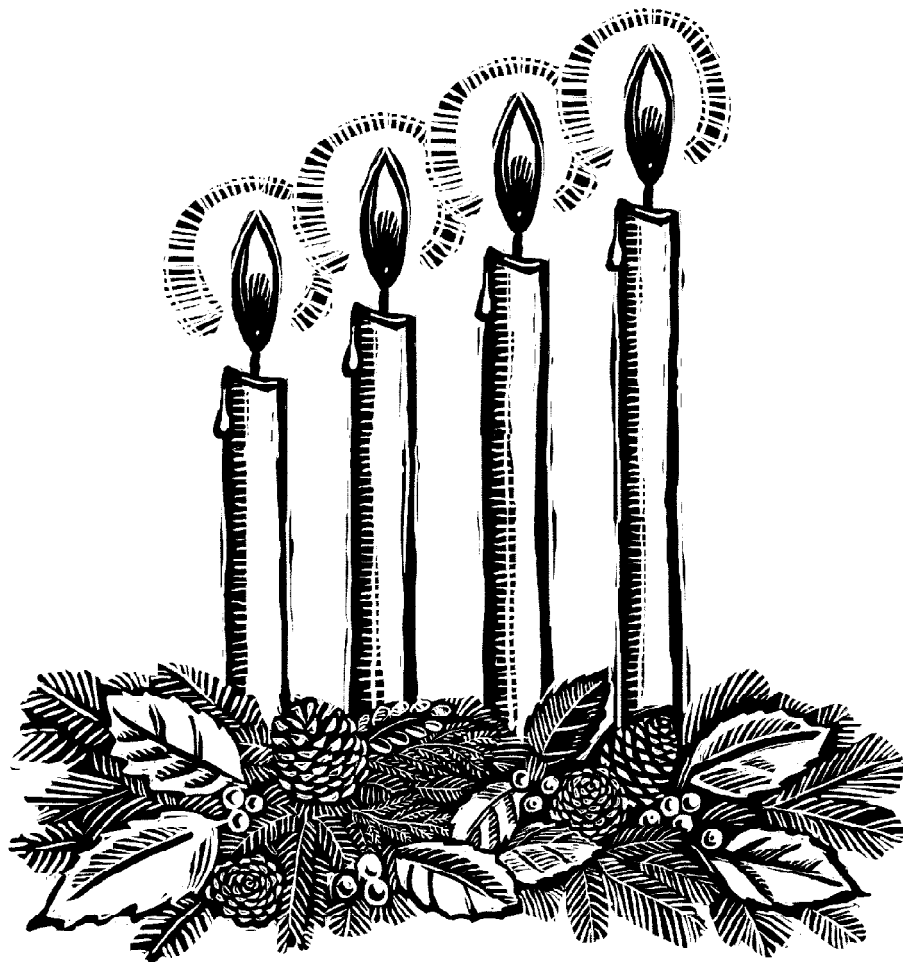


**T**he virgin will be with child  
and will give birth to a son,  
and they will call him **E**mmanuel



**Fourth Sunday in Advent**

Our Lady of Lourdes • December 18, 2005

# Our Lady of Lourdes

455 Hunter Avenue  
West Islip, New York 11795

## Pastoral Team

**Rev. Michael A. Vetrano**  
Pastor  
**Rev. Stanislaus Chukwube**  
Associate Pastor  
**Rev. Nestor Watin**  
Associate Pastor



Welcome to our Parish Family! New Parishioners are cordially invited to register as members of our parish family. Please call or visit the Parish Office.

## Mission Statement

*As stewards of all that God has given us, the Parish Family of Our Lady of Lourdes serves and ministers to all who come to this place. Regardless of a person's history, ethnicity, gender, orientation, age or race, we commit ourselves to open wide the doors of our Parish to provide a place of welcome and hospitality.*

## Vision...

*so that all may know that they are a vital part of the Body of Christ, we further recommit and challenge ourselves to:*

- **Live** out our Baptismal call passionately by caring for all of God's people with justice.
- **Grow** in an understanding of God's role in each of our lives.
- **Respond** to the Gospel in a radical way, inviting and inspiring all to form the Kingdom of God in every moment of life.
- **Acknowledge** we are not complete without the willingness to grow, discern and discover the Spirit who moves and guides us.

**Rev. Robert Scheckenback**  
In Residence

**Deacon Stephen M. Behar**  
**Deacon John DeGuardi**  
**Deacon Jules O. A. Gagnon**  
Parish Outreach  
**Deacon Jack Meehan**  
Coordinator of Stewardship  
**Deacon John Teufel**

**Sr. Margaret Bickar**  
Senior Ministry-SAGE  
**Sr. Nancy Campkin**  
Director of Religious Education  
**Regina Ann Cioffi**  
School Principal  
**Jennifer Gallagher**  
Director of Youth Services  
**Carol M. Goetz**  
Parish Music Director  
**Sr. Diane Liona**  
Director of Religious Education  
**Vita Scorcio**  
Ministry Spiritual Director  
**John Sureau**  
Coordinator of Worship  
**Sr. Betty Toohig**  
Senior Ministry-SAGE  
**Anthony Trombino**  
Business Manager

## Pastoral Council

Michael Abbruscato  
Salomon Acosta  
Regina Ann Cioffi  
Jane Desthers  
Stephen Frodell  
Anne Kerrigan  
Maria Lucie (*co-chair*)  
Mary McMahan  
Doreen Spiller  
Mary Steck  
John Sureau  
Fr. Mike Vetrano  
Marie Yuliano (*co-chair*)

## Parish Staff

**Barbara Catuosco**  
Religious Education Office  
**Mary Anne Lettieri**  
Parish Office  
**Debbie Meyer**  
Bulletin /Parish Office  
**Rosemary Multer**  
School Office  
**Rex Muro**  
Organist  
**Rita Spera**  
Religious Education Office



**D**uring our Jubilee Year, there will be many exciting and informative events going on.

**W**e would love for you to join us at...

## Empowering Our Minds and Spirit

### **Giving and Receiving the Gift of Peace**

*An evening of prayer and reflection on the true meaning of Christmas*

**Monday, December 19**

**7:30 PM**

**Church**

In the book of the prophet Isaiah, we read about the kind of gift that God wants to give to our world. A gift of justice and peace to be shared by each and every person and by all the nations of the earth. Without a doubt this is the true meaning of Christmas.

On this evening, we will listen to John Bingham speak about how we can give this gift to others and how we can receive it ourselves. Mr. Bingham is a native Long Islander who now lives in France with his family and works for International Catholic Migration Commission which helps refugees worldwide. He is a former director of immigration for Catholic Charities and has traveled the world to spread the message of justice and peace.

If you are wondering how you can fit this talk into the last busy week of Christmas shopping, ask yourself how you can afford to miss the true meaning of this season.

### **Pilgrimage to Lourdes**

As part of our 50th Anniversary Celebration, we will be making a pilgrimage to Lourdes, travel dates **April 17-25, 2006**. Final date to make reservations is January 15, 2006. If interested, please call the Parish Office at 661.3224.

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 31, 2006 at 7:30 PM in the Parish Center**. Come and meet Mary Borgs, a fellow parishioner, as she shares her experiences at Lourdes. Mary made the pilgrimage with Our Lady of Lourdes parishioners in 1999. It should be a fun and informative evening!



## **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

*We come together during this season of Advent to celebrate God's forgiveness!*

We will have individual confessions on Tuesday, December 20 with the following schedule:

<i>Fr. Nestor</i>	<i>4 PM - 5 PM</i>
<i>Fr. Mike</i>	<i>5 PM - 6 PM</i>
<i>Fr. Stan</i>	<i>6 PM - 7 PM</i>

We will have an **Evening Prayer Service**, celebrated by *Fr. Bob Scheckenback*, also on **Tuesday, December 20 at 7:30 PM in the Church.**

Individual confessions will follow the Evening Prayer Service.  
*(Priests will be available for confession until 9 PM.)*

## **Christmas Mass Schedule**

*Saturday, December 24*

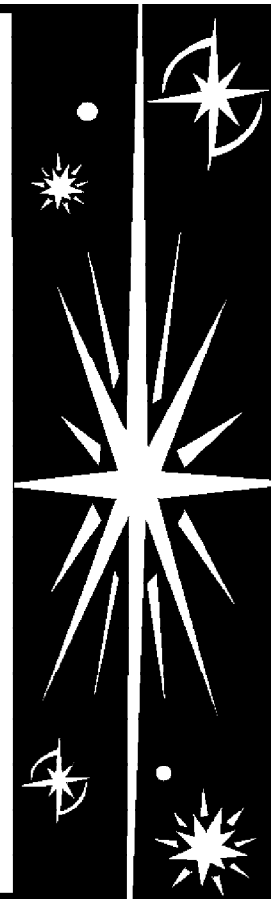
*Christmas Eve*

<b>4:00 PM</b>	Steven Perone
<b>4:00 PM</b>	Danny, Mickey & Mike Salegna <i>(cafeteria)</i>
<b>6:00 PM</b>	Lorraine Mariarossi
<b>8:00 PM</b>	Dec'd members of Dixon & Isola Family
<b>11:00 PM</b>	John L. Pizzella

*Sunday, December 25*

*Christmas Day*

<b>8:00 AM</b>	Loreto Fantauzzi
<b>9:30 AM</b>	Casertano & Galbo Families
<b>11:00 AM</b>	Theresa Reardon
<b>12:30 PM</b>	Patrick Manning, Dorothy & Joseph Boening
<b>6:00 PM</b>	<i>No 6 PM Mass Christmas Day</i>





***Our Lady of Lourdes Fourth Annual  
Family Christmas Pageant  
Thursday, December 22  
7 PM in the Church***

***What better way to prepare for Christmas  
than to share the Christmas story with our children!***



We'd like to involve many members of our parish community,  
especially all parish children!

It's easy...there are only two short practices and a dress rehearsal.

There's something for all ages:

**Children**

Pre-K through Grade 3

Grades 4 through 6

Grades 7 through 12

Angels and Shepherds

Three Kings and the Royal Servants; and Dancers

We need lots of help—musicians, singers, organizers  
and assistant directors!

If you can help with our pageant, please call Jennifer Gallagher at 661.3224 or email  
[jengallagher@ollchurch.org](mailto:jengallagher@ollchurch.org).

## **Becoming Married: The Journey to Intimacy**

*future classes in the series...*

### **Communication...**

talking and listening secrets that lead to intimacy

**Wednesday, January 18, 2006**

**presented by Pat Leonard**

### **Parenting...**

how do we parent through the stages of our children's lives

**Wednesday, February 15, 2006**

**presented by Joe Tomaselli**

### **Beginning Again...**

healing and freedom through the annulment process

**Wednesday, May 17, 2006**

**presented by Fr. Mike Vetrano**

## **Our Catholic Faith Through Literature**

*future classes in the series...*

**The Prodigal Son**      **Tuesdays, March 7, 14 and 21, 2006**  
**presented by Tom Petriano**

**Vino and DaVinci**      **Wednesday, May 3, 2006**  
**presented by Margaret Mannino**

## **Healthcare Issues in the 21st Century**

*future classes in the series...*

**Catholic Thinking on Issues of Life and Death**

**Tuesday, February 28, 2006**

**with Father Mike**

**Living Wills, Health Care Proxies, Patient Rights**

**Tuesdays, March 28 and April 4, 2006**

**with Marty and Anne Kerrigan**

Pre-Registration is necessary and helpful. This will enable us to have enough reading material and refreshments for all those attending. Please call the Religious Education Office, Monday-Friday, 9AM – 5PM and 7PM – 9PM, 661-5440 or e-mail to [religioused@ollchurch.org](mailto:religioused@ollchurch.org).

Fee: \$5 per presentation or \$15 for the series (5 presentations). No fee is required for those who have paid the Religious Education Family Fee or Our Lady of Lourdes School Tuition. Fees may vary appropriately.

## St. Bernard League



The winter months can be a stressful and tough time for many in our parish community. Our parish's youth community and Social Action Group have created a special group  
**-The Saint Bernard League-**  
 to help with shoveling for our parishioners in need throughout the winter months.

### *How does this work?*

When it snows – “your” Saint Bernard will call you to see if you are in need of help. If you need their services, you will set up a convenient time and your Saint Bernard will shovel for you and your family.

### *Do you want to be a Saint Bernard?*

We are in need of individual parishioners and parish families to be “Saint Bernards” to those in need within our parish community. If you want to become an OLL Saint Bernard, just call the Parish Office at 661.3224 and leave your name and phone number or e-mail to [jsureau@ollchurch.org](mailto:jsureau@ollchurch.org).

### *Do you need the services of our OLL Saint Bernards?*

If you would like to be included on the list of parishioners who may need the services of our OLL Saint Bernard League volunteers, please call the Parish Office at 661.3224 or email to [jsureau@ollchurch.org](mailto:jsureau@ollchurch.org).

## School News

The Our Lady of Lourdes School Annual Christmas Concert was a tremendous success! The concert was held on Thursday, December 15 and as usual was standing room only. This year our concert included participation from our drama club and violins.

Did you know Our Lady of Lourdes School has a Girls & Boys Cross Country Team?

Our girls cross country team finished first place among all the local Catholic Schools and the boys cross country team placed third. Kudos to the coaches - Karen DiOrio, Gerry Ryan, Kathy Takats and Alice Vandervelt who made this possible. Congratulations also, to all of the team members:

**Girls team:** *Alyssa Acompora, Julie Capetta, Kelly Clark, Lynn Marie DiOrio, Sarah Filosa, Catherine Hess, Amanda Khoury, Nikki Kimura, Emily Klobus, Nicole Madden, Imani Ribadeneyra, Miracle Roman, Jessica Takats, Elizabeth Tarpey and Molly Whalen.*  
 MVP - *Imani Ribadeneyra* and Coaches Choice Award - *Nicole Madden.*

**Boys team:** *Christopher DeLeon, Ricky DeMotta, Michael Hopper, Colin Joy, Nick Osmani, Brian Palmeri, Michael Pescuma, Brad Stentiford, Patrick Thomson, Thomas Tobin, Peter Valcarcel, Jojo Vanderveldt and Richard Wilkinson.* MVP - *Nick Osmani* and Coaches Choice Award - *Michael Pescuma.*

Also, let's not forget that the Girls Soccer Team placed third among all local Catholic Schools. Thanks to Coaches John Madden and Scott Takats. Great Job to all the girls!

**Team members:** *Alyssa Acompora, Lauren Aliegro, Lauren Appey, Catherine Brogan, Rosemary Buonaspina, Lynn Marie DiOrio, Sarah Filosa, Michelle Fioravanti, Danielle Franzone, Tricia Gregory, Catherine Hess, Emily Klobus, Nicole Madden, Melanie Papocchia, Imani Ribadeneyra and Jessica Takats.*  
 Watch for news about our OLL Basketball Teams!

## Baptisms

Alexandra Abigayle Edwards  
Kelly Edwards

## Rest In Peace

Chester Kucmarski  
Janet Whitbeck  
Hanora Tracey  
Angelina Vaia



### Rosary/Novena

#### Rosary:

Daily after 8 AM Mass

#### Miraculous Medal Novena:

Monday after 8 AM Mass

#### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults(RCIA):

A process to be embraced by the Catholic Church.

For non-Catholics and for Catholics who have never received formal religious education. If interested, please call the Parish Office.

#### Daily Mass

8 AM

#### Weekend Masses

**Saturday:** 5 PM

**Sunday:** 8 AM, 9:30 AM,  
11 AM, 12:30 PM and 6 PM

#### Reconciliation

**Saturday:** 4 PM - 4:45 PM

#### Baptism

Please contact the Parish Office to schedule an appointment.

#### Marriage

Arranged at least six months in advance, please contact the Parish Office.

### Financial Summary

#### December 11, 2005

Weekly Collection	\$ 18,668.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 21,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ (2,332.00)

**Immaculate Conception** \$ 2,842.00

**Christmas Flowers** \$ 3,735.00

*The estimated weekly collection needed to maintain and operate our parish buildings, ministries, programs and salaries is \$21,000.*



## Remembering...

### Monday, December 19

8:00 AM Peter Reehil

### Tuesday, December 20

8:00 AM Alexander Sullivan

### Wednesday, December 21

*St. Peter Canisius, priest, doctor*

8:00 AM Michael Torina

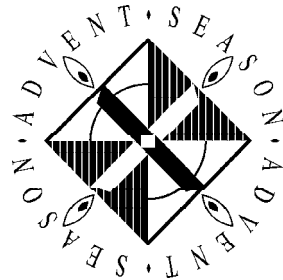
### Thursday, December 22

8:00 AM Mary Evans

### Friday, December 23

*St. John of Kanty, priest*

8:00 AM Anthony Alfieri



### Saturday, December 24

8:00 AM Anna Van Bramer, Rick & Ginny Munkwitz, Nicholas LoPorto, Virginia Petrino, Giuseppe Ingoglia, Concetta Petrucci, Marie Conrad, David Justin Lehner, In Honor of St. Anthony, Diana Shannon, Stanley J. Rupnick, Caroline Hyler

4:00 PM Steven Perone

*Fr. Mike Vetrano*

4:00 PM Danny, Mickey & Mike Salegna  
(cafeteria)

*Fr. Bob Scheckenback*

6:00 PM Lorraine Mariarossi

*Fr. Stan Chukwube*

8:00 PM Dec'd members of Dixon & Isola Family

*Fr. Nestor Watin*

11:00 PM John L. Pizzella

*Fr. Mike Vetrano*



### Sunday, December 25

8:00 AM Loreto Fantauzzi

*Fr. Ed Dowling*

9:30 AM Casertano & Galbo Families

*Fr. Nestor Watin*

11:00 AM Theresa Reardon

*Fr. Mike Vetrano*

12:30 PM Patrick Manning, Dorothy & Joseph Boening

*Fr. Stan Chukwube*

6:00 PM *No 6 PM Mass Christmas Day*





## Altar Society

---

Terri Ryan

### Pray for Our Sick

Please remember in your thoughts and prayers ...

*Thomas Brennan, Jo Brogan, Christian Bullock,  
Michael Cacciatore, Jerry Castonguay, John Finch,  
Jason Fisher, Theresa Grasso, Madeline Hopper,  
Benjy Margulies, Peter McCann, Sr.,  
Arabella Elizabeth McCarthy, Joseph Ninivaggi,  
Nichole O'Connor, Kathy Pinto, Joe Radosti,  
Rose Serragano, Rosemary Van Acker,  
Loretta Vitale, Ruth Wilson*

### Anointing of the Sick

Throughout the liturgical year. If needed sooner, please call the Parish Office.

### Communion Calls

Communion brought to those who are homebound.  
Contact the Parish Office.

### Pastoral Care of the Sick

Please call the Parish Office at 661.3224 to leave the names of parishioners who:

- are homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist
- are in Good Samaritan Hospital and would like to be visited by a member of our Pastoral Care Ministry.

### Senior Circle

Our Senior Circle meets at 12:30 PM in the Parish Center on the *last* Monday of every month.

### Parish Office

661-3224

Monday-Friday: 9 AM - 7:30 PM

Saturday: 9 AM - 3 PM

Sunday: 9 AM - 2 PM

email:

[ParishOffice@ollchurch.org](mailto:ParishOffice@ollchurch.org)

fax:

661-7143

website:

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

### Our Lady of Lourdes School

587-7200

Monday-Friday: 9 AM - 3 PM

email:

[ReginaC@ollschool.org](mailto:ReginaC@ollschool.org)

### Religious Education Office

661-5440

Monday-Friday: 9 AM - Noon

1 PM - 5 PM

7 PM - 9 PM

email:

[ReligiousEd@ollchurch.org](mailto:ReligiousEd@ollchurch.org)

### S.A.G.E.

661-3224

(Senior Advocates for  
Growth and Enrichment)

email:

[Sage@ollchurch.org](mailto:Sage@ollchurch.org)

### Thrift & Gift Boutique

Monday & Thursday: 9 AM-11 AM

Saturday: 10 AM - 1 PM

## Parish Outreach

### Outreach Office Hours

Monday through Friday from 9:30 AM until 3:30 PM.  
 For information/assistance call 661.9262.  
 Scrip is sold in Parish Outreach during office hours.

### Home Care

If you need help at home—home companion or child care—  
 please call Parish Outreach at 661.9262.

### Our Lady of Lourdes Bereavement

Our parish support group for those who have lost a loved one—  
 If interested, please call the Parish Outreach Office at 661.9262.



### The Giving Tree

Christmas is on its way— actually for those of us at Outreach, it's here!  
 In order that we may give those less fortunate a nice Christmas, Parish Outreach and other ministries at OLL have put together our annual "Giving Tree."

This year, we have increased the number of tags to help our neighboring churches and outreach programs and, hopefully, to have some gifts go to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Our "Giving Tree" has tags that ask for gifts, toys, food certificates and clothing certificates.

### You can help us by:

- taking a tag or two from the tree,
- place the requested item in a box, with the tag attached, under the tree no later than **December 18,**
- all items should be left unwrapped, but feel free to provide wrapping paper and bow,
- if you are giving a gift certificate (food or clothing), you may return them by putting them in the collection basket, dropping them to the Parish Office or Parish Outreach during business hours. (Please, do not leave certificates under the tree.)



We are sure that you will join us in making this a Merry Christmas for all, and we thank you for your continued generosity. We wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas!

## Restoring the Covenant

“We are asked to examine our lives and to reflect on how we are living the Gospel call to love and care for each other, and not to forget the least of these.”

*New York’s Catholic Bishops in Restoring the Covenant*

### **Living God’s Covenant with the Poor On Long Island: Stories of Hope and Support**

---

### ***Living God’s Covenant with the poor in the Parish of St. Paul the Apostle, Brookville: Just Like Christmas!***

---

*by Doris Gribbin, St. Vincent DePaul Conference*

We had a wonderful success with a client whom we’ll call “H,” who was homeless and lived in the woods. He was a very polite, gentle man. Every Saturday, he rode his bike to our food pantry and was always our first client. One day, we were concerned when he didn’t show up at the parish. Finally, he arrived, just minutes before we closed. His bike had been stolen and he had to walk.

One of our Vincentians had a bike which they had tuned up and presented to “H” the following week, along with a new backpack. Our former pastor was there and he said it was like Christmas. “H” was so appreciative. Shortly after, “H” told us he had a job offer, but could not be hired until he had an address. He found an apartment, and our Conference provided him with the first month’s rent since he had no funds.

“H” is now working and in his own apartment. Occasionally he comes to us for food, but he is well on his way to becoming self-sufficient.

## Altar Servers

Training for new altar servers will now take place in January.

If you're interested in becoming an altar server and have not already signed up, you can contact the Parish Office at 661.3224 or e-mail to [jsureau@ollchurch.org](mailto:jsureau@ollchurch.org)



## “The Six”

### Cleaning Up This Advent

This Advent, the “Six Committee” and the Social Action Group are working hard to help those most in need. We will be putting together “Wash Up Kits.” In order to be able to do this, we will need new, unused wash cloths, bars of soap, small “sample” style shampoos, toothpastes and toothbrushes. We will be collecting these toiletries throughout the Advent season, so please bring them with your food donation to Church each weekend.

On **Sunday, December 18**, we will be putting together these “Wash Up Kits.” This is a great opportunity for community service during this holiday season. Please **come to the Parish Center after “The Six”** and help put these “Wash Up Kits” together. These “small items” will be a “big help” to those in need.

## Support Groups

### Alcoholics Anonymous

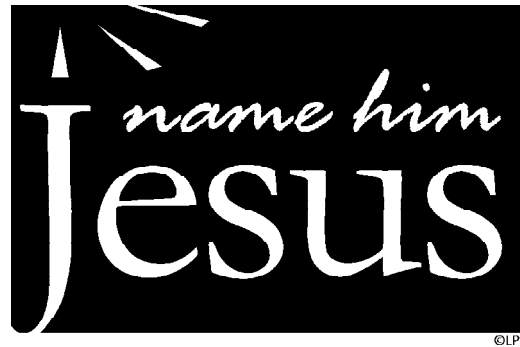
Monday and Tuesday at 8 PM and Saturday at 7 PM in Lourdes Hall-convent lower level.

### ALANON

Each Wednesday at 10 AM in Lourdes Hall-convent lower level.

## Help Wanted

Security person needed for evenings and weekends here at Our Lady of Lourdes. If you are interested, please call Tony at 661.3224.



## Fourth Sunday of Advent

Recently a friend of ours stopped by for a visit. We hadn't seen her very often since her wedding, and it was good to catch up on all of her news. She and her husband had moved into their new townhouse and were finally settling in. After a while, she reached into her purse and handed us two candy bars. On the first, the wrapper read "It's A Boy!" and the second, "It's A Girl!" She had just learned she was expecting, and wanted to share her joy with us.

Today, Luke tells us of the angel Gabriel's visit to Mary with his good news. "You have found favor with God," he tells her, "and you will bear a son." Not only that, Gabriel tells her that Jesus is the Son of God, and a throne in heaven awaits him. What joyful news! Mary accepted the news, and further learned that her cousin Elizabeth was expecting as well. Filled with the Holy Spirit, Mary went to Elizabeth, eager to share her joy.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that only faith can embrace the mysterious ways of God's almighty power. The Virgin Mary is the supreme model of this faith, for she believed that "nothing will be impossible with God." (CCC 273) As we prepare for the celebration of Christmas, let us allow our faith to guide us as it did Mary, and let us be as eager to the joy that is the coming of Jesus Christ. (c) 2006 Liturgical Publications Inc

### Readings for the Week of December 18, 2005

**Sunday:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/ Rom 16:25-27/ Lk 1:26-38  
**Monday:** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/ Lk 1:5-25  
**Tuesday:** Is 7:10-14/ Lk 1:26-38  
**Wednesday:** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/ Lk 1:39-45  
**Thursday:** 1 Sm 1:24-28/ Lk 1:46-56  
**Friday:** Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/ Lk 1:57-66  
**Saturday:** Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/ Lk 1:67-79  
**Next Sunday:** *Vigil:* Is 62:1-5/ Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25  
*Midnight:* Is 9:1-6/ Ti 2:11-14/ Lk 2:1-14  
*Dawn:* Is 62:11-12/ Ti 3:4-7/ Lk 2:15-20  
*Day:* Is 52:7-10/ Heb 1:1-6/ Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

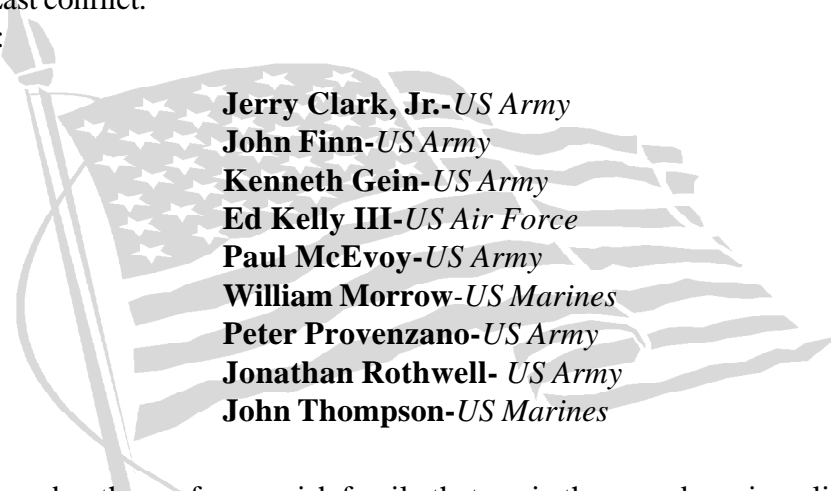
## Christmas Cheer!

Members of Our Lady of Lourdes Holy Name Society and their families paid a visit to Good Samaritan's pediatric unit and Our Lady of Consolation Nursing Home on Monday evening, December 12. Smiles and cheer were brought to the patients and residents with Christmas carols and cookies. A wonderful time was had by all!

## Members in the Military

We ask that you pray especially for those in our parish that are on active duty in the Middle East conflict.

They are:



**Jerry Clark, Jr.-US Army**

**John Finn-US Army**

**Kenneth Gein-US Army**

**Ed Kelly III-US Air Force**

**Paul McEvoy-US Army**

**William Morrow-US Marines**

**Peter Provenzano-US Army**

**Jonathan Rothwell- US Army**

**John Thompson-US Marines**

...and remember those of our parish family that are in the armed services, listed in our Parish Book of Intentions.

## Reunion Planned

The Catherine McAuley High School Alumnae are planning a 50th year reunion of the classes of January and June 1956. For information regarding the reunion, please contact Lillian (Mace) Gallagher at 631.587.3250 or email [FrednLil@aol.com](mailto:FrednLil@aol.com). The reunion date is Saturday, April 8, 2006.

## Contemplative Outreach of Long Island/Queens

Presentation of *"The Wisdom of Fr. Basil Pennington"* given by Fr. Carl Arico. Fr. Basil Pennington, o.c.s.o. was one of the founding fathers of the Centering Prayer movement along with Fr. Thomas Keating. His wisdom of the spiritual life and Contemplative Prayer will be discussed by his friend and co-author, Fr. Carl Arico. Join us for this enlightening day of prayer and presentation. The presentation will take place on Saturday, January 14, 2006 at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in West Islip. The presentation will be held in the Parish Center from 9:30 AM until 3:30 PM. The donation is \$30. Coffee and bagels will be provided in the morning. Please bring a bag lunch.

For further information, please call Diane Garretson at 631.587.0966.

## Touching the Heart of Charity

### A Retreat for Women

If you are a single woman between the ages of 21-50, this retreat is for you. Come join us for a time to pray, listen, reflect and share at Mount Manresa Retreat House, Staten Island. The retreat is from January 20-22, 2006. The cost is \$165 per person. For further information, please call Sister Susan Dean, SC at 516.741.0718 or [srdean2424@aol.com](mailto:srdean2424@aol.com).

### Longest Night Prayer Service

Prayer service for those suffering a loss through separation, divorce, health, job or loved one. No fee. St. Mary's Lower Church, Roslyn. Wednesday, December 21 at 7:30 PM. Please call to register at 516.621.2222.

### Discipleship

The call of the disciples is so familiar to us that we tend to miss the wonder of the disciples' response, which was immediate and complete; they leave everything and follow Jesus. Can we do less if we feel that God is calling us to the priesthood or consecrated life? If you think God is calling you, contact the Vocations Office at 631.424.9888 or email to [Vocations@drvc.org](mailto:Vocations@drvc.org)

### Religion & Rock

Tune into "Religion & Rock" with Fr. Jim Vlaun on Sunday from 7 AM to 8 AM on WBAB 102.3 FM or 95.3 on the East End of Long Island.

Next Sunday's theme is:

#### "Consumerism/Shopping"

Don't forget to tune in! Visit "Religion & Rock" on the web, [www.religionandrock.com](http://www.religionandrock.com). Also watch "Good News with Father Jim" on TELE CARE, channel 29, on Mondays and Fridays at 9:45 AM; Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 7:45 PM; Sundays at 8 PM.

### Job Opening

Full time secretary at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, Lindenhurst. Candidate must have secretarial experience, computer skills, pleasant demeanor, be a practicing Catholic. Salary coordinated with hours, etc. A pleasant, joyful fulfilling environment in which to work and serve the kingdom of God. Apply to Mrs. Lubrano, Principal at 631.226.0208.



# Sharing the Gospel

If you know how to tell time, you know when you are early, and you know when you are late. We try to plan to be right on time. In today's Gospel reading, we found out that God's timing can be very different than our own plans. Mary got pregnant earlier than she thought she ever could. Elizabeth got pregnant later than she thought she ever would. But God knew their special babies would be born right on time.



## Prayer



Dear God,  
 help me to use my time wisely. Help me to follow you, no matter when you need me to. In Jesus' name, Amen.

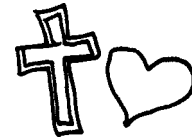


## Empty Squares

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

Your child will be called the holy Son of God.

					H	
					O	
					L	
					Y	



## Mission for the Week

God brings babies into this world right on time, in God's special plan. Some new moms need help, because their babies came earlier or later than they had planned. As a family, find out how you can help any new mothers in your parish or community.