

"Peace be with you."



Second Sunday of Easter

Our Lady of Lourdes

April 19, 2009



Pastoral Team

Rev. Michael A. Vetrano
Pastor

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: lkrol@ollschool.org

Religious Education Office

661-5440

Monday-Friday: 9 AM - Noon

1 PM - 5 PM

7 PM - 9 PM

email: ReligiousEd@ollchurch.org

Parish Outreach Office

661-9262

Monday -Friday: 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

S.A.G.E.

661-3224

(Senior Advocates for Growth
and Enrichment)

email: Sage@ollchurch.org

Rev. Robert Scheckenback

Associate Pastor

Rev. Ambrose Cabildo

In Residence

Deacon John DeGuardi

Deacon Tom Lucie

Deacon Jack Meehan

Coordinator of Stewardship

Deacon John Teufel

Sr. Margaret Bickar

Senior Ministry-SAGE

Sr. Nancy Campkin

Director of Religious Education

Jennifer Gallagher

Childrens' Choir/Women's Chorale

Summer Program Director

Carol M. Goetz

Parish Music Director

Louise Jane Krol

School Principal

Sr. Diane Liona

Director of Religious Education

Mary McMahan

Director of Parish Social Ministry

Vita Scorcio

Ministry Spiritual Director

John Sureau

Coordinator of Worship

Sr. Betty Toohig

Senior Ministry-SAGE

Anthony Trombino

Business Manager

Pastoral Council

Stacie Baltrusitis

Lisa Cantalino

Sonia DaSilva

Nilo DeLeon

Jane Desthers

Jerry Esposito

Deacon Jack Meehan

John Muldoon

Bob Natale

Eileen Rega

Vita Scorcio

Mary Steck

Fr. Mike Vetrano

Christine Volk

Parish Staff

Barbara Catuosco

Religious Education Office

Mary Anne Lettieri

Parish Office

Debbie Meyer

Bulletin Editor/Parish Office

Rosemary Multer

School Office

Rex Muro

Organist

Rita Spera

Religious Education Office

Lori Walsh

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.

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.

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.*

*Our Lady
of Lourdes*

455 Hunter Avenue
West Islip, New York 11795

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Did you know OLL loves to pray with our children?

Every Sunday at the 9:30 A.M. Mass, we invite young people from age four to about fourth grade to process into the Parish Center. Here, they hear God's word in a powerful and meaningful way for them...and their families get a break, too!

Consider coming to our 9:30 A.M. Mass and inviting others to do the same.

Also – HELP IS NEEDED!

We are looking for musicians and lectors to be part of the Children's Liturgy of the Word in the Parish Center on a Sunday or two a month! If you think you can be a part of it – we'd love to have you!

RCIA – *The Journey to the Fullness of Life*

Our newly baptized and fully initiated members of the Church community are now celebrating the period of Mystagoga. Here, in the great 50 days of Easter, we reflect how they can renew the Church by joining and engaging in the many ministries and part of parish life present here at OLL! Continue to pray for those who have been a part of this process – *Jeannette D'Angelo, Hung Lu, Michael Pulver, Christine Smith* – and for all who have worked with them.

May the great 50 days of Easter be an inspiration not only for them – but for each one of us!

Would you like to know more about our parish family?

All are welcome at Our Lady of Lourdes and we do our best to reach out to everyone.

If you would like more information about our parish or if you would like one of our team to be in touch with you, please fill this form out and place it in any collection or offering basket, mail it to us, or send an email to parishoffice@ollchurch.org

Welcome...

to Our Lady of Lourdes!



I would like information about:

Religious Education of my Children Becoming a Catholic or Adult Confirmation
 Marriage or Annulment / Remarriage Spiritual Direction or Counseling
 Our Parish Catholic School Adult Education Senior Services
 Joining the Parish Baptizing my Children Other _____

I would prefer to be contacted by:

Phone at: _____ Email at: _____

Mail at: _____

Your Name: _____



**April Showers Brings...
Leaks!**

It's time for a new roof and skylights for OLL Church.

Dear Parishioners,

If you have been to Mass on a rainy day, you know that we hardly need to water any of our indoor plants. There are leaks aplenty in our church and, worst of all, our skylights have sustained severe damage during one of our winter storms. The combination of sun damage and high winds this winter cracked the skylight over our main altar and the same damage is progressing in the smaller skylights as well.

It is time for a new roof and skylight replacement. The total cost for roof and skylights is \$50,000.00 so we will need your support to help keep us dry. A generous friend of OLL has offered us a challenge – every dollar raised from now until April 26 will be matched by an equal gift up to \$15,000.00!

We will be taking up a special collection on the weekend of April 18/19 but there is no need to wait. You can contribute now toward our roof / skylight project by sending us your gift. Please help us with this important project.

Fr. Mike



April Showers Brings...

I want to help! Enclosed is my donation toward the
OLL Roof / Skylight Challenge.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Amount of Gift: _____





Divine Mercy Sunday

On Sunday, April 19, the Rosary Christian Mothers' Society will celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday at the 12:30 PM Mass. Following Mass, the celebration will continue with fellowship and hospitality in the Parish Center while viewing a film on the Divine Mercy. There will also be an opportunity for individual confession as well as Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. At 3PM we will conclude by reciting the Divine Mercy Chaplet and veneration of St. Faustina's relic. Please join us for all – or a part – of this wonderful afternoon!

Come and celebrate our parish's...

May Crowning

Sunday, May 3

9:30 AM Mass

followed by a procession in honor of the Blessed Mother.

This day, our Rosary Christian Mothers and our Family Liturgy Committee invite you to be a part of this annual Catholic tradition. Here, we bring forth the different parts of our parish community for a time of prayer and hospitality.

Of course – all are welcome to stay after for some delicious bagels and juice!

What's the Rush!?

As we continue to pray so well as a parish community, we are always called to more in our prayer and action.

Part of what the liturgy calls us to is a stepping away from the business and “busy”ness of every day life. For at least one hour, we would pull ourselves away from work, family, commitments, shopping, etc. and give that hour over to prayer. The prayer calls us not only to bring ourselves but to also commit to praying on behalf of the community for the entire Mass.

If you are someone who has gotten into the habit of leaving early at Sunday Mass, please take some to think, for yourself, what that is about? The community's prayer NEEDS you for the ENTIRE time – from beginning to end, from Entrance Hymn to Closing Hymn! Please give it some thought!

If you have any ideas or thoughts about how we can better address, please contact John Sureau at 661.3224, x. 135 or e-mail to jsureau@ollchurch.org.

Art and Prayer

Tuesdays, April 21, 28 and May 5, 12, 19

7:30 - 9:30 PM

Parish Center

Presenter: Joan Woelfel, Staff Associate

St. Ignatius Retreat House, Manhasset, NY



This workshop will explore the relationship between art and journaling in prayer. Participants will create their own art experience using different media as prayer, and continue the prayer experience through journaling.

No art experience necessary.

Art materials will be provided. Bring your own journal.

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 Ed Office at 661.5440 (option 3), Monday – Friday, 9 AM – 5 PM and 7 PM – 9 PM or e-mail to: religioused@ollchurch.org.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Bring your prayer and creativity together in a gift of love.

Join us ...

Wednesdays, May 20, June 10 from 9 AM until 11:30 AM in the Parish Center.

All you need to bring is scrap yarn, knitting needles or crochet hooks (patterns and instructions will be given to you) and your gifts of love and prayer.

Blessing of Extraordinary Ministers

*The two disciples recounted what had taken place on the way,
and how Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of bread.*

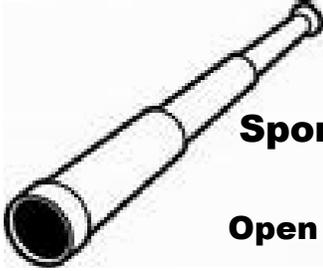
-Luke 24, 3rd Sunday of Easter

Our parish is blessed to have nearly 200 Extraordinary Ministers of Communion who minister at Masses and bring communion to the homebound. This past month has been a time of discernment for them as they consider whether they will renew their commitment to the ministry this Spring.

At all of our Masses on April 25/26, 2009, the Third Sunday of Easter, we hear the power of the meal and how Jesus is often encountered in this unique way. We, too, encounter him in the meal of meals every time we gather at Liturgy. In the spirit of this connection, our Extraordinary Ministers will be called forth to state their intention and to seek our prayerful support. Let's commit to that prayer and support of them as they consider a new three year term of ministry.

If you're interested in becoming an Extraordinary Minister, training takes place again Fall 2009. If you're interested, contact John Sureau at 661.3224, x. 135 or e-mail to jsureau@ollchurch.org.

DISCOVERY SUMMER CAMP



Sponsored by Our Lady of Lourdes
44 Toomey Road, West Islip, NY

Open to all Children entering grades K – 7

Registration applications now being accepted!
Four Week Program
June 29th - July 24, 2009
9am – 5pm, Monday thru Friday

Programs offered are as follows:

All classes are:

- K – 1** ***Under the Sea *** or
 Dinosaurs
- 2 – 4** ***Space Camp*** or
 Rain Forest
- 5 – 7** ***Mind Games*** or
 Drama Camp

- 1/2 day of Academic Based Activities**
- 1/2 day of Sports Based Activities***
- Bring a Bag Lunch and Snack**
- *Sports provided by F.A.S.T Athletic**

***CIT program for students entering Grade 8 (no charge, limited space)**
High School and Parent Volunteers needed

AM and PM Extended Hours are Available

Registration Fee*:	\$50.00
Deposit*:	\$100.00
Full Course Cost:	\$675.00

***Deposit and registration fee are non-refundable/non-transferable.**
No refunds made after May 1, 2009.

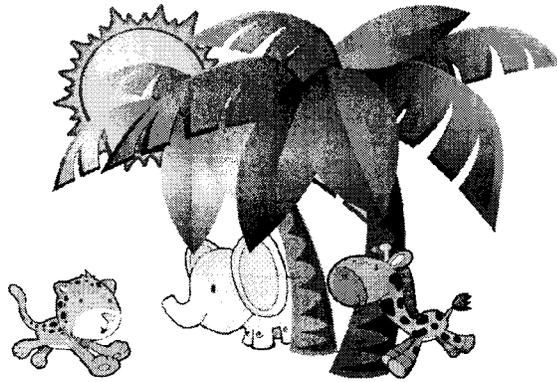
For further information contact:

Lisa Kennedy: 631.587.7200 ext. 100 or LKennedy@OLLSchool.org

Check out our website: www.OLLSchool.org

Applications and program descriptions can be found “in the Backpack” section of our website.

SAFARI Camp



**Our Lady of Lourdes
NINTH Annual Vacation Bible Camp
July 27-31, 2009
Don't miss the fun!**

Where?

Right on the grounds of Our Lady of Lourdes, which will be transformed into SAFARI Camp! (SAFARI stands for *S*haring *A*bout *F*aith and *R*el*I*gion)

What will we do?

Our campers will participate in lots of fun daily activities: singing super songs, making cool crafts, participating in awesome safari-themed science activities, and learning about God through different Bible adventures! And, of course, there'll be snacks!

Who can come?

Campers should presently be in Pre-K (age 4) through 5th grade.
Students in grades 6-12: we need you as volunteer counselors and assistants!!

Who's running the camp?

The camp director is Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, a school principal and part-time team member at OLL. She'll be working with a volunteer team of adults and teens from our parish family.

How much does it cost?

The cost is \$75 per child. The fee includes all materials, snacks, crafts, and an official camp T-shirt!

How do I sign up?

Fill out the registration form (which will be available at the school and religious ed. offices and will be in the bulletin in the beginning of June) and mail it to OLL at 455 Hunter Ave. (att. Jennifer Gallagher) with all fees by June 30.

Questions?

Email JenGallagher@ollchurch.org



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

Support Groups

Alcoholics Anonymous:

Monday and Tuesday at
8 PM and Saturday at 2 PM
and 7 PM in Lourdes Hall-
convent lower level.

ALANON:

Each Wednesday at
10 AM in Lourdes Hall-
convent lower level.
(Free babysitting available)

Rosary/Novena

Rosary

Daily after 8 AM Mass

Miraculous Medal Novena

Monday after 8 AM Mass

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.

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.



Rest In Peace

Jean M. Virgilio died on April 1 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was April 4. We extend our prayers to her husband, Robert, her mother, Marilyn, her siblings and entire family.

Josephine Chiaravelle died on April 4 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was April 7. We extend our prayers to her daughter, MaryAnn and entire family.

Cecilia Cedeno died on April 10 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was April 16. We extend our prayers to her daughter, Helen, son, Julio, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and entire family.

Garrett M. Bellone died on April 6 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was April 11. We extend our prayers to his children, grandchildren, siblings and entire family.

Mildred Maiforth died on April 11 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was April 14. We extend our prayers to her husband, Robert, her daughters, Patricia and Maureen, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and entire family.

Rosemaria Russo died on April 12 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was held in Florida. We extend our prayers to her daughter and entire family.

Remembering . . .

Monday, April 20

8:00 AM Barbara McGarrity

Tuesday, April 21

St. Anselm, bishop & doctor

8:00 AM Josephine Sanfilippo

Wednesday, April 22

8:00 AM Nicholas Caccavo

Thursday, April 23

St. George, martyr

8:00 AM Ventura & Laura Cafaro

Friday, April 24

St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, priest & martyr

8:00 AM William Reilly

Saturday, April 25

8:00 AM Joseph Sullivan, Vincent & David McCarthy,
Rev. James Marron, Peggy Banting, Marie D. Turano,
Daniel DiMonda, Vincent Occhiogrosso, Robert Johnson,
Felisa Baltazar, Danny Driscoll

5:00 PM Steven Perone

Fr. Mike Vetrano

Sunday, April 26

8:00 AM William Petersen

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

9:30 AM Michael Reilly

Fr. Ambrose Cabildo

11:00 AM Fr. Joe Lukaszewski

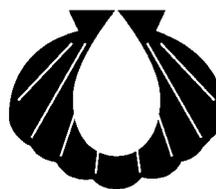
Fr. Mike Vetrano

12:30 PM Louis & Margarita Fortunato

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

6:00 PM People of the Parish, Patricia Hein, George Coady,
Robert Hughes, Dominick Mancuso, Robert Morrison,
Patricia Santangelo, Winifred Quaglino, Stephen Kurpiel,
Brian Christopher Acquilino

Fr. Ambrose Cabildo



Baptisms

John George Avlonitis

George and Jessica

Michael Christopher Pine

Sandy and Kristine

Aiden Michael Steinhauser

Kevin and Patricia

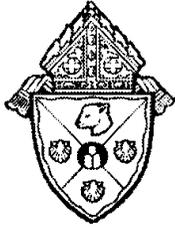
Caden Patrick Viar

Paul and Kelly

Upcoming Marriages

Joyce Alessi and

Bernard Polansky, both OLL



Catholic Ministries Appeal

CMA NEWS

“Supporting the Community Around Us”

Thank You to all those who have Responded!

The Diocese of Rockville Centre would like to thank all those who have made a sacrifice by making a gift to the *Catholic Ministries Appeal*. *If you have not had an opportunity to make a gift to the appeal or have been waiting to make a pledge, please complete the pledge card below and place it in the collection basket.*

Can you help those in need?

One of our goals is to have *every* family participate in this Appeal by responding with a **YES** or a **NO**. We are hopeful that every family in our parish & diocese has responded to this call for sacrifice. Our goal has been based on **every family making an equal sacrifice, not an equal gift**. Look at what God has given to you and your family and consider the gift you can give to help those in need here on Long Island. Only you can decide what that gift will be. If you have not yet responded, please consider what you can do to the best of your ability to help our parish reach those in need.

Parish Goal	\$101,839
Amount Pledged	\$ 67,105
# of Donors	265
Average Pledge	\$ 253

catholic ministries appeal • diocese of rockville centre
 po box 4000 • rockville centre, new york 11571-4000 • www.drvc.org/cma.html



2009 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

Supporting the Community Around Us

To provide funds I/we agree to make a gift of:

Pledge \$ _____ Initial Payment \$ _____ Balance \$ _____

If you would like to charge your contribution to your credit card, please check here and see reverse side of this form.

Signature of Donor _____

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____

Pledge	8 Payments
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000	\$125.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 500	62.50
<input type="checkbox"/> 250	31.25
<input type="checkbox"/> 150	18.75

Every Gift Counts!

Please make checks payable to:
 Catholic Ministries Appeal
 Thank you for your support

For gifts of securities, please call the Appeal Office for instructions. (516) 379-5210, Ext. 2
Matching gifts: if you qualify for a matching gift from your employer, please forward to the cma office.

SAGE

The SAGE Group (Senior Advocates for Growth and Enrichment) will meet on **Tuesday, April 21**, in the **Parish Center at 9 AM**.

Men's Group

An Invitation to all men from OLL and beyond...

Come join us on **Thursday, April 23**, in the **Parish Center after the 8 AM Mass**.

We meet once a month to read and discuss the Scriptures for the following Sunday.

Come with your ideas and suggestions. We'll gather for conversation and fellowship.

Join us in this pioneering experience for **MEN ONLY**. If you plan to attend, please call Jack Fitzgerald at 587.5548.

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.

and don't forget...

Our Lady of Lourdes 25th Annual Duffers Classic Monday, July 20, 2009

The Our Lady of Lourdes 25th Annual Golf Outing to Support Catholic Education will be held on July 20, 2009.

This year we will be honoring **Dom and Mary Anne Lettieri**, who have supported our Golf Outing and our Parish Italian Family Feast for over 25 years.

Please mark your calendars and plan to be with us.

For more information about our Golf Outing, please contact the Parish Office.



2nd Sunday of Easter

For all of their redemptive works which led to the spread of Christianity throughout the world, the disciples of Jesus weren't exactly saintly in the hours before and days after the crucifixion. Having abandoned him in fear for their lives, they still did not comprehend the meaning of Christ's promise (made many times) to rise again. Even presented with the physical proof of an empty tomb, they continued to hide behind a locked door, unsure of their future. Even Thomas, who could best be described as the Eeyore of the group, couldn't bear to be with the rest of them. Not exactly how Jesus wanted them to begin their ministry in his name!

In today's Gospel reading from John, Jesus appears to the disciples (except for Thomas) inside the upper room despite the door being locked. Having shown them the holes in his hands and side, they are now convinced of his resurrection. Offering them peace, Jesus breathes into them the Holy Spirit and commands them to go out into the world to forgive sins. Yet Thomas still cannot be convinced despite ten men proclaiming Christ's presence until he himself is greeted. Even among those closest to Jesus, fear and doubt were all too present.

In the Catechism of the Catholic Church, we are taught that "to be a witness to Christ is to be a 'witness to his Resurrection,' to '[have eaten and drunk] with him after he rose from the dead'" (CCC 995). This means that in every instance available to us, we are to speak to others of the saving grace that is belief in Jesus and, whenever possible, to share in the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Though we did not touch his hands and side, we remember his words to Thomas: "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

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Readings for the week of April 19, 2009

Sunday:	Acts 4:32-35/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-31
Monday:	Acts 4:23-31/Jn 3:1-8
Tuesday:	Acts 4:32-37/Jn 3:7b-15
Wednesday:	Acts 5:17-26/Jn 3:16-21
Thursday:	Acts 5:27-33/Jn 3:31-36
Friday:	Acts 5:34-42/Jn 6:1-15
Saturday:	1 Pt 5:5b-14/Mk 16:15-20
Next Sunday:	Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48

Summer Evening Prayer

It's almost summer... and time for Summer Evening Prayer! OLL annual tradition of gather for Evening Prayer on the "Great Lawn" will continue in 2009 and we need to get working on new ideas, activities and events to make our 2009 celebration the best ever! This group only meets a few times in May and June so it's not a "forever" commitment. Think about it – maybe something for you!



If you're interested in joining contact the Parish Office at 661.3224 or e-mail to jsureau@ollchurch.org. We'd love to have you!

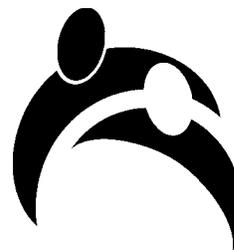
Altar Society

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

Pastoral Care of Our 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.
- would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick.



Pray for Our Sick

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

Lucas Anderson, Susan Aviza, Deacon Dick Barry, Deacon Steve Behar, Nicholas Buscemi, Jr., Howard Campkin, Nicholas Cibelli, Michael Ciotkosz, Regina Cranor, Ann Donlon, Anita Ferruggiari, Marge Flem, James, Jr. & Julia Florio (infants), Susan Gigante, Brian Hinkelman, Lili Hinkelman, Veronica Hopkins, Kathleen Kerrigan, Laura Larocco, Kara Lobasso, Baby Josephine Mahan, Vicky Massaro, Michele McCann, Peter McCann, Sr., Dorothy Meloni, Rae Morris, Brenden Muldoon, Arthur Petrino, Joanne Popper, Joe Radosti, Carol Randazzo-Hopkins, James Randazzo, Anthony Rao, James Reilly, Patricia Salimbene, Connor Serio, Dorothy Shiavone, Joe Shields, Mary Clair Stephen, Diana Marie Taveras, Baby John Tramazzo, Pat Wallace, Flo Worysz



Flower Offering 2009

M/M M. Ryan
M/M John Pannacchione
Nicholas & Teresa Ambrosino
Salvatore Carrano
Gerard Ambrosino
Bunting & Hirt Families
Laura & Leo Moy
Mario Parinunzio
Salvatore Cinquemani
Thomas & Florence Brady
Mildred & Fred Gangi
Robert Costanza
Ken Caputo
Dorothy Ennis
JoAnn Fiorentino
Frank Meyer
Nancy & Jerry Esposito, Sr.
Castagna & Scacciaferro Family
Glaser-Stevens Family
Timothy Fantauzzi
Daniel, Mickey & Mike Salegna
Ann Harnos
Lil Daly
M/M William King
Evelyn Albert
Chris Romanello
M/M John E. Seylar
Josefa & Cecilio Rivera
Keane & Foley Families
Darlene Schulthesis
George J. Frank
Bart Simone
Anna Gotthelf
Kenneth Gotthelf

Eugene Surace
Charles Tibbetts
Jennifer Gordon
M/M Mark Grabow
Marge & John Kopitsch
Angelo & Rose Paolino
Mollie Verdone
George Wild
Nitkiewicz & Szczecina Families
Irene Conaughton
Dick & Steph Garcia
Jerry DiCanio
M/M Joseph Rosa
Joan Laverty
M/M Joseph DiPalma, Jr.
M/M Richard Cappetta
M/M James Molloy
Rose & Pat Amato
Carmela & Anthony DeFio
M/M Vincent McGuire
Cook, O'Connor & Hogan Family
Lillian Cummings McLoughlin
Brian Zarb



Parish Outreach

Office telephone:

661-9262, option 4

Office hours:

Monday - Friday: 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM



Pantry Needs

baked beans
boxed potatoes
boxed rice
canned meat
cookies
crackers
hot chocolate
mayonnaise

Outreach Memorial Donations

Parish Outreach has received many donations in memory of loved ones.

- A donation in memory of *Rosemarie Wurmser* has been given to Outreach by *Connie Lynch*.
- *Mr. and Mrs. Robert Martorana* have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Marie Turano*.
- The *Giuffré Family* has made a donation to Outreach in memory of: *Joseph Sullivan, Dennis Radesky, Ray Brogan, Armand Porzio, Ann Nardone, and Brother Anthony Dadamo*.

If you would like to make a donation to Parish Outreach in memory of a loved one, please call *Mary McMahon*, Director of Parish Social Ministry at 661.3224, option 4.

Gentle Reminder: We no longer accept clothing donations.
Please do not leave them on the premises.

A Voice That Never Dies

by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

Easter is about many things. We celebrate God's power to overcome death, sin, and injustice, but we also celebrate the voices and wounds of the ones who died on Good Friday.

To illustrate this, I would like to recount one such voice, that of an anonymous, young woman who was brutally raped and murdered by the Salvadoran military in 1981, at a place fittingly called La Cruz. The story was reported by Mark Danner, a journalist.

He describes how, after this particular massacre, some soldiers told how one of their victims haunted them and how they could not get her out of their minds long after her death.

They had plundered a village and raped many of the women. One of these was a young woman, an evangelical Christian, whom had been raped many times in a single afternoon and subsequently tortured. However, throughout this all, this young woman, clinging to her belief in Christ, had sung hymns. Here's how one of the soldiers described it:

"She kept on singing, too, even after they had shot her in the chest. She had lain there in La Cruz with the blood flowing from her chest, and had kept on singing - a bit weaker than before, but still singing. And the soldiers, stupefied, had watched and pointed. Then they had grown tired of the game and shot her again, and she sang still, and their wonder began to turn to fear - until finally they unsheathed their machetes and hacked her neck and at last the singing stopped." (The Massacre at El Mozote, N. Y., Vintage Books, 1994, pp. 78-79)

Gil Bailie, who recounts this story in his monumental book on the cross and non-violence, notes not just the remarkable similarity between her death and that of Jesus, but also the fact that, in both cases, resurrection means that their voices live on when everything about their deaths suggest that their voices should have died.

In Jesus' case, nobody witnessing his humiliating death on a lonely hillside, with his followers absent, would have predicted that this would be the most remembered death in history. The same is true for this young woman. Her rape and murder occurred in a very remote place and all of those who might have wanted to immortalize her story were also killed. Yet her voice survives and will, no doubt, continue to grow in importance, long after all those who violated and killed her are forgotten. As both Jesus and this

young girl illustrate, powerlessness and anonymity, linked to a heart that can sing the words: "Forgive them for they know not what they are doing!" while being raped and humiliated, ultimately become their opposite, power and immortality.

A death of this kind not only morally scars the conscience of its perpetrators and their sympathizers, it leaves something that can never be forgotten, a permanent echo that nobody will ever silence. What God raises up after Good Friday is also the voice of the one who died.

A critic reviewing Danner's book in the New York Times, tells how, after reading this story, he kept "straining" to hear the sound of that singing.

The task of Easter is to rekindle the creed within ourselves. The earliest Christians, immediately upon experiencing the resurrected Jesus, spontaneously voiced a one-line creed: "Jesus is Lord!" That does, in fact, say it all. When we affirm that Jesus has been raised from the dead and is Lord of this world we are saying everything else within our faith as well.

In essence, we are saying that God is ultimately still in charge of this universe, despite any indications to the contrary; that brutality and rape notwithstanding, at the end of the day violence, injustice, and sin will be silenced and overcome; that graciousness and gentleness, as manifested in Jesus, are ultimately what lies at the root of all reality; that this young woman, so brutally violated, has now been raised and lives, joyfully, in the heart of God; and that her death, like Jesus', is redemptive precisely because, like him, she too, in the face of helplessness before the worst brutality the world could perpetrate, could still say: "Forgive them for they know not what they do!"

To celebrate Easter is to affirm that all of this is true. But that also asks something of us:

It asks, as the critic in the New York Times so aptly put it, that we strain to hear the sound of that girl's singing, that we struggle to keep her, and her song, in our hearts. She is still alive in God's heart, but we must keep her alive in ours as well.

Why? Not for sentimental reasons, nor simply because her story is exceptional. No. We must keep her alive in our hearts because her song is the leaven, the yeast, of the resurrection and that, and that alone, can raise us up to become exceptional too.

One of the tasks of Easter is to strain to hear the voices of Good Friday.

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.

Financial Summary

April 5, 2009-Palm Sunday

Weekly Collection	\$ 23,354.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 19,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ 4,354.00

April 12, 2009-Easter Sunday

Easter Collection	\$ 43,770.00
Ministry Collection	+\$ 6,753.00
	\$ 50,523.00
Easter/Ministry 2008	-\$ 48,357.00
	\$ 2,166.00

The estimated weekly collection needed to maintain and operate our parish buildings, ministries, programs and salaries is \$19,000.

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:

Bryan R. Dempsey-US Marines

James J. Ferrara-US Marines

John Finn-US Army

Christopher Florca-US Marines

Edward A. Kelly, IV-US Air Force

Michael Mallimo- US Army

Anthony Mannino-US Marines

Trent Narra-US Marines

Peter Provenzano-US Army

Frank Silva-US Army

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

Our whole parish family rejoices with the DiLapi Family in gratitude for the safe return of their daughter from active duty. **Danielle DiLapi** -US Army has returned to the United States safe and sound from her tour of duty. Thank you, Danielle, for your generous service to our country! The DiLapi Family would like to thank Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Family for all of their prayers.

Our whole parish family rejoices with the Narra Family in gratitude for the safe return of their son from active duty. **Trent Narra** -US Marines has returned to the United States safe and sound from his tour of duty. Thank you, Trent, for your generous service to our country! The Narra Family would like to thank Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Family for all of their prayers.

The Catholic Men's Conference at Holy Trinity Diocesan H.S.

Join former St. John's University Basketball Coach, Lou Carnesecca, NYPD's Steven McDonald, Msgr. Jim Lisante, former NY Giants legendary tight end, Mark Bavaro and Brother Louis Leonelli, CFR, on Saturday, April 25 for a day of talks, food, prayer and fellowship. The theme of the day is *"You Have What It Takes!"*

Registration begins at 8:30 AM and will conclude with Mass celebrated by Bishop William Murphy at 4:30 PM. The purpose of the Men's Conference is to gather Catholic men together for an opportunity to reinforce to them that the Lord recognizes each of these men, his good and faithful servants in whom he is well pleased. For more registration information, go to www.catholicmensministry.net or 1-866-8839-MEN (636). *Conference message is directed to men over 18 years of age.*
Be the man you were called to be.

Looking for a few good women

Women (18-25) who are available from May 29 - June 12, 2009 are invited to be part of the program, "Charity in the City." Volunteers will live together in Riverdale College of Mt. St. Vincent in the Bronx while participating in ministries where the NY Sisters of Charity serve the poor in NYC. For more information and for an on-line application, visit the website: www.scny.org. (Deadline for applying: April 25.)

Gennasaret Retreat

A retreat especially designed for persons who live with a serious illness is planned May 1, 2, and 3, 2009 at Montfort Spirituality Center, Bay Shore. This retreat offers a respite, a quiet time, an oasis, to enable one to continue the journey. The retreat focuses on God's love, His forgiveness, and His faithfulness. To register or receive more information about this weekend, please call Colette at 631.665.7052.

Healing Mass

followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Anointing with Oil at Church of St. Joseph, Babylon in Msgr. Nolan Hall on Thursday, April 23 at 7:30 PM. the evening's celebrant will be Fr. Richard McAlear, O.M.I. for further information please call Tony and Virginia Fescina at 631.587.7739.

Religion & Rock

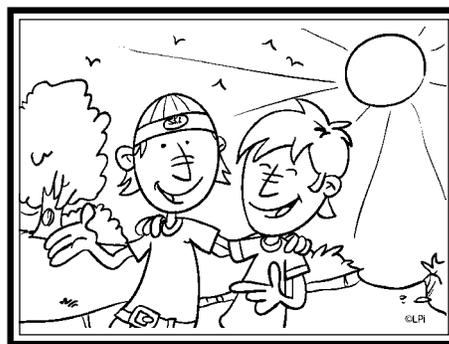
Tune into "Religion & Rock" with Msgr. Jim Vlaun on Sunday from 7 AM to 8 AM on WBAB 102.3 FM or 95.3 on the East End of Long Island. The show is also available on Sirius Radio, Channel 159 at 11 PM on Saturday.

Next Sunday's theme is **"Poverty."** Don't miss it!

To listen online or receive more information regarding "Religion & Rock" go to www.religionandrock.com. Don't forget to tune into TELE CARE, Cablevision 29 or Verizon FIOS 271 for the Best in Catholic Television!

Sharing the Gospel

In today's Gospel, Thomas had a hard time believing his friends. Jesus was alive! They saw Jesus! Well, Thomas could not believe it. He needed proof. Thomas wanted to see Jesus for himself. Thomas wanted to touch Jesus' scars on his hands and his side. Once Thomas did that, then he would believe. You may have doubting friends like Thomas. Be patient with them. Do not get angry with them. Love them instead, and gently tell the truth about Jesus. Ask Jesus to open their hearts, so they can believe in him, too.



Mission for the Week

Talk to God about a friend who does not believe in Jesus. Ask God to give you the right words to say about Jesus. Then ask God to help you be patient.



Empty Squares

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

Thomas replied, "You are my Lord and my God!"

A	R	E							

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Prayer



God,
 help me to be patient with my doubting friends. Show them that Jesus is their savior, too.

Something to Draw



Draw a picture of yourself playing with a friend who does not believe in Jesus.