

First Sunday of Advent • Our Lady of Lourdes • December 3, 2006



“I will
raise up for David
a just shoot”

Jeremiah 33:15



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

Pastoral Team

Rev. Michael A. Vetrano

Pastor

Rev. Stanislaus Chukwube

Associate Pastor

Rev. Robert Scheckenback

Associate Pastor

Deacon John DeGuardi

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 Scorgia

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

Jen Gallagher

Anne Kerrigan

Maria Lucie (*co-chair*)

Mary McMahan

Doreen Spiller

Mary Steck

Fr. Mike Vetrano

Marie Yuliano (*co-chair*)

Parish Staff

Barbara Catusco

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

Lori Walsh

Parish Office

*Our Lady
of Lourdes*

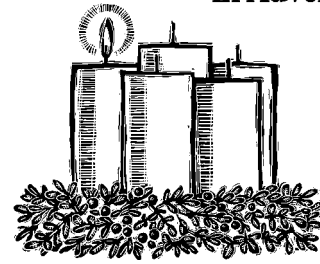
455 Hunter Avenue

West Islip, New York 11795

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.

First Sunday in Advent



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.

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

fax: 661-7143

website: www.ollchurch.org

Our Lady of Lourdes School

587-7200

Monday-Friday: 9 AM - 3 PM

email: rcioffi@ollschool.org

Religious Education Office

661-5440

Monday-Friday: 9 AM - Noon

1 PM - 5 PM

7 PM - 9 PM

email: ReligiousEd@ollchurch.org

S.A.G.E.

661-3224

(Senior Advocates for Growth
and Enrichment)

email: Sage@ollchurch.org

Advent Evening Prayer

Feeling the pressure of the holidays?

...overwhelmed with the “busy”ness of the season?

Take some time for you. Come and join us at **Advent Evening Prayer** on **Monday, December 11** at **7:30 PM in the Church**. Our homilist will be Fr. Michael Holzmann, Chaplain at St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School and columnist for The Long Island Catholic.

Prophets and Promises

This Advent, our Children’s Liturgy and Family Liturgy teams are going to help our young people focus on the prophets of Advent and the promises we are called to be a part of. Each week, our young people will reflect on the promises of peace, forgiveness and service and encounter some people who have worked to bring that about both in the times of the Bible and our lives today. Be sure to take a look at our Prophets and Promises newsletter that will be given out at the end of each Children’s Liturgy celebration.

If you have not been part of our 9:30 AM Liturgy, we celebrate the readings in a special way with young people from approximately age four to about fourth grade.

After the Opening Prayer, they journey to the Parish Center to hear God’s Word in a way that keeps the message but makes it a little more understandable for them.

If you have small children or are one yourself, consider coming to the 9:30 AM Liturgy one Sunday to find out more about this great experience for young people.

Advent at “The Six”

...Prayin’, Preparin’ and Servin’

This Advent, our parish’s “Six Committee” is working to bring the readings to life for young people and for all in this community. The readings challenge us to *pray* well, to *prepare* well and to *serve* well for the coming of Jesus in our lives at Christmas.

This can be especially hard in the world in which we live.

December 10 – we’ll talk about how the message of John the Baptist in the Gospel of Luke speaks powerfully to the world we live in today. The message of John the Baptist has a lot to offer many of us! Get ready.

December 17 – we’ll try to bring it together in our reflection on the power of service. We’ll hear from people of all ages and ways of life and how they live out the call to justice and service. Prepare to be challenged to live your life in a different way!

Come and be part of it all and make Sunday nights during this busy time of the year, a special time for you!

Finding Peace in a Busy Season...

Mondays-December 4, 11, and 18
9 AM - 10 AM in the Parish Center
Presenter: Rev. Michael A. Vetrano
Pastor, Our Lady of Lourdes



Advent Morning Mass Reflections

Come to morning Mass on Mondays in Advent. Our homily that day will introduce a theme for you to reflect on in the time after Mass. You will be able to use our morning rosary and prayer after Mass or just take time for your own reflection. At 9 AM, we will gather in the Parish Center for a talk and time for discussion. Coffee and rolls will be available.
 (If you can't make 8 AM Mass-please feel free to join us at 9 AM.)

December 4 :: *What can we hope for?*

The ancient prophets hoped for a messiah who would bring a peaceable kingdom.
 What can we hope for in our own lives as we prepare for Christmas?

December 11 :: *What do I want for Christmas?*

Often we spend our advent thinking about what gifts we need and what gifts we will give. What, however, do we really need? And what can we really give?
 We find surprising answers in the advent scriptures.

December 18 :: *"I will honor Christmas in my heart and try to keep it all the year."*

Lessons about Christmas from a modern day prophetic book - A Christmas Carol,
 by Charles Dickens.

Gentle Reminder: Preregistration 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 from 9 AM until 5 PM at 661.5440, extension 3 or email to religiouse@ollchurch.org. Fee is \$25 and may vary with each class. No fee is required for those who have paid Religious Education Family Fee or OLL School tuition.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

What's it all about?

IF you are an adult AND

- ... you were never Baptized
- ... you were Baptized in another faith and would like to become a baptized Catholic
- ... you never received Holy Communion (Eucharist)
- ... you never received your Confirmation

IF you are an adult **and** one or all of the circumstances above apply to you

IF you feel you would like to become a Baptized Catholic or become more fully initiated into your Catholic faith,

please contact John Sureau, S. Nancy, Jen Gallagher or Fr. Stan at the Parish Office. You can call 661-3224, option #1, and we would be happy to help you!

Mass for Bereaved Parents

Saturday, December 16, 2006

OLL Church – 11 AM

The holidays are often times of great celebration. But, for many, particularly those who have lost a child, the holidays are painfully hard. They are a reminder of our losses and a reminder of how our lives are perhaps a little less full. Whether you have lost a child in childhood or adulthood, to stillbirth or miscarriage, this Mass will be celebrated to bring you God's peace and consolation.

We invite all who have lost a child to come and gather together for this special Mass on **Saturday, December 16 at 11 AM**. Mass will be followed by a luncheon. Please feel free to invite family or friends with you. For more information, or to let us know you will be able to attend, please call the Parish Office at 661.3224.

Let's pray that through prayer and coming together, the challenges of the holidays can become a little lighter and that we may be strengthened by God's love and presence.



It's that time of year! Christmas is on its way...

In order that we may give those less fortunate in our area a "Merry Christmas", Parish Outreach along with other ministries here at OLL are putting together our annual "Giving Tree." Our "Giving Tree" will go up on Saturday, December 2. Our "Giving Tree" has tags that ask for gifts of toys, clothes, food certificates and clothing certificates. This year, we will use color coded tags to make our giving and sorting a little easier for our "elves."

blue tags are requests for donations of clothes
 white tags are requests for donations of toys
 yellow tags are requests for donations of food store certificates
 green tags are requests for donations of clothing store certificates

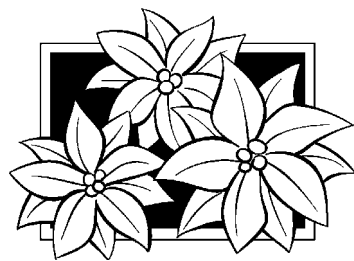
You can help by:

- taking a tag from our "Giving Tree",
- place the requested item in a box, with the tag attached, under the tree no later than **December 17**,
- 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 at 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!

Christmas Flower Offerings

Christmas Flower offerings received by Sunday, December 10 will be published in the Christmas bulletin. Offerings received after that date, will be published in subsequent bulletins.



School News

Save the Date! Our entire school, K to 8, will participate in our **Annual Christmas Concert** on Thursday, December 14 at 7:30 PM in the All-Purpose Room. The evening will also include the Band and Drama Club Nativity Tableau. All are invited.

Our second graders at OLL School have discovered a new way to sharpen their Math skills. They are setting up shop to sell gently used toys and puzzles to first and third graders. They will price the items, sell them, make change and generally practice their use of money in a real situation. The money they make will be used to help a needy family through our Parish Outreach.

Our seventh and eighth graders enjoyed a Hawaiian Luau on Friday, December 1 as they had their first school dance with a Hawaiian theme. Aloha!

OLL School Parents Club will be selling car magnets that proudly display the jubilee emblem with our parish name "Our Lady of Lourdes." What a great way for our parish family to unite by using them on our vehicles, front doors and homes! We will be selling them after most masses through the holiday season for \$5.00 each. Please stop by to get yours right away, as supplies are limited.

Bible Camp at Christmas Time

Sunday, December 10

1 - 4 PM in the Parish Center

Enroll your kids in our *one day "Bible Camp at Christmas Time"*.

The day will include Bible stories, crafts, and singing Christmas carols. What a great way for your child to spend an afternoon at Christmas time among friends and fun! And there is a bonus - a break for parents. Perhaps you can get some shopping done or any one of the many things that you need to do at this busy time of year. Teens and adults of our parish, along with Jen Gallagher, our Director of Youth Services, will engage your children in activities and songs. We are requesting a \$20 per child donation, or \$50 per family, to go towards our El Salvador Sister Parish Project.

one-day "Bible Camp at Christmas Time" Registration Form

Please drop off the registration form to the Parish Office or email to jengallagher@ollchurch.org
(Children must be age four or older to participate.)

Child's Name _____ Age: _____

Name of Parent/Guardian _____

Emergency Phone # where you can be reached during the babysitting time _____

Alternate Emergency Contact _____

Health Issues or concerns we should be aware of: _____

St. Nicholas Celebration



Monday, December 4

7 PM Church

St. Nicholas brought hope and joy to children—particularly to those in need. On this night, members of our youth community will tell the story of St. Nicholas so that all may know and work to be more like St. Nicholas.

We invite all our children to come in comfortable clothes to the Church so that they may hear this powerful story . . . and meet a very special guest!

As part of this night, we ask all families to bring a new, unused toy for a family in need. We invite all who come to bring their favorite Christmas Cookies with them!

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

*“[Mary] gave to the world the Life that renews all things,
and she was enriched by God with gifts appropriate to such a role.”*

We celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception – a holy day of obligation –
on **Friday, December 8 at 8 AM Mass and 7:30 PM Mass.**

There will also be a *vigil mass* on **Thursday, December 7 at 5 PM.**

Please come and pray with us!

National Night of Prayer for Life

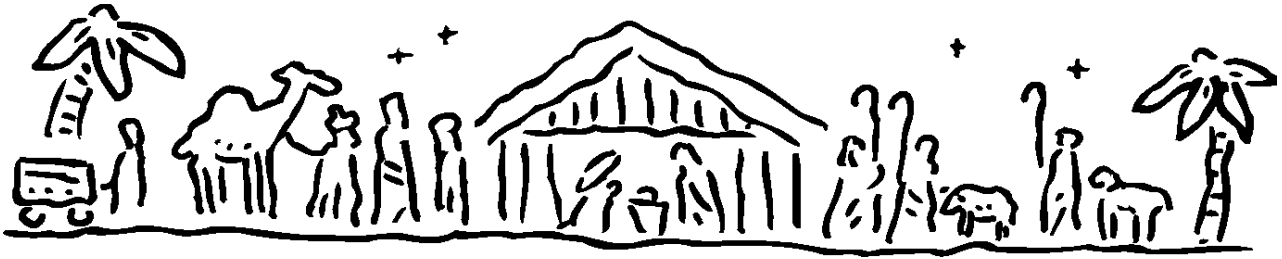
17th Annual Nocturnal Night of Prayer for Life

Uniting the Feast of the Immaculate Conception with the Feast of St. Juan Diego the 17th Annual National Night of Prayer for Life will follow the 7:30 PM Mass on Friday, December 8 to 1 AM Saturday, December 9.

It was on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception that Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas, and the unborn, first appeared to St. Juan Diego. The National Night of Prayer for Life bridges these two feasts to honor Our Blessed Mother and to pray for the sanctity of all human life.

During the Hour of Unity, 12 AM - 1 AM, we will be united in churches across the country in prayer to end abortion in reparation for sins against the Gospel of Life.

The National Night of Prayer for Life is a pro-life prayer service consisting of exposition and adoration to the Blessed Sacrament, 20 decades of the Rosary, prayer to St. Michael, meditation and hymns.



*Our Lady of Lourdes Fifth Annual
Family Christmas Pageant*

Friday, December 22

7 PM in the Church

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

We invite our entire parish family to come and share this special evening with us.

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

Angels and Shepherds

Grades 4 through 6

Three Kings and the Royal Servants; and Dancers

Grades 7 through 12

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.

Adults

We need help with costumes and supervision of the “angels and shepherds.” If you can help with any of these areas, please call Jennifer at 661.3224, or email JenGallagher@ollchurch.org.

Pageant Practices for All

Friday, December 8 from 5 PM until 6 PM in the Church

Wednesday, December 13 from 7 PM until 8 PM in the Church

Thursday, December 21 Dress Rehearsal 7:30 PM in the Church

Daily Mass

8 AM

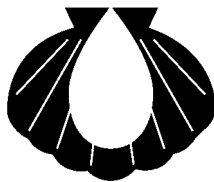
Weekend Masses

Saturday: 5 PM

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

Reconciliation

Saturday: 4 PM - 4:45 PM



Baptisms

Dylan Joseph Cafaro

Adam and Kimberly

Nicholas William Hubbard

Ronald and Lori

Catalina Pfeffer

Fitzgerald and Merari

Isabella Sydney Riordan

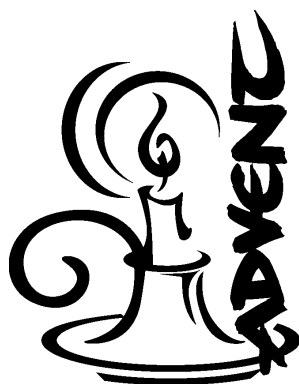
Sean and Elizabeth

Angelina Mary Shannon

Kevin and AnnMarie

Erin Marie Tasso

Anthony and Regina



Take some time for you. Come and join us at **Advent Evening Prayer on Monday, December 11 at 7:30 PM in the Church.** Our homilist will be Fr. Michael Holzmann, Chaplain at St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School and columnist for The Long Island Catholic.

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.

Anointing of the Sick

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

Baptism

Please contact the Parish Office to schedule an appointment.

Marriage

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

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.

Remembering...

Monday, December 4

St. John of Damascus, priest, religious, doctor

8:00 AM Dawn Marie Gargano

Tuesday, December 5

8:00 AM Frank DeLeo & Michael DeLeo

Wednesday, December 6

St. Nicholas, bishop

8:00 AM Lydia Ann Olsen

Thursday, December 7

St. Ambrose, bishop, doctor

8:00 AM Louis Ruocco

5:00 PM Mary Cafaro
(vigil)

Friday, December 8

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 AM Phyllis Grieco

7:30 PM Kenneth Meyer

Saturday, December 9

8:00 AM George Stone, In Honor of Blessed Mother, Christine Mulligan, Frederick Anzman, Mark A. Polito, James Carrano, Michael Joseph Buccino, Raymond F. Haase, In Honor of Blessed Virgin Mary, Charles Sacca

5:00 PM John Lovari
Fr. Ed Dowling

Sunday, December 10

8:00 AM Raymond Ferruggiari
Fr. Bob Scheckenback

9:30 AM Loreto & Benedetto Fantauzzi
Fr. Stan Chukwube

11:00 AM Jules Gagnon (L)
Fr. Mike Vetrano

12:30 PM DeGuardi & Badamo Family
Fr. Bob Scheckenback

6:00 PM People of the Parish, Paul DeGuardi, Liberta Brusca, Susanne Carlson, Elizabeth Lee Ganci, Michael Kostalos, Heddy Yuliano, Richard Turtell, William Denton, Dennis Totino, Joseph F. Gagliardo

Fr. Stan Chukwube



Rest In Peace

*Minnie Yacobellis
Raymond Capozzi
Benjy Margulies*

“When We Love, We Serve”

A “Big Thank You” to all our parishioners who promised support for our community this year by filling out a stewardship commitment card.

It is not too late to join them. All parishioners who pledge their support will be invited to a special Pastor’s Appreciation Meeting in January.

Ms. Diane Ackerly	Ms. Loretta Cannon	Mr. and Mrs. Donald Eck	Ms. Florence Harnos
Mr. and Mrs. John Acompora	Mrs. Edith Caputo	Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Edwards	Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hartzler
Mr. and Mrs. Sal Acosta	Ms. Martha Carlin	Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Engle	Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Hawkins
Mrs. Florence Adinolfi	Mr. and Mrs. Michael Carrano	Mrs. Dorothy Ennis	Mr. Richard Heelan
Alcus Family	Mr. and Mrs. Eugene T. Carroll	Mr. and Mrs. Henry Epp	Mrs. Richard Heinz
Mr. and Mrs. John Amabile	Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Castonguay	Ms. Meta Ernest	Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Henry
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Ambrosino	Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Chapuisat	Mr. Jerry Esposito	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hicks
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Anderson	Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Chiarelli	Mr. and Mrs. Louis Esposito	Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ierardi
Ms. Jeanne Anderson	Mr. and Mrs. Peter Ciolino	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Evans	Mr. and Mrs. George Impellizeri
Mr. and Mrs. Giovanni Andriola	Mr. and Mrs. Francis Ciotkosz	Ms. Lynn Falanga	Ms. Antoinette Intoci
Mr. and Mrs. William Angeloro	Ms. Lori Cirulnick	Mr. and Mrs. Carl Falco	Mr. and Mrs. John Jeansonne
Mr. and Mrs. Louie Argento	Ms. Marguerite Cognato	Mrs. Elizabeth Fallon	Mr. and Mrs. Paul Johnson
Ball Family	Mrs. Maryann Colin	Goetz/Donnelly Family	Mr. Robert Kaminski
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Baltrusitis	Mr. and Mrs. Frank Colletta	Ms. Dorothy A. Fee	Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Keegan
Ms. Anne Basso	Mr. and Mrs. Philip Colletti	Mr. Malcolm Ferguson	Mr. and Mrs. David Kegel
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Baxter	Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Collins	Mr. and Mrs. Al Ferrara	Mrs. Patricia Kelley
Mr. Joseph S. Belliveau	Mr. and Mrs. Edward Critchley	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ferruggiari	Ms. Monenna Kennedy
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bellone	Mr. and Mrs. C. Crudele	Mr. and Mrs. Umberto Fioravanti	Ms. Lorraine Kerrigan
Ms. Michelle Bencivinni	Mr. and Mrs. Michael Cuniglio	Mr. and Mrs. Richard Fisco	Mr. Kevin Kilkelly
Ms. Barbara Bertine	Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence J. Curreri	Mr. and Mrs. Michael Foran	Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Kilkelly
Ms. Frances Bianco	Mr. and Mrs. Frank Curry	Ms. Barbara K. Foster	Mr. and Mrs. E. Kinney
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Boland	Ms. Gloria Cuzzi	Mr. and Mrs. Carl Franckowski	Mr. and Mrs. George Koehler
Mr. and Mrs. Don Bolin	Mr. Lawrence Cuzzi	Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Franzone	Ms. Karen Koehler
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Bolin	Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Dailey	Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Frodell	Ms. Linda Kucala
Mr. Sylvester Bonacci	Mr. Louis D’Alessandro	Mr. and Mrs. Gary Gagliardi	Mrs. Chester Kucmarski
Ms. Mary J. Borgs	Mrs. Angela D’Angelo	Ms. Jennifer Gallagher	Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kuska
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bott	Davidson Family	Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Gans	Mr. and Mrs. Gary La Carrubba
Botz Family	Mr. and Mrs. Antonio De Leon	Mrs. Patricia Garcia	Ms. Angela La Giglia
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bove	Ms. Beverly DeCanio	Ms. Stephanie Garcia	Mrs. Elizabeth Langan
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Brancato	Mr. and Mrs. John DeCotis	Mr. and Mrs. Salvatore Gargaro	Ms. Matilda Large
Mr. and Mrs. Jan Brulhardt	Mr. and Mrs. John DeGuardi	Ms. Mechelina Geddrice	Mr. Michael Latargia
Ms. Alana Buchanan	Mr. and Mrs. Luis DeLeon	Ms. Sally Genova	Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lavazoli
Ms. Ellen Buchanan	Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Denzler	Ms. Grace Geraty	Ms. Pauline Licata
Ms. Clare Buetow	Mr. and Mrs. Pedro DeRoxas	Mr. and Mrs. Brian Gilroy	Ms. Carol Ann Lillis
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony	Mr. and Mrs. Mark DeSantis	Mr. Ralph J. Giordano	Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lillis
Buonaspina	DeVivo Family	Mr. and Mrs. Edward Giuffre	Mr. Patrick Lillis
Ms. Sandra Buonaspina	Mr. and Mrs. Richard Devlin	Mr. and Mrs. Daniel J. Golden	Mr. and Mrs. William Lilly
Mrs. Marion Burns	Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Di Blasi	Mr. and Mrs. Ross Goldin	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas LiVecchi
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Byrne	Mr. and Mrs. Steven Diamond	Ms. Esperanza Gomez	Mrs. Janet C. Loehr
Mrs. Christina Cafarelli	Mr. and Mrs. James Dobson	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gordon	Mrs. Patricia Loretz
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Cairo	Mr. and Mrs. Brian Doherty	Mr. and Mrs. George Gorman	Ms. Nadyne Louis
Ms. Millie Callegari	Mr. and Mrs. John Dolan	Mrs. Jean Ann Gottsch	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lucie
Mr. Thomas Calogero	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Doldo	Ms. Eileen Graham	Mr. and Mrs. Peter Lynch
Dr. and Mrs. Pete Calves	Mrs. Gladys Donat	Mr. William Gries	Ms. Mary Ellen Lyons
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Cameron	Ms. Ann Donlon	Mr. and Mrs. David Hannigan, Jr.	Ms. Anita Macaluso
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Cameron	Mr. Kevin Duffy	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hanrahan	Mr. and Mrs. John MacArthur

Mr. Alex MacGregor	Mr. and Mrs. Paul Munch	Mrs. Antoinette Ritacco	Tammaro Family
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Maher	Mr. and Mrs. William Murphy	Ms. Stella Rivera	Tamney Family
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Malloy	Mr. and Mrs. John Musumeci	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Roccaro	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Tedesco
Mr. and Mrs. George Mangels	Mr. Theodore Nadvornik	Mr. and Mrs. Roy Rodenburg	Mr. and Mrs. Terrence Teleha
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Maqueda	Natale Family	Mrs. Melissa Rogan	Mr. and Mrs. Carmine Telesca
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Marciano	Mr. William Ness	Mr. and Mrs. Chris Romanello	Ms. Mary Agnes Templeton
Ms. Angela Martin	Mr. and Mrs. Keith Newman	Mr. and Mrs. Peter Romeo	Mrs. Maureen Thompson
Ms. Victoria Martin	Mr. and Mrs. Edward Nikl	Mr. and Mrs. James Rooney, Jr.	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Tobin
Mrs. Raffaella Martino	Mr. and Mrs. John Ninivaggi	Mrs. Domenica Ruocco	Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Torre
Ms. Vicky Massaro	Mr. and Mrs. James O'Brien	Mr. and Mrs. John Ryan	Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Tracey
Ms. Alice McCaffery	Ms. Elizabeth O'Connor	Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sadkowski	Mr. and Mrs. Peter Trifoli
Mr. and Mrs. Peter McCann	Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth O'Connor	Ms. Anne Salzman	Ms. Carol Turri
Mrs. Barbara McCarthy	Mr. Joseph O'Dea	Mr. Michael Sanfilippo	Ms. Rosemary Van Acker
Mr. James P. McGarrity	Ms. Maureen O'Neill	Mrs. Patricia Santangelo	Mr. Bernard Van Rossen
Mr. and Mrs. Connell McGee	Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Osekavage	Mr. Peter S. Santoro	Mr. Michael Vanchiere
Mr. and Mrs. George McGill	Ms. Terri O'Shaughnessy	Ms. AnnMarie Schiraldi	Mr. and Mrs. Mark Vandenburg
Mr. and Mrs. Vincent McGuire	Mr. and Mrs. Robert O'Shea	Mrs. Florence Schlageter	Vera/Machuca Family
Mrs. Margaret McHugh	Pannacchione Family	Ms. JoAnn Schleger	Rev. Michael A. Vetrano
Ms. Patricia McKeefery	Ms. Helen Panopoulos	Mr. and Mrs. Norman Schlosser	Ms. Barbara Viamonte
Mr. and Mrs. Brian McKeon	Ms. Jessica Pascuzzi	Mrs. Lila Schmitt	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Vieni
Mrs. Claire McLoughlin	Mr. Elbert Pena	Mr. Angelo Sciortino	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Volk
Mr. Thomas McLoughlin	Ms. Dorothy Perdue	Mr. and Mrs. John Seylar	Mr. and Mrs. George Vuocolo
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel McMahan	Ms. Mary Petersen	Mr. and Mrs. Richard Shaddock	Ms. Karen Walker
Mr. and Mrs. James McMahan	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Petito	Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Shelley	Ms. Edythe Weiss
Mr. Robert P. Meditz	Mr. and Mrs. Paul Petrino	Mrs. Joan Sickles	Ms. Rosemary Wells
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Meehan	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Petrizze	Ms. Ann Sippel	Ms. Mary Wernikowski
Ms. Josephine Melton	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pfeiffer	Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sisson	Mr. and Mrs. George Wesley
Mr. and Mrs. James Metzger	Ms. Lillian Piasecki	Mr. and Mrs. William Small	Ms. Evelyn Wessels
Mrs. Mary E. Meyer	Ms. Helen Pitkowitz	Mrs. Dorothy Sokolowski	Mrs. RoseMarie Wiley
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Milligan	Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Pizzonia	Mr. and Mrs. Paul Soyack	Wilkinson Family
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Minewiser	Mr. Ernest Polini	Sparby Family	Mrs. Wilma Willis
Ms. Elaine B. Missack	Mr. Michael Popp	Mr. and Mrs. Jack Spiller	Mrs. Marie Wilson
Monaghan Family	Mr. and Mrs. Michael Poveromo	Mrs. Mary Steck	Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wissing
Ms. Nancy Monastero	Prate Family	Ms. Sheryl Stegemann	Ms. Linda Woodside
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Morgan	Mr. John Radosti	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Stroh	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Yagarich
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Moy	Mr. Ralph W. Rapecis	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Sullivan	Mrs. Stella Yawney
Mr. and Mrs. John Muldoon	Mr. and Mrs. Ron Rega	Ms. Loretta Sullivan	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Yezek
Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Mulieri	Mr. and Mrs. James Reilly	Mr. and Mrs. John Sweeney	Ms. Margaret Zimmerly
Mr. Frank J. Munafo	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reutlinger	Mr. and Mrs. Howard Swicord	Mr. and Mrs. Brian Zitani
			Mr. and Mrs. Frank Zito

Stewardship Pledge Card

We are called by God to be one, a family whose love for His Son is evident in all that we do. As members of the Parish Family of Our Lady of Lourdes, I / we realize that our parish is our Spiritual Home.

We affirm the good that is accomplished here by our gifts of Time, Talent, and Treasure.

I / Our family has prayerfully decided to make a regular weekly offering to further the work of our parish.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

I / we pledge an offering of: \$ _____ Weekly ___ Monthly ___ Other ___

Please check here if you would like us to send periodic reminders for your pledge.

Please check here if you would like information on options for direct debit or credit card contributions.

Stewardship 2006

Social Action Alert

Interfaith Outreach

Congregation Beth Shalom

Babylon, NY

Join with our parish's Social Action Group and Liturgy Committees as we pray with the good and holy people of Congregation Beth Shalom in Babylon. We have been invited to join in the annual Chanukah candle lighting service at **5:30 PM on Saturday, December 16.**

One of the goals of our Jubilee Year was to increase our involvement in Interfaith and Ecumenical work. This is one clear step! If you are able to attend, please contact John Sureau at 661.3224, x. 135 or e-mail to jsureau@ollchurch.org. Let's continue to pray for people of all faiths!

Call for Peace

The United States Catholic Conference of Bishops issued a strong statement outlining our Church's view on the war in Iraq. We will publish excerpts here each week. Let's continue to pray for peace throughout our world and for the safe return of military service women and men.

"As bishops and as defenders of the human rights and religious freedom of all, we are alarmed by the deteriorating situation of Christians and other religious minorities in Iraq. Their vulnerability is dramatic evidence of the serious and growing dangers facing the entire nation of Iraq. Christians in particular are caught in the middle of civil strife between Sunnis and Shiites. Our prayerful support goes out to our brothers and sisters in the Christian community and to all those threatened by the deadly violence. We are deeply impressed by the courage of many Christians who remain in the land of their birth. Effective efforts are required to end all sectarian violence and to make Iraq secure for persons of all faith communities."

-Call for Dialogue and Action on Responsible Transition in Iraq

A statement of the President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Living God's Call for Charity and Justice in Political Life

An excerpt from *Deus Caritas Est* (God is Love)

The first Encyclical of Pope Benedict XVI

God is Love in a Time of Violence

"God is Love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him" (1Jn 4:16). These words from the First Letter of John express with remarkable clarity the heart of the Christian faith: the Christian image of God and the resulting image of mankind and its destiny. In the same verse, Saint John also offers a kind of summary of the Christian life: "We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us".

In a world where the name of God is sometimes associated with vengeance or even a duty of hatred and violence, this message is both timely and significant. For this reason, I wish in my first Encyclical to speak of the love which God lavished upon us and which we in turn must share with others.

Parish Outreach

Outreach Office Hours

Monday through Friday from 9:30 AM until 3:30 PM.
For information/assistance call 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.

Our pantry is running low on the following items...
cereal, coffee, soup, and tea.



canned fruit
canned vegetables
jelly
peanut butter
pudding/jello

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

A big THANK YOU to all who came out on the day after Thanksgiving and gave of their precious time to donate blood. We had 71 donors register and collected 64 pints. Due to your generosity, each pint will save approximately 5 lives. Thank you again. *Marie*

Financial Summary

November 19, 2005

Weekly Collection	\$ 17,841.40
Weekly Budget	-\$ 21,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ (3,158.60)

Campaign for Human Development

Collected Amount	\$ 3,192.00
------------------	-------------

November 26, 2005

Weekly Collection	\$ 17,669.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 21,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ (3,331.00)

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



First Sunday of Advent

Every minute of every day since July 1, 1937, they have been there. The Old Guard, as they are known, crisply and cleanly march twenty-one steps, turn and face the seamless granite of the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington Cemetery, and with another turn, march the twenty-one steps back. The last line of the Sentinel's Creed reads: "Surrounded by well meaning crowds by day, alone in the thoughtful peace of night, this soldier will in honored glory rest under my eternal vigilance."

Be vigilant at all times. Today's Gospel reading from the Gospel of Luke foretells the days when humankind will be witness to many inexplicable signs, both from the sky and here on Earth. But even though the events of these days will be unlike any we have ever witnessed, we are to stand tall, ever prayerful, ever vigilant, in anticipation of the coming of the Son of Man.

Within the Catechism of the Catholic Church, we are taught that prayer is both a gift of grace and a determined response on our part. It always presupposes effort. Prayer is, in fact, a battle against the possessive and dominating self, which requires a strong vigilance on our part (CCC 2725, 2730). Though we face many distractions in our lives, distractions which interfere with our prayer lives, to be truly vigilant we need only turn to our hearts and resolutely offer them to God for purification. With the light of faith, we look beyond the trials of this earthly life to the glory of our redemption.

Readings for the Week of December 3, 2006

Sunday:	Jer 33:14-16/1 Thes 3:12-4:2/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36
Monday:	Is 2:1-5/Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday:	Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Saturday:	Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
Next Sunday:	Bar 5:1-9/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

Altar Society

Altar linens this week will be cared for by *Angela MacDermott*. If you would like to help care for our altar needs, please call the Parish Office at 661.3224.

Communion Calls

Communion brought to those who are homebound.
Contact the Parish Office at 661.3224.



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.

Pray for Our Sick

Please remember to keep in your thoughts and prayers ...

Deborah Barbaro, Pat Bonavita, Patrick Bowers, Thomas Brennan, Elise Brenner, Jo Brogan, George Bukowski, Christian Bullock, David Calogero, Sr. Nancy Campkin, Dawn Coughlin, Regina Cranor, Joseph Cristallo, Jason Fisher, Marty Kerrigan, Joseph Lehmann, Anthony Lombardo, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Lombardo, Mike Lorento, Diego Marino, Michele McCann, Peter McCann, Sr., Donato Miranda, Bryan Monahan, Julian Parra, Robert Petersen, Joe Radosti, Dan Rodriguez, Fred Ruggio, Rose Serragano, Dorothy Sullivan, Juli-Jo Vingo, Loretta Vitale

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:



Daniel D'Arienzo-US Army
Frederick Wm. Ellis-US Army
John Finn-US Army
Paul McEvoy-US Army
Michael Mallimo-US Army
Peter Provenzano-US Army
James Stultz- US Army

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

Lighting Advent Candles

Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI

To light a candle is an act of hope.

In the days of apartheid in South Africa, Christians there used to light candles and place them in windows as a sign to themselves and to others that they believed that some day this injustice would end. A candle burning in a window was a sign of hope and a political statement. The government didn't miss the message. It passed a law making it illegal to place a lit candle in a window, the offense being equal to owning a firearm, both considered equally dangerous. This eventually became a joke among the kids: "Our government is afraid of lit candles!"

They had reason to be! Lit candles, more than firearms, overthrew apartheid. Hope, not guns, is what ultimately transforms things. To light a candle as an act of hope is to say to yourself and to others that, despite anything that might be happening in the world, you are still nursing a vision of peace and unity based upon something beyond the present state of things and this hope is based upon deeper realities and powers than the world admits. To light a candle is to state publicly that you believe that what's real and what isn't is ultimately determined by powers and issues that go beyond what's seen on the evening news. To light a candle is an act of political defiance. It's also an act of hope. What is hope?

First of all, it's not wishful thinking. I can wish to win a lottery, but that wish, all by itself, contains no real power to make it happen. Second, hope is not just natural optimism, an upbeat temperament that always sees the bright side of things. An unwavering optimism about things can sometimes even be helpful, but it's no basis for hope, like wishful thinking it lacks the power to make its own dream come true. Finally, hope is not simply shrewd observation and common sense, the talent for sorting out the real from the fluff. Useful as this is, it's still not hope. Why not?

Because hope doesn't base itself upon a shrewd assessment of the empirical facts, but upon belief in a deeper set of realities: God's existence, God's power, God's goodness, and the promise that flows from that.

There's a story told about Pierre Teilhard de Chardin that helps illustrate this. Teilhard wasn't much given to wishful thinking or even to an optimistic temperament, but tended rather towards a lonely realism. Yet he was a man of real hope. For example, on one occasion, after giving a conference within which he laid out an historical vision of unity and peace for the world that paralleled the vision of scripture, he was challenged by some colleagues to this

effect: "That's a wonderful, idealistic vision of things, but suppose we blow-up the world with a nuclear bomb, what happens to your vision then?" "That would set things back some millions of years," he replied, "but this will still come to fruition, not because I say so or because the facts right now indicate that it will, but because God promised it and in the resurrection of Jesus has shown that He is powerful enough to deliver on that promise."

Hope, as we can see from this, requires both faith and patience. It works like yeast, not like a microwave oven. Jim Wallis, the founder of Sojourners, expresses this colourfully: "All politicians are alike," he says, "they hold a finger up and check which way the wind is blowing and then make their decisions in that direction. That will never change, even if we change politicians. So we must change the wind! That's hope's task - to change the wind!"

When we look at what has morally changed this world - from the great religious traditions coming out of deserts, caves, and catacombs and helping morally leaven whole cultures to apartheid being overthrown in South Africa - we see that it has happened precisely when individuals and groups lit candles and hoped long enough until the wind did change.

We light advent candles with just that in mind, accepting that changing the wind is a long process, that the evening news will not always be positive, the stock markets will not always rise, the most sophisticated defenses in the world will not always protect us from terrorism, and secular liberal and conservative ideologies will not rid this planet of selfishness.

But we continue to light candles and hope anyway, not on the basis of a worsening or improving evening newscast, but because the deepest reality of all is that God exists, that the centre holds, that there's ultimately a gracious Lord who rules this universe, and this Lord is powerful enough to rearrange the atoms of the planet and raise dead bodies to new life. We light candles of hope because God, who is more real than anything else, has promised to establish a kingdom of love and peace on this earth and is gracious, forgiving, and powerful enough to do it.

Used with permission of the author, Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser. Father Rolheiser is a theologian, teacher, and award-winning author and is currently the President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, TX. He can be contacted through his website www.ronrolheiser.com.

Daytime Eucharistic Devotion

The afternoon adoration for the month of December will be on **Wednesday, December 6 from 1-3 PM in the Church**. We will be praying for our children, the men and women in our military and the clergy.



All are invited and welcome-bring a friend!

Holy Name Society

The Holy Name Society meets on the second Sunday of each month. The next meeting will be on **Sunday, December 10**. We will begin with the **Rosary at 7:40 AM in the Church** and the **meeting will follow the 8 AM Mass in Room 16**.

Rosary Christian Mothers

The Rosary Christian Mothers meet on the first Monday evening of each month. The next meeting will be **Monday, December 4**. We will begin with **Rosary at 7:45 PM in the Parish Center** followed by our **meeting at 8 PM**.

Jesus, King of All Nations Prayer Group

The Jesus, King of All Nations Prayer Group meets each **Thursday afternoon** in the **Church**. The meeting is from **3 PM until 4 PM in front of the Blessed Sacrament**.

Good Samaritan Prayer Group of L.I.

The Good Samaritan Prayer Group of Long Island holds their **meetings every Friday (except the first Friday of the month) at OLL School in Room 16 from 8 PM until 10 PM**.

All are welcome to experience singing, praying and fellowship each evening.

Christmas at Sagtikos

Go back in time and observe Christmas customs from past eras of the Manor - Dutch Colonial, American Revolution, and Victorian. Tours will be given on **Saturday and Sunday, December 9 and 10 beginning at 11 AM.**

Space is limited and reservations are required. Reservation forms can be obtained by downloading them from the website: www.sagtikosmanor.org or by calling 631.661.5169.

Elder Care

Confused by Medicare part D? Come to St. Patrick's Senior Advocacy Program workshop "**Seniors have Options...**" on **Tuesday, December 5 from 10 AM until 12 Noon.** Topics to be discussed will include 2007 prescription plans, retiree planning and more. The workshop is free. There will be refreshments and door prizes. For more information please call 665.7216.

Merry Christmas New York City!

A concert for Christmas featuring Tony Melendez-born without arms in a small village in Nicaragua, he learned to play the guitar with his toes and is one of the best loved of all Catholic musicians. Also, OneVoice-an outstanding choir of talented singers from community and professional theatre. Fr. Charles and Laurie Mangano will bless their audience with inspiring songs that lead the soul to Christ, and Jon Kelley of the Prayer Channel will emcee. The concert will be on **Saturday, December 16 at 2 PM in the Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center.** For tickets call Center Charge at 212.721.6500, purchase online at www.LincolnCenter.org or from the Lincoln Center Box Office. Buses will be leaving from St. John Nepomucene in Bohemia and St. Patrick's in Bay Shore. For bus information, contact Sadie at 631.567.2676.

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: "**Waiting & Patience.**" Don't forget to tune in!

Visit "Religion & Rock" on the web, www.religionandrock.com. Also watch "Good News with Father Jim" on TELECare, channel 29, on Mondays and Fridays at 9:45 AM; Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 7:45 PM; Sundays at 8 PM.

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program

Telephone Reassurance Program

If you live alone and would like a **daily phone** call from a volunteer, just call the **Retired and Senior Volunteer Program** at 631.979.9490.

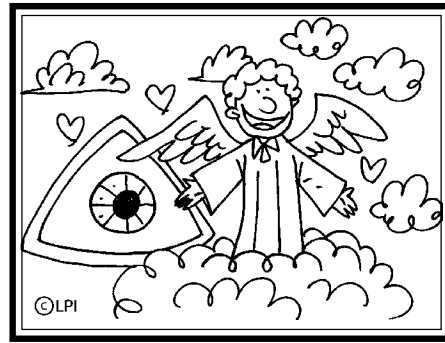
Friendly Visitor Program

If you live alone and would like a **visit** from a volunteer, just call the **Retired and Senior Volunteer Program** at 631.979.9490.

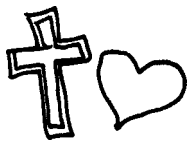
If you are 55+ and would like to volunteer to call and/or visit a homebound senior, call the **Retired and Senior Volunteer Program** at 631.979.9490.

Sharing the Gospel

One day Jesus will come back to take us home to live with him in heaven, So when scary things happen around us, we do not need to be afraid. We can stand up tall, because we know heaven will be so much better than this world.



Mission for the Week



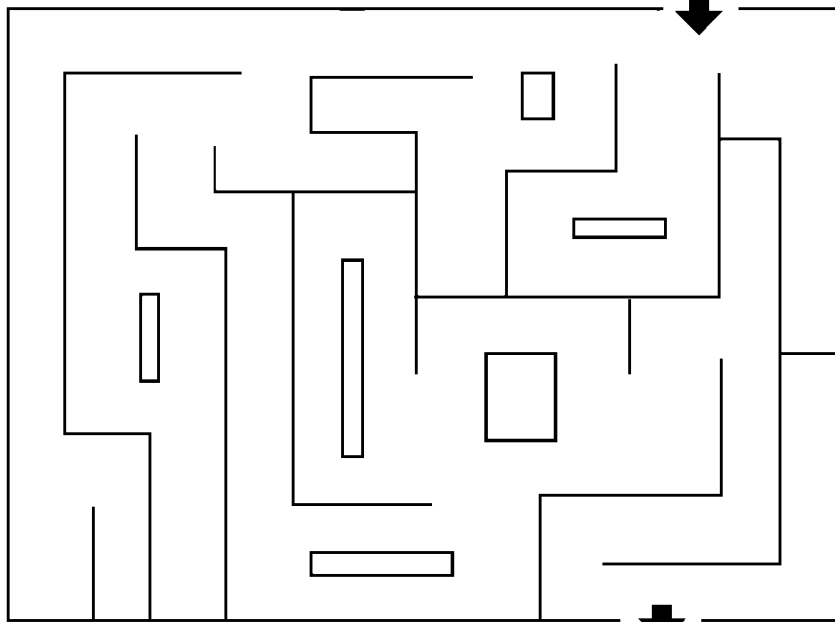
Write down one thing that scares you.

Tell God about it, and ask him to help you to be brave.



Puzzle

Help this child find the path to God.



©LPI



Prayer

Dear God,

when I am afraid,
help me to be
brave and trust
in you.

I know heaven
will be wonderful.