

Brookville Multifaith Campus



Room for All
An Open and Affirming
Campus to the
LGBTQIA+ community.

*One house, many faiths, endless
opportunities for growth!*

NEWS

May
2026

2 Brookville Road, Glen Head, NY 11545
516-626-0414

Facebook: [Brookville-Church-Multifaith-Campus](https://www.facebook.com/Brookville-Church-Multifaith-Campus)
Email: Brookvillemfc@gmail.com

Brookville Church

BrookvilleChurch.org brookvillechurch@gmail.com



Rev. Vicky L. Eastland, Pastor
vickyleastland@gmail.com



Carol Goglia, Minister of Music
cgoglia@aol.com

The New Synagogue of Long Island

newsynagogue-li.org
newsynagogue.li@gmail.com



Rabbi Irene Failenbogen
irenetunes@aol.com

The Interfaith Community of Long Island

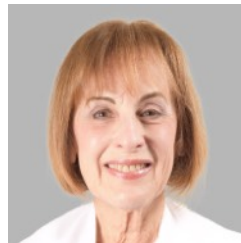
ifcoflongisland@gmail.com Interfaithli.org



Rev. William McBride &
Rabbi Irene Failenbogen
Directors of Education
irenetunes@aol.com



Rev. Enid Kessler
Spiritual Advisor
interfaith4you@gmail.com



Muslim Renewal Community

muslimrenewalcommunity@outlook.com



Dr. Syed Asad, Co-Founder
mmsglobalfoundation.org/

Vision Statement

Through learning opportunities, essential partnerships, and occasional shared worship, our campus welcomes all who want to learn, question and grow, while making a positive and lasting impact in the community and world.

Mission

To build a multifaith community of people from different faiths who connect to one another by embracing similarities while celebrating differences.

Find a Place to Belong

We invite you to discover a spiritual community made up of different religious groups. Each group maintains its own religious identity but fosters an open environment for learning, celebrating and honoring each distinct religion.

We are fearfully and wonderfully made! ~ Psalm 139:14

“O Lord, you have searched me and you know me.” I find comfort in these words. God knows us intimately. We are each born with a certain set of traits, certain gifts and innate talents. They are what shape who we are. Then life happens, both good and bad and the experiences we have, begin to shape us too. Sometimes those experiences build us up and reinforce the unique gifts God has imbued in us. Other times they shape us through trauma. I believe God gives us the strength to endure trauma, but that doesn't negate the ways these experiences shape us, how they leave a mark on our souls.

Over the 14 and a half years I have been your pastor, there have been many joys we've shared; all the Baptisms, Weddings, Easter and Christmas Services, Blessing of the Pets, the Multifaith Thanksgiving Celebrations we've shared and so, so, so much more.

But there have been heartaches as well. We've had to say goodbye to many members over the years who have passed onto glory, but we also lost members over conflict. I believe this is unavoidable, because we live in a broken world and sometimes we hurt one another. Most of the time it is unintentional on our part, but sometimes it is not.

I believe that it was because of trauma, that I began to struggle mentally. I have been diagnosed with Bi-Polar 2 disorder which has gotten worse over the last two years. This has resulted in a cycling between hypo-mania, where I feel I can do anything, having an over abundance of energy, creativity and passion, only to then cycle into depression where there are days I can't even get out of bed to take a shower and eat. The sad thing about this illness is that it has affected the church too; the place where I was called to love and serve. This hasn't been fair to the church. I've tried so hard to heal from this mental illness, but I have finally come to the acceptance that I will always struggle with this diagnosis and I have to own that.

This is the reason my pastorate at Brookville Church is ending. I need time to heal, so that God can continue to use me to minister to others. Right now I can't do that with consistency and that is not fair to you, the church.

I know we all have our burdens to bear. I'm in no way saying that I struggle more than others. This life brings heartache and pain, along with joys and triumphs. It is mixture of good and bad. This takes a toll on all of us.

I want to leave you with a knowledge that even though I am stepping down as pastor of Brookville Church, you are not left alone. God is by your side and with this church. I believe God will continue to bless you as a family of God, but you have to remain faithful for that to happen.

*You have searched me,
Lord, and you know me.*
~ Psalm 139:1

Just because I am leaving, this doesn't give you a free pass to walk out the door or to fail to sign in to Zoom every Sunday. YOU are the church and it is important that you stay active and committed to this church and to one another.

Rev. Bill McBride will be the supply pastor for now, meaning he will be leading the worship services on Sunday mornings. The Consistory (church board) has decided not to pursue finding a replacement pastor for now. I think this is a good decision because they need time to breathe and regroup. Please pray for the Consistory; pray for Deacons John Kelleher and Hank Surig and for Elders Lorrie Latzen and Dolores Tibbets, as they work to lead this church and to handle the day to day affairs. They are gems among you and they deserve your support and friendship. I am so thankful for them and the grace and space they have given me as I have struggled with my mental health.

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We are fearfully and wonderfully made! (continued)

My family is moving into a rental house in Glen Cove and we are so grateful for the 14 + years we have had living in Sea Cliff in a beautiful home, which will now be owned by a lovely family with two small children. My husband, James, will continue to be the pastor at the Reformed Church of Locust Valley as well as a full time Hospice Chaplain for Northwell Health.

I want to end with these simple words. I love you... and am blessed to know you and to have been your pastor. Always remember that you are essential not accidental. God has a purpose and plan for your life. So, be the best version of yourself and be the peace the world needs. Amen

~ Rev. Vicky

Please join us at Brookville Church
every **Sunday at 10 AM**
for our Worship Celebration.

Come in person or on Zoom. Email
brookvillechurch@gmail.com for link

Venmo [@Brookville-Church \(7478\)](#)

Givebutter <https://givebutter.com/Sh1iYB>



SYNAGOGUE OF THE MONTH SHABBAT SERVICE 5786

The New Synagogue of Long Island
The Synagogue for Spiritual Judaism
Rabbi Irene Failenbogen

Friday, May 1st at 7:00 PM
Friday, June 5th at 7:00 PM

[Zoom Shabbat Service](#)

[Shabbat Service Booklet](#)

We have no membership dues or fees. All are welcome.

Please support The New Synagogue of Long Island as generously as you can. Your contributions are the lifeblood of The New Synagogue. Please help us keep alive our inspiring teachings of Spiritual Judaism.

To make an online donation, please [click here](#)

To print the form and mail it to us, please [click here](#)

newsynagogue.li@gmail.com.

www.newsynagogue-li.org

The New Synagogue of Long Island
10 Cuttermill Road, Suite 302 Great Neck, NY 11021

Shared Traditions, Shared Joy: Celebrating Passover, Palm Sunday, and Easter with the IFCLI



Families from across the Interfaith Community of Long Island came together to celebrate a

season of meaning, reflection, and renewal. Through a series of gatherings honoring Passover, Palm Sunday, and Easter, Jewish and Christian families shared in traditions that, while distinct, are deeply connected through themes of hope, faith, and new beginnings. These events created a welcoming space for learning, connection, and joyful community engagement across generations.

Children played an active role throughout the Passover Seder, helping to read portions of the service and engaging in hands-on activities. One highlight included decorating paper seder plates, where kids colored and labeled the traditional symbolic foods, gaining a deeper understanding of their meaning in an approachable and creative way.

The room was filled with music as families joined together in singing traditional songs, creating an atmosphere of joy, smiles, and laughter. The Seder emphasized not only the rituals of Passover, but also the importance of community, inclusion, and shared experience. Many families brought extended relatives to take part in the celebration, further strengthening the sense of togetherness. Attendees shared that the event provided a meaningful opportunity to meet new people, connect with others, and experience the traditions of the Seder in a way that felt accessible and welcoming to all. A huge thank you to Rabbi Irene for leading the beautiful service.

The IFC also gathered for a joyful Palm Sunday youth service, where young participants helped lead prayers and shared reflections, bringing energy and enthusiasm to the occasion.

The Easter celebration started with a meaningful service then continued with a lively egg hunt that delighted children and families alike, filling Fellowship Hall with laughter and excitement. The day concluded with a warm coffee hour where attendees enjoyed refreshments, conversation, and the opportunity to connect with one another.

Through song, storytelling, and interactive learning, children and adults alike left with a deeper appreciation for these sacred traditions—and for the power of community to bring people together.

**Classes will
be held at
11:00 AM
Sundays:
May 17
June 7
(picnic)**

How can I stay informed?

EMAIL

Please check your email for updates. If you would like to be added to our email distribution list, please email ifcoflongisland@gmail.com

New members are always welcome! Registration for membership and classes is still open. Please send us an email at ifcoflongisland@gmail.com or message us on our Instagram <https://www.facebook.com/ifcli/> or Facebook pages. [@interfaithcommunityli](https://www.instagram.com/interfaithcommunityli)

Abraham: A Timeless Model of Faith, Courage, and Moral Leadership

Abraham is a figure who brings together people of diverse backgrounds and faiths. He is respected in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and his significance goes beyond history. Abraham serves as a symbol of unwavering faith, moral clarity, and resilience. His story, shared across traditions, continues to provide guidance in our rapidly evolving world.

A Pioneer of Ethical Monotheism

Abraham's legacy is built upon his steadfast belief in one God. At a time when polytheism and tribal allegiances were the norm, he introduced the revolutionary idea of a single, universal Creator. This belief called humanity not only to faith, but also to ethical action.

Ethical monotheism intertwines faith and responsibility, emphasizing that belief is not just ritual or identity but a commitment to justice, honesty, and compassion. In today's world, where values may seem fragmented, Abraham's life encourages us to examine:

- What anchors our moral compass?
- What guides our choices when it is difficult to stand firm?

Abraham's life shows us that genuine faith must be active and demonstrated through integrity and action.

The Courage to Stand Apart

Abraham's journey is also marked by courage. He questioned traditions, challenged societal norms, and maintained his convictions even in the face of isolation. His strength was rooted in a sense of purpose and truth.

Today, people encounter similar challenges:

- Speaking out against injustice
- Upholding ethical standards in professional environments
- Navigating social pressures that conflict with personal beliefs

Abraham's example teaches us that moral courage is steady, patient, and principled. It is the quiet strength to stand for what is right, even when standing alone.

Trust in Times of Uncertainty

A key aspect of Abraham's life is his journey—both physical and spiritual. He left his homeland, faced uncertainty, and moved forward trusting in a higher purpose. In a world shaped by migration and change, this resonates deeply.

For immigrants, refugees, and those going through life transitions, Abraham's journey is especially relevant. His experience reflects the universal act of stepping into the unknown while holding onto hope.

*In honoring
Abraham, we honor
the values that unite
us—faith, courage,
compassion, and
hope*

Abraham teaches us that uncertainty isn't something to fear. Instead, it can be:

- A space for growth
- A test of resilience
- An opportunity to deepen faith and self-awareness

Shared Heritage, Shared Humanity

Abraham, as a patriarch, connects billions across religions. While interpretations differ, the shared respect for Abraham reminds us of our common ground.

His legacy invites us to dialogue, not division, and encourages recognition of shared values like:

- Hospitality
- Compassion
- Gratitude
- Devotion to a higher purpose

At Brookville Multifaith Campus, the shared heritage is especially meaningful. Our differences can enrich our understanding when approached with respect and openness.

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Abraham: A Timeless Model of Faith, Courage, and Moral Leadership, continued

Integrity and Gratitude in Daily Life

Abraham’s enduring character includes his deep sense of gratitude. Whether facing hardship or blessing, he remained humble and thankful, viewing success as a trust rather than entitlement.

In today’s culture, where comparison and achievement dominate, gratitude is often overlooked. Yet, it remains transformative.

Abraham’s example shows gratitude:

- Strengthens relationships
- Grounds leadership in humility
- Encourages generosity and service

Gratitude is more than a feeling—it is a way of living that shapes our interactions with others and the world.

Why Abraham Still Matters Today

Abraham’s relevance is revealed by the questions his life raises:

- What is worth believing in?
- How do we act when tested?
- What kind of legacy do we want to leave behind?

While his story doesn’t provide easy answers, it offers a framework based on faith, courage, ethical responsibility, and trust.

Today, Abraham represents:

- Living with conviction while respecting others
- The unity of spiritual belief and moral action
- The impact of principled leadership

A Message for Our Multifaith Community

For the Brookville Multifaith Campus community, Abraham’s legacy inspires and invites us to:

- Build bridges across faith traditions
- Engage in meaningful dialogue
- Work collectively toward justice, peace, and understanding

Whether Abraham is approached as a religious or moral figure, his life offers a foundation for reflection and growth. In honoring Abraham, we honor the values that unite us—faith, courage, compassion, and hope.

On behalf of MMS Global Foundation & the Muslim Renewal Community,

~ Syed N Asad, MD.FACP

Brookville Multifaith Campus Financial Appeal

Our campus is a rare and beautiful space - one sanctuary, shared grounds and many faith traditions gathering with respect. The spiritual energy and moral commitment that brought it into being is priceless, but unfortunately, it doesn’t come free. Maintaining our space requires ongoing attention.

And so we’ve set a goal for this year’s campaign at \$36,000 and plan to keep everyone informed and updated as the year progresses. We’re suggesting a monthly contribution of at least \$36, less than the cost of a daily cup of coffee, or a one time annual contribution of \$400. Every contribution, large or small, will help sustain the physical place that makes our multifaith life possible.

Donations for the Brookville Multifaith Campus Financial Appeal can be made via:

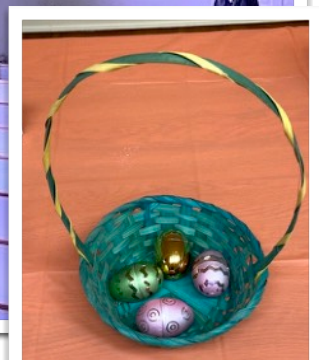
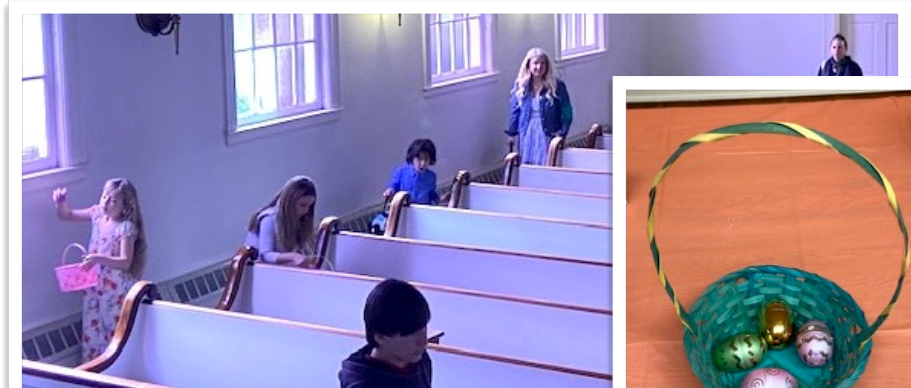
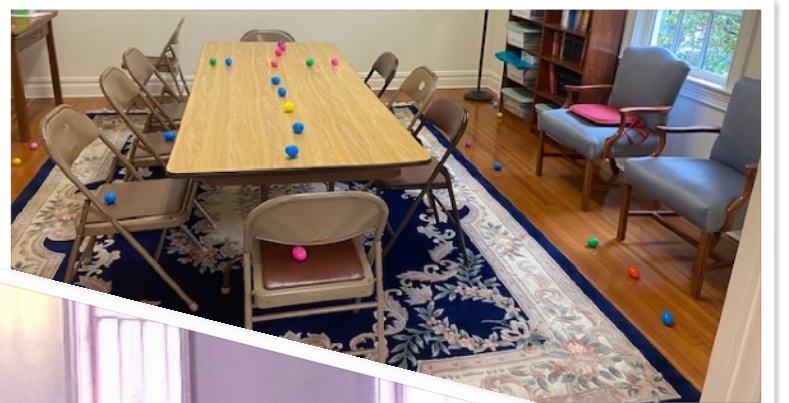
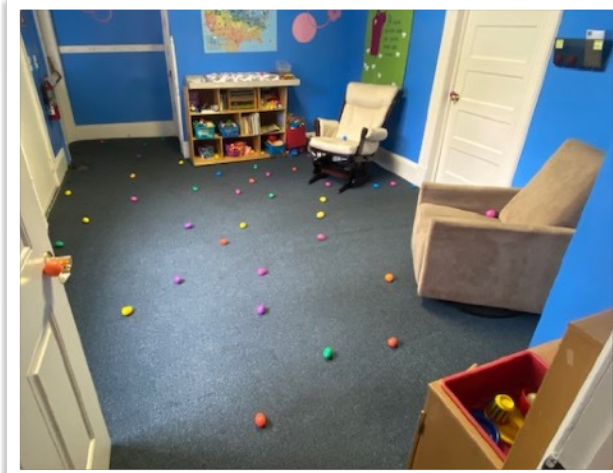
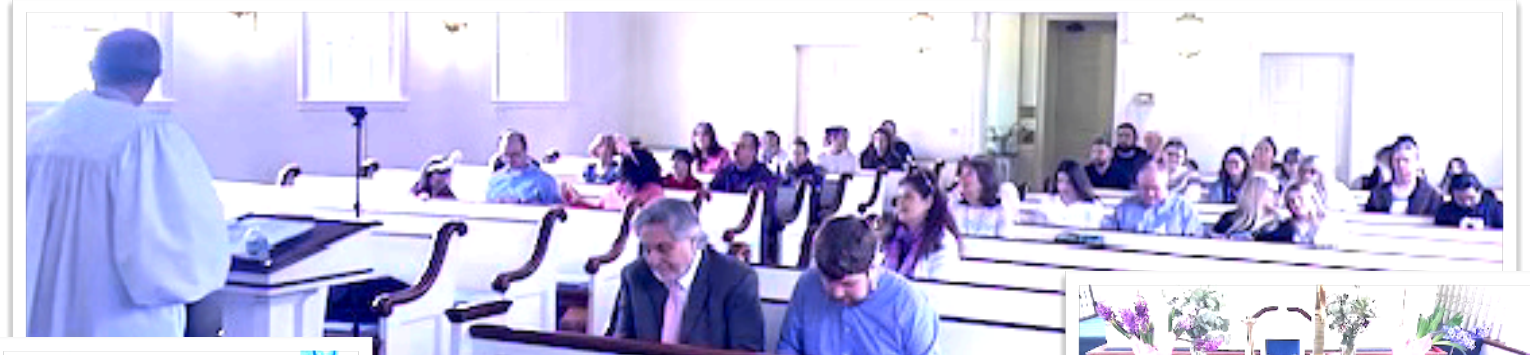
- Venmo @ Brookville-Church (7478)
- [Givebutter](#)
- Personal check made out to “Brookville Church” and sent to:
Brookville Church
2 Brookville Road
Glen Head, NY 11545

Every gift is greatly appreciated!



**Raised so far:
\$3,300.00**

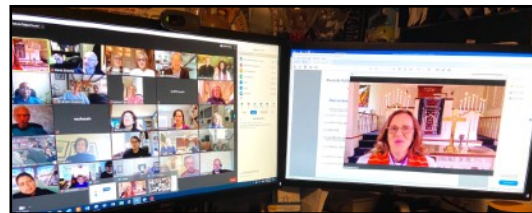
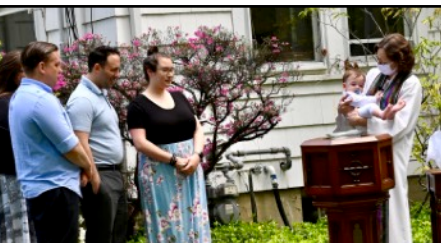
On Sunday, April 5, fifty-one people participated in the Brookville Church Easter Celebration and in-door Easter Egg Hunt



Keeping the Faiths

It's with gratitude and deep respect that we reflect on all that our pastor, Rev. Vicky Eastland, has shared with members of Brookville Church and Multifaith Campus over the last 14+ years.

Since she and her family came to Long Island in 2012, her ministry has included numerous rites of passage including weddings, baptisms, welcoming new members, ordaining Deacons and Elders,, funerals, confirmations, IFC graduations, and a host of other events, that are so much a part of the religious fabric of our lives.



Rev. Vicky led worship, even when a pandemic required remote-only gatherings and in doing so, extended the reach of the church across the world.

She also worked to support efforts to co-affiliate jointly the Reformed Church of America and the United Church of Christ.

In keeping with her commitment to inclusivity on the Brookville Multifaith Campus, she worked to promote an open and affirming welcome to the LGBTQIA+ community.



Keeping the Faiths, continued



In addition, her commitment to growing and sustaining the Brookville Multifaith Campus has been marked by several milestones. Working in partnership with the New Synagogue of Long Island, the Muslim Renewal Community (formerly MRMO), as well as the Interfaith Community of Long Island, she helped shepherd joint events, which fostered understanding and appreciation for our religious diversity. Installation of a sign listing all members of the campus, as well as the Peace Pole and Garden on the grounds of the church property became a tangible representation of the unity Rev. Vicky encouraged among the three Abrahamic traditions represented on the Brookville Multifaith Campus.

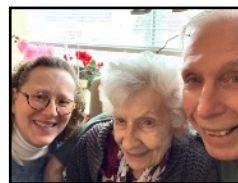


The uniqueness of Brookville's diverse religious community was highlighted in a 2022 documentary, "All of Us." The film focused on unique efforts around the world working to bridge differences and emphasized the importance of finding ways to connect all members of our human family. The Brookville Multifaith Campus was the last example highlighted in the film and reflected the uniqueness of what Rev. Vicky has fostered here.



In her time among us she has celebrated with us, cried with us, grown with us and forged countless beautiful relationships.

In honor of all she has accomplished over these many years, we will celebrate Rev. Vicky for her giftedness, compassion and amazing vision on Sunday, May 3rd during a Service of Farewell and Godspeed at 10 AM followed by a celebratory reception. All are invited! ([CLICK to RSVP](#))



Brookville Multifaith Campus invites you to come together to talk about some of the bigger questions in life in a comfortable, judgement-free setting, with people from various backgrounds.

Spiritual Discussion Group

Thought bubbles include: "What is the meaning of life?", "What does it mean to live a moral life?", "Is there life after death?", "What's the difference between spirituality and faith?", "Is doubt the opposite of faith?", "How does prayer work?", "What is the role of religion in the world today?"

New time starting May!
Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 PM, in person
2 Brookville Rd. Glen Head, NY 11545

For more info email: brookvillemfc@gmail.com

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Death Cafe' Sunday, May 31, 11:30 am

It's a space where people can come together to talk openly about death and dying, without judgement or any agenda.

Thought bubbles include: "What is Death Cafe?", "What is the meaning of life?", "What does it mean to live a moral life?"

Brookville Multifaith Campus
2 Brookville Rd.
Glen Head, NY 11545
ALL ARE WELCOME!

Online BIBLE STUDY
Beginning 2-11-2026
Brookville Multifaith Campus, and beyond...

To receive the Zoom link, email brookvillechurch@gmail.com

Wednesdays, 7-8 PM

Learn more about the book of Acts

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Muslim Renewal Community

Virtual Quran Study
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM every other Sunday,
All are welcome!

For Zoom link, please email muslimrenewalcommunity@outlook.com

Living and Learning

Remembering My Mom



For us older adults, there are many memories that frequently come to mind. I think of my mother born in 1912 when women still didn't have the right to vote. She left us in 2004 at the age of 91, but I remember her speaking of the amazing

changes she witnessed over the course of her life. When I look at my grandchildren now and see the technology that surrounds their daily lives, I know there's been a quantum leap for better or worse in how they relate to their peers and the world at large, dramatically different from how I grew up, which now seems eons ago! Change is one of those things in life that we can always be sure of. I believe even love can change over time and grow deeper, which is the loveliest change of all!

And so speaking of love in this Mother's Day month newsletter, I'd like to lift up my own dear mom, Catherine Bausch Vilk, and just some of my memories of her. She and my dad both grew up poor in material wealth but rich in family ties. Her mom was of Irish descent, and her father had German roots. They had nine children, their oldest daughter Cecilia was hit by a truck and died on the day she made her First Communion, and years later their baby Francis died of diphtheria. How many people today minimize the need for vaccinations!

My grandfather worked as a longshoreman unloading ships docked on the west side of Manhattan. Chelsea now is a desirable place to live, but in their day many of the people living there were poor. My grandfather would go to the dock each day for the "shape up," which some say was a way to control the workforce. If he was chosen, there would be income. If not in those pre-union days, there would be nothing to meet his family's needs. My mother said when she was young, they

sometimes would have to "beat the rent" by moving the whole family to another address if they owed too much.



Catherine was their fourth child, and since her sister Cecilia died, she was the oldest girl. Growing up without financial security and later living through the depression, she never took anything for granted. After she graduated from eighth grade, she looked for a job and was eternally grateful to the NY Telephone Company for hiring her as a switchboard operator. It was a job that gave her security, and she quickly told my grandmother not to worry about her anymore since she would be

self-sufficient while also contributing to her family's needs. After she married my dad, she continued to work, but stopped when my sister Kathleen was born. My sister, who was four years older than me, remembered my mother crying one time because they had no food.

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Living and Learning

Remembering My Mom, continued

Thankfully Kathleen told me my dad later came in with a bag of groceries. This story was very moving to me because I can count on one hand the number of times that I actually saw her cry. Some years after I was born, Mom went back to work as a telephone operator in Manhattan where we lived until I was six years old. Then we moved into the small Lake Ronkonkoma bungalow which my parents hesitatingly purchased via a \$5,000 mortgage, Mom learned to drive and was able to work again as a telephone operator until she happily retired in 1971.

As a child, I always knew my mother was there for me. She was strong, practical, and extremely resourceful. I was a sensitive, introspective child, very unlike her, but I knew she loved me even though she occasionally would say that I thought too much about things. After I graduated from

high school, she encouraged me to go to college, which for me was a life-changing experience. I'll always remember her bringing me to the Union Savings Bank in Patchogue to apply for a college loan. Such an empowering moment given to me by a woman born when women didn't have the right to vote. I remember hearing my uncle say to her that he didn't understand why I should go to college when I was just going to get married. My mother made it happen for me!

She was an angel who I believe continues to watch over her family. How blessed and grateful I am that Catherine Bausch Vilck was my mom!

*~ Dolores Tibbets,
Brookville Church Elder*

BRAG BOX

Congratulations to David Hees who was featured in a recent edition of the Long Island Cares newsletter for his volunteer efforts. You can [read it here](#).

Inclusive Volunteering

David's Story

David is 29, and if you meet him at Long Island Cares, you'll quickly understand why he's impossible to forget. Each week, he arrives ready to help, taking on tasks with care and focus. For David, being part of the team isn't just about showing up; it's about responsibility, independence, and feeling valued.

