano Jr. (1A)
	7:30AM	-Special Intention
	9:30AM	People of the Parish
	11:30AM	+Deceased Members of the Mattner and Ziegler Families & +Deceased Members of the Scalzi and Pontoriero Families

**Mass Intentions Key:**  
+Deceased Intention, -Living Intention  
(A)Anniversary of Death, (WA)Wedding Anniversary,  
(B)Birthday

**The Parish Office will be closed Monday, April 6th & will reopen Tuesday, April 7th**

## *An Easter Message from Fr. Steve*

I remember growing up . The week before Easter there was shopping and preparing food, but not like at Christmas time. Easter didn't have the same stress that goes along with shopping for Christmas presents. The kids all got chocolate Easter bunnies with a bow tie around its necks made out of a 50-dollar bill. Nothing crazy. You just knew you were getting ready for something special to happen. I remember, as soon as I was old enough, it was also the time when you were sent to visit the cemeteries with a rake, plastic garbage bags, shovels and hedge clippers to trim the grass and clean up the around the headstones and plant flowers.

For Easter, you got a new suit – for me it was from the Husky section. The best suits were the ones that had expandable elastic pants. Then Easter Sunday came, and we ate like kings. Dinner was at 1:00 o'clock sharp and my grandmother waited for nobody. Easter was always about meats and cheeses and bread and homemade wine. Which was probably why my suits were from the husky section. I spent many years sitting at the kids' table before I worked my way to the other end to sit with the adults. If the kids were passed out asleep on the couch by 5 o'clock it meant that the home-made wine accidentally made its way down to our end of the kids table.

What I might not have understood years ago I do understand now. When we sat down for dinner, we did so with the understanding that our loved ones and friends that had died were all together and in a safe place. We were together and we celebrated as people with hope. We were celebrating our faith in Christ, and we were expressing our gratitude. If things had gone as expected that morning, the women would have closed the tomb, and gone away with only their grief. However, things did not go according to their plan. It was to the two faithful women that the Easter message was first given. Jesus is not dead, He is alive. What they and the other disciples would find out is that Jesus would replace their pain and sorrow and the emptiness of the tomb with great joy. That is what Jesus continues to do for us.

What we celebrate in this great feast of Easter is God's love for us. You can celebrate Christmas with a tree and gifts, but if Christ isn't the reason for it, then it's just another empty holiday. It is the same for Easter. You cannot celebrate Easter without Christ. If you do, then it is meaningless. It is all about His resurrection and God's love for us.

I can assure you once again, Easter and the Resurrection of Christ was the single most important event to ever happen to the world. The world has softened the meaning of Easter with cute bunnies and marshmallow chicks. But I assure you, when Jesus was on the cross dying for our sins, he wasn't thinking about chocolate eggs and bunnies. He was thinking about us and saving us from our sins and gaining for us eternal life. He did not abandon us, and leave us to die in our sins, but gives us the chance to live forever with Him. He thought we were worth dying for.

We celebrate not only the eternal life that awaits us, but also the eternal life that God has given to all our loved ones and friends who have died. They are still alive and live a real and beautiful life with God in his Kingdom. For those who have died, life is changed, not ended. They closed their eyes on this earth, and they opened them again in paradise. They celebrate Easter - Christ's resurrection, every day for all eternity. For Jesus, there could be no Easter without first suffering. What we must remember is that before Jesus tasted the sweetness of Victory, He had to endure the pain of the cross. Easter joy should be about being grateful for God's love and for all that Jesus endured for us. But until our time comes, Easter joy should be about rejoicing in the beautiful gift of life that God has given to each of us. Jesus dying for our sins shows us that there is no limit to His love for us.

May the Resurrection of Christ bring each of you the gift of hope. May this Easter provide all of you an opportunity to revitalize your relationship with Christ. On behalf of myself, the Priests, Deacons and the whole Parish staff, we extend to you and your families our best wishes as we begin to celebrate this magnificent and beautiful Easter season.

*Father Steve*



*On Friday, April 10, 2026, our pastor  
**Rev. Steven D. D'Andrea**  
 will be turning 60 years young.*



*The parish family of St. Cassian Church will celebrate this joyous occasion with a Dinner-Dance which will include a buffet dinner, open bar and entertainment to be held in Landers Hall on  
**Friday, April 10, 2026 at 7:00pm***

*Reservations and tickets can be purchased at the Parish Office.*

*If someone would like to be a sponsor to defray the cost of this celebration,  
 please contact the Parish Office at 973-744-2850.*

*Please use the form below to request tickets and return it to the Parish Office.*

**Donation: \$65.00 per person.**

**Reservations Form**

*No. of tickets @ \$65 per ticket \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is cash/check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_*

*Please make checks payable to **St. Cassian Church***

*Name \_\_\_\_\_*

*Address \_\_\_\_\_*

*Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_*

**Seating is limited**, therefore adults only. All seats will be reserved. If you wish to reserve a table of ten (10) or twelve (12), please submit full payment with a printed list of all names to be seated together, otherwise, group seating cannot be guaranteed.

***Attn: 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration***

***Please RSVP at the Parish Office by Tuesday, April 7, 2026***

## Upcoming Parish Events

**Friday, April 10 at 7PM**

Fr. Steve's 60th Birthday Party—reservations due to the Parish Office by Tuesday, April 7th.

*Check the **Parish Events** tab on the Parish Website for more Upcoming Events*

## Faith Formation Calendar

**April 5:** No Sunday Faith Formation

**April 6:** No Monday Faith Formation

**April 7:** No Tuesday Faith Formation

**April 12:** Faith Formation Resumes

## Baptism Schedule

April 2026	Baptism	April 19
	Class	April 14
May 2026	Baptism	May 17
	Class	May 12
June 2026	Baptism	June 28
	Class	June 23

### PLEASE HELP HOWEVER YOU CAN!

We will be collecting coffee, tea, cocoa and any of the usual items that we collect the weekends of **April 11th and April 12th** and **April 18th and 19th**

Please bring all items to the **food table** below the steps going to Larkin Hall.

Thank you for your continued generosity.



## Easter Duty

**Easter duty** is the obligation of every Catholic prescribed by the Fourth Lateran Council (1215), which stated that: "Every member of the faithful of either sex who has reached the age of discretion should at least once a year faithfully confess all his sins in secret to his own priest. He should strive as far as possible to fulfill the penance imposed on him, and with reverence receive at least during Easter time the sacrament of the Eucharist."

It is required by Canon Law that, after having made his or her First Holy Communion, **each of the faithful is obligated to receive Holy Communion at least once a year, and this precept must be fulfilled during the Easter season unless it is fulfilled for a just cause at another time during the year.**

The dioceses of the United States have an indult that allows the fulfillment of the Easter duty from the **First Sunday of Lent (February 22, 2026) through Trinity Sunday (May 31, 2026)**. Ideally, one should receive in one's own parish, having been properly disposed by making a good confession sometime beforehand to a priest of his or her choice.

**Looking to contribute to Altar Breads or the Sanctuary Lamp in Memory of a loved one? Please call the Parish Office to see which weeks are available for contribution.**



Ladies In Faith Together (LIFT) invites you to join us on

# Earth Day

April 22nd

Celebrate God's Creation



We will begin with a prayer service in Church at 7 pm.

Immediately following, we will proceed to Larkin Hall for an evening of conversation and fellowship.

We will be planting seeds in pots to take home and to share with our elderly & homebound neighbors.

Please join us and bring a friend!

Date: 04/22/2026 (Wed.) | Time: 7:00pm - 8:30pm EDT  
 Location: Church @ 7 pm, followed by Larkin Hall @ 7:30pm

SCAN ME




# Holy Strolls

— with Moms & Littles —

Fresh Air • Faith • Fellowship




Scan to Join!


First Meet-Up: Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> | 10:00 AM

Larkin Hall, St. Cassian Church

BUZZ ALDRIN MIDDLE SCHOOL PRESENTS

# LEGALLY BLONDE

The Musical JR.



Thursday, April 16 at 7pm  
 Friday, April 17 at 7pm

Adults \$12 | Students \$7  
 Age 6 and under \$5

General Admission  
 30 minutes prior to showtime

Tickets sold at door

## Follow St. Cassian Church's Social Media Accounts!





St. Cassian Catholic Church | stcassianchurch | Saint Cassian Roman Catholic Church

## Home Visits

If you are unable to come to church or if you know a relative or friend who finds it difficult to come to church, let us know. We have many dedicated and caring Eucharistic Ministers who would be happy to bring Communion to you or to your loved ones who are homebound. Fr. Steve would be more than happy to make a visit to someone's home if they wish to go to confession, receive communion, or receive the anointing of the sick. Call the Parish Office if you would like someone to visit you at home.

## ***FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:***

Every year, the loyal parishioners and friends of Saint Cassian Church here in Upper Montclair, continue the beautiful custom of making a special holiday effort to gift their Parish Community with an extraordinary financial donation.

We are excited to welcome Parishioners and friends of St. Cassian Church from near and far this Easter Season and share with them a very spiritual and faith filled experience. As we head into the Great Easter Season (April 5, 2026– May 24, 2026), I would ask you to engage yourselves and your families through the reading of Sacred Scripture, Parish activities, prayer, reflection, and consideration in making a significant contribution to Saint Cassian Church.

With your continued support: bills can be paid, improvements can be made and the means to better preserve, protect and update the physical, organizational and spiritual dimensions of our Church can be provided for and realized.

**If you are giving electronically by means of ParishSOFT (formerly Faith Direct), please know that you must input your Easter donation and categorize it as an “Easter” donation.**

We rejoice that God Almighty has blessed us with 130 years of growth and stability. In the spirit of true giving consider the cultural and religious heritage, worked so hard for, through the efforts of our grandparents and parents; now being passed on to our children and grandchildren.

So if we who believe; if we who are faithful to Saint Cassian Church and all that it means to us are not charitable, generous and giving,... who then sisters and brothers can we really depend on?

***Father Steve***

# ANNUAL<sup>2026</sup> APPEAL

The 2026 Annual Appeal has begun! Each year we are invited to participate in the Annual Appeal, which is an opportunity to support essential ministries and programs of our Archdiocese. Your sacrificial support makes it possible for us to carry out the important work that we are called to do as missionary disciples of Jesus.

Please consider participating in this year's Appeal to help make a significant difference in many lives within our Archdiocese.

**Please make a gift online today by visiting [rcan.org/sharing](https://rcan.org/sharing)  
OR scanning the QR code.**



The Legend  
of the  
Easter Egg

Up from the country trudged Simon Cyrene,  
A basket of eggs on his arm.  
Though springtime crowds were jostling him  
He felt no cause for alarm.

But two Roman soldiers stood in his way,  
"This one will do!" they said.  
They forced him to help Our Lord with His cross  
And to wipe off His brow where He bled.

The basket had dropped by the side of the road,  
The eggs rolling off toward the weeds.  
But Simon forgot them, forgot his own cares,  
As he saw to Christ Jesus' needs.

Two days he was quiet, pondering life,  
Till friends brought his basket to mind.  
He searched on the road  
Among flowers and thorns,  
Never dreaming the joy he would find.

Each of his eggs had taken the hue  
Of the flowers which sheltered them there:  
Pink and violet, yellow and blue—  
What wonders he had to share!

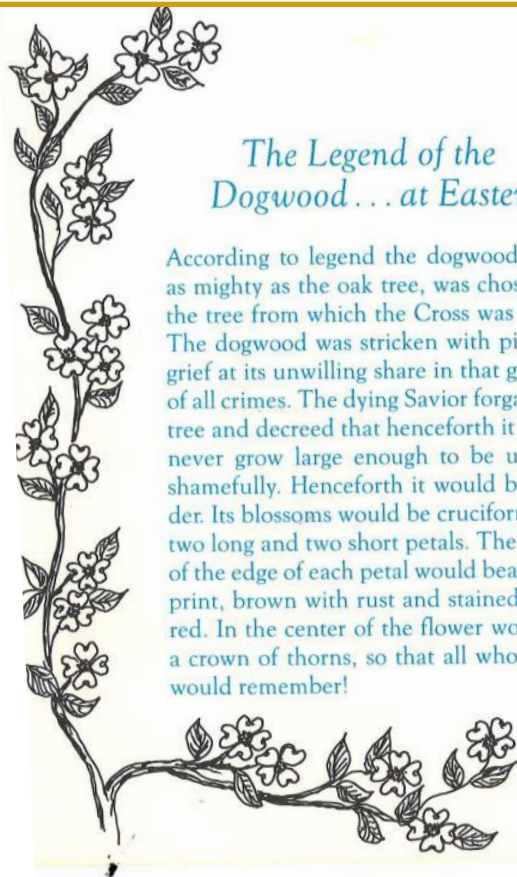
He ran to his friends, giving each one an egg.  
"Praise God for His marvels!" he said.  
"Alleluia!" they answered with glorious news,  
"He is risen, who we thought was dead!"

The joy that rippled among Simon's friends  
Alleluia'd the whole world through.  
The Easter egg still is a sign to this day  
Of the Lord who makes all things new.

A PRAYER  
FOR EASTER

Let us chant Alleluia!  
O blessed Alleluia of heaven!  
No more anguish, no more adversity.  
No more enemy,  
no more love of destruction.  
Up above, praise to God,  
and here below, praise to God.  
Praise mingled with fear here,  
but without disturbance above.  
Here the one who chants must die,  
but there will live forever.  
Here we chant in hope,  
there, in possession.  
Here it is Alleluia en route,  
there it is alleluia on arriving home.  
*Amen.*

—*St. Augustine*



*The Legend of the  
Dogwood . . . at Easter*

According to legend the dogwood, once as mighty as the oak tree, was chosen for the tree from which the Cross was made. The dogwood was stricken with pity and grief at its unwilling share in that greatest of all crimes. The dying Savior forgave the tree and decreed that henceforth it would never grow large enough to be used so shamefully. Henceforth it would be slender. Its blossoms would be cruciform with two long and two short petals. The center of the edge of each petal would bear a nail print, brown with rust and stained blood red. In the center of the flower would be a crown of thorns, so that all who saw it would remember!

## Share and Care Ministry

# *Thank You for Feeding the Homeless*

*218 lunches. Countless acts of kindness.*



With heartfelt gratitude, we thank our parishioners for your overwhelming generosity in supporting our Brown Bag Lunch drive. Your response exceeded all expectations—together, we raised \$1,091, providing 218 nutritious lunches for those in need.

Our faith formation children decorated each bag with beautiful artwork and uplifting messages, and many families gathered in Larkin Hall to assemble the lunches—turning this effort into a true act of community and care.

Through your kindness, you have provided more than a meal—you have offered dignity, compassion, and the reminder that no one walks alone.

*“For I was hungry and you gave me food...” — Matthew 25:35*

**May God bless you for your generosity and support!**

*In partnership with*



Scan me



St. Cassian 5K Run & Kids Fun Run Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Brookdale Park, Bloomfield NJ 07003

START: Kids Fun Run – 9:00am 5K – 9:30am

ENTRY FEES: 5K – \$40 | Kids Fun Run – \$30

PRE-REGISTRATION: <https://runsignup.com/Race/NJ/Bloomfield/SaintCassian5K>

RACE DAY REGISTRATION: 8:00am – 9:00am – Brookdale Park

COURSE DESCRIPTION: USATF Certified Course - 3 loops of the inner course at Brookdale Park

AWARDS: 5K Medals for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, overall male and female finishers. Medals for the top 3 male and female finishers in each age group. Kids Fun Run – Ribbons for all!

No strollers, skateboards, headphones or pets permitted on course.

For more information: [5krun@stcassianschool.org](mailto:5krun@stcassianschool.org)



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# St. Cassian School

Mrs. Maria Llanes, Principal



A Walk Through the Rainforest, God's Masterpiece  
Mrs. Marigene Rafferty, Arts Facilitator

## 2026 Art Show

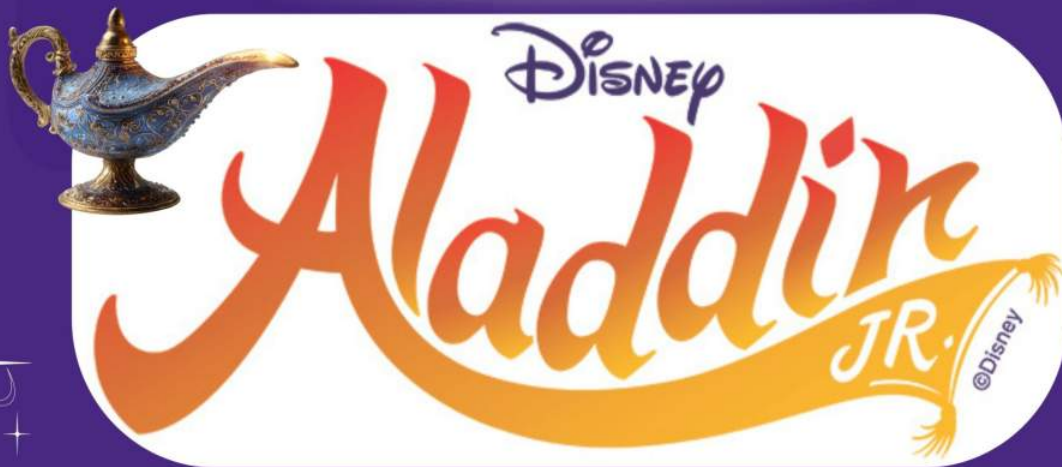
A huge round of applause to our students, teachers, and everyone who made the 2026 Art Show, A Walk Through the Rain Forest...God's Masterpiece, such an incredible success! The event featured a stunning gallery walk through our art-filled halls, along with interactive activities and displays that beautifully highlighted the integration of the arts within our academic curriculum.



We extend our heartfelt congratulations and sincere thanks to Mrs. Marigene Rafferty, our talented arts facilitator, for leading this remarkable endeavor. We are also grateful to our dedicated teachers, who showcased exceptional student work from their elective classes. Highlights included Mr. John Grube's interactive robotics demonstration, stunning three-dimensional rainforest animals, the creative fusion of origami and mathematics by Ms. Jacqueline Menbreno's students, and engaging puppet-making led by Mrs. Maria Ponte. A special thank you goes to artist and school parent Mrs. Trisha Angelillo, whose mesmerizing pendulum painting presentation was truly one of the evening's most memorable highlights.



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*Presents*



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and directed and produced by John Musker & Ron Clements*

**Donation \$20**  
**To Purchase Tickets:**



**Michael Yesenosky,**  
**Director**

**Lisa Poggi,**  
**Choreographer**

 [musicals@stcassianschool.org](mailto:musicals@stcassianschool.org)

 973-746-1636

# Bereavement Support Training in the Archdiocese

**Bereavement Ministry Support Training Spring Course** – Spring April 23rd to June 18<sup>th</sup> Thursdays (No class on May 21<sup>st</sup> and June 4<sup>th</sup>) from 1pm to 4pm at the Archdiocesan Center in Newark, NJ 20-hour class –Participants can obtain 2 CEU’s through Seton Hall University for attending.

## **‘Sanctuary’ Spring Mental Health Ministry Facilitator Training- 6-Part Series on Zoom**

The Office for Family Life Ministry is offering Spring training sessions for parish leaders on Monday evenings via Zoom from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. starting on April 13th and ending on May 18th. This training is for those interested in becoming mental health facilitators at their parish to spiritually accompany individuals living with mental health challenges.

**St. Elizabeth’s Bereavement Support Group** in Wykoff, NJ is starting on Tuesday, April 14, 2026. 10am to 11:30am and 7:30 to 9pm for 8 weeks.

**Healing Weekend** The Beginning Experience Ministry is inviting men and women of all ages and faiths who **grieve the end of a marriage or spousal relationship** due to death, divorce, or separation to an in-person weekend program at the **Mount Alvernia retreat center in Wappingers Falls on April 10 to 12.**

Please email Keri Misurell at [kmisurell@stcassianchurch.org](mailto:kmisurell@stcassianchurch.org) if interested in any of these opportunities.

## Almsgiving Opportunity for Syria— Boxes of Love

St. Cassian Church is looking to support Fr. Ryszard’s Middle Eastern mission.

In the vestibule of our church, you will find 4 “Boxes of Love”:

1. For Education
2. For Medical Aid
3. For Liturgical & Pastoral Support
4. For Food & Clothes

You will be able to give alms and contribute to any of the causes that are near and dear to your heart. Any amount goes a long way to help the Syriac Catholic community bring the peace and love of Christ to all people, both Christian and non-Christian in the Middle East. May God bless your acts of selflessness and financial support!



**Please place your almsgiving envelopes in the collection basket in the coming weeks. This act of almsgiving will run through Divine Mercy Sunday (April 12th).**



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**Judy McNee**

jmcnee@jppc.net  
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