

*"Look at my hands and my feet!"*

*Luke 24:39*



*Our Lady of Lourdes • Third Sunday of Easter • April 26, 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](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: [lkrol@ollschool.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.*

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*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.*

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## *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

## Praying Before Mass

In Advent 2007, we began the practice of asking all the liturgical ministers – lectors, servers, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion - sacristans, ushers, deacons and presiders – to pray together before Mass. The idea of this is not to offer a special blessing or to set them apart. Rather it's to bring all the ministers together in a spirit of prayer – one that can unite and inspire all who are serving at God's table.

We are called to a greater sense of prayer at Liturgy – particularly by taking some time before Mass. While our ministers pray together in the Narthex, please consider making this a time of prayer for you and for those who will serve us at Liturgy.

## *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](mailto:parishoffice@ollchurch.org)

*Welcome...*

*to Our Lady of Lourdes!*

*455 Hunter Avenue, West Islip, New York 11795*



*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!

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,  
455 Hunter Avenue, West Islip, New York 11795.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Gift: \_\_\_\_\_





## First Holy Communion

Beginning on Saturday, April 25 you will see many homes in our parish displaying a paper chalice in their front window, a sign that a child living there has received First Holy Communion this season. We are so grateful for your prayerful support during their time of preparation, and we invite you to rejoice with us as we continue to welcome them at the Table of the Lord each week. This is truly a cause for rejoicing because 280 children have taken another significant step on their journey of faith as members of our parish family.

*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!

### 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!

## Art and Prayer

Tuesdays, April 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](mailto: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](mailto:jsureau@ollchurch.org).

# **DISCOVERY Summer Camp**

**Sponsored by Our Lady of Lourdes School**

**44 Toomey Road, West Islip, NY**

**Four Week Program**

**June 29 - July 24, 2009**

**9AM – 5 PM, Monday thru Friday**



Open to all children entering grades K – 7

Registration applications now being accepted!

|                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| 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](mailto:LKennedy@OLLSchool.org), Check out our website: [www.OLLSchool.org](http://www.OLLSchool.org)

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



## **SAFARI Camp**

**Sharing About Faith and Religion**

**Our Lady of Lourdes**

**NINTH Annual Vacation Bible Camp**

**July 27-31, 2009**

**Don't miss the fun!**

The grounds of Our Lady of Lourdes will be transformed into SAFARI Camp! (SAFARI stands for *Sharing About Faith and Religion*) 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!

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!! 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.

The cost is \$75 per child. The fee includes all materials, snacks, crafts, and an official camp T-shirt! 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. Email [JenGallagher@ollchurch.org](mailto:JenGallagher@ollchurch.org)

## OLL Boys Win Basketball Championship!

Our Lady of Lourdes School in West Islip is proud to announce their 6th – 8th grade boys are the CMSAA (Catholic Middle School Athletic Association) Boys Small School Varsity Division Champions. After playing Patchogue, the only school to beat them in the early season, they went ahead to win 35 – 33.



Thanks to Coaches Eckoff and Saberese who volunteer their time to work with the boys, never giving up and bringing them together as a team. The school will celebrate with a pep rally and a trophy dinner. Congratulations to all!

## Science Fair At OLL

Our Lady of Lourdes School recently held their Science Fair. Grades 4 – 8 were judged for the usual 3 place awards. The lower classes were also invited to participate, though they were not judged. It was an exciting and fun night for all as showing and testing unique experiments heightened the enthusiasm.

The fun has been ongoing since the installation of the new science lab. Science teacher, Danielle Lichtenberger, has the kids learning through creative labs that leave them wanting more.

The first place winners of each grade are: Kevin Cunningham (4th) *What Melts Ice Faster?*, Grant Macina (5th) *Popcorn Altered Under Certain Circumstances*, Tiffani Greene and Nick Zotto (6th) *Do Fish Sleep and Acid Rain*, Tyler Secreto (7th) *Which Metal is Most Resistant to Rust?*, Katherine Moeller (8th) *Cataracts in Canine Eye*.



## OLL Music Students Perform in SCMEA

Our Lady of Lourdes in West Islip is proud to announce students who are performing in the SCMEA All County Festival this weekend.

*Robert Buonaspinga* is playing violin in the Division II Orchestra, *Eva Gallegos* is playing

violin in the Division I Orchestra, *Lauren Thomson* is playing flute in the Division II Band, both *Allison Brown* and *Theresa Maher* are in Division I Chorus, and *Jaclyn Hahn* is singing in the Division II Chorus. These students represent grades 5 through 8.

The singers have spent extra time working in school and at home on their music. The instrumentalists have been working with their private teachers. For the last two weeks, the students have been attending all day rehearsals on the weekends in preparation for the concert this weekend.

Our Lady of Lourdes School has belonged to SCMEA for years. We're proud, as always, to send students to the SCMEA Festival. It's a wonderful opportunity for them to join with so many other talented players/singers throughout Suffolk County.

## **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**

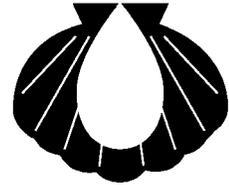
Please contact the Parish Office to schedule an appointment.

### **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.



## ***Baptisms***

*Kevin William Dyson*

William and Danielle

*Jeremy Steven Bonés*

Luis and Melinda

*Samantha Abigail McCormack*

Frank and Carol

*Katelynn May Molesky*

John and Alicia

*Anthony Jason Nicolosi, Jr.*

Anthony and Joanna

*Rocco Francesco Paganica, Jr.*

Rocco and Heather

*John Anthony Perrone*

John and Debra

*Adam Lawrence Burkhard*

Lawrence and Maria

## Remembering . . .

### Monday, April 27

8:00 AM Frances Kentoffio

### Tuesday, April 28

*St. Peter Chanel, priest, martyr*

*St. Louis Mary de Montfort, priest*

8:00 AM Charles Ecker

### Wednesday, April 29

*St. Catherine of Siena, virgin & doctor*

8:00 AM Marie Ruisi

### Thursday, April 30

*St. Pius V, pope*

8:00 AM Anthony Paturgo

### Friday, May 1

*St. Joseph the Worker*

8:00 AM Jack & Marilyn Meehan

### Saturday, May 2

8:00 AM Dennis Radesky, Ann Nardone, Keith Hilbert, Marie D. Turano,  
Donna Lee Nichol, Joseph Rizutto, Rosemaria Russo,  
Vera, Ed & Marie Rossomondo, Anton Visek, Geraldine Marino

5:00 PM Andrew "Al" Velten

*Fr. Mike Vetrano*

### Sunday, May 3

8:00 AM John Lovari

*Fr. Ambrose Cabildo*

9:30 AM Mary & John Flynn

*Fr. Bob Scheckenback*

11:00 AM Ginger Rocco

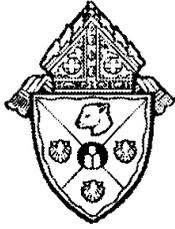
*Fr. Mike Vetrano*

12:30 PM William Schlageter

*Fr. Ambrose Cabildo*

6:00 PM People of the Parish, Elinor Bartoli, Robert Tryon, James Dolan,  
Matteo & Anna Lattanzio, Ann Nardone, Marie Turano,  
Julia Mustich, Jim Steinhauser, Guilia Conte, Mary Garzia

*Fr. Bob Scheckenback*



## *Catholic Ministries Appeal*

### **CMA NEWS**

*“Supporting the Community Around Us”*

*“Love is also charity, and the church has an obligation to help the needy wherever they are found.”*

-Pope Benedict

### **Can you help those in need?**

Pope Benedict’s message reminding each of us of the call to live fully our different vocations by reaching out a hand of love and compassion to the very same people Christ came to serve – the poor, the needy, and the vulnerable in our world.

Your gift will help those in need here in our own parish and across Long Island. Please know that every gift, regardless of its size, is important. If each one of us prayerfully considers making a sacrifice to help, we can be the Hands of Christ here in our parish.

|                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| <b>Parish Goal</b>    | \$101,839 |
| <b>Amount Pledged</b> | \$ 67,105 |
| <b># of Donors</b>    | 265       |
| <b>Average Pledge</b> | \$ 253    |

### **Thank You to all those who have responded!**

The CMA Committee would like to thank all those who have responded to the *Catholic Ministries Appeal*. These families have made a wonderful and generous sacrifice to continue the mission of helping those in need here on Long Island.

If you have already made your gift please accept my heartfelt thanks. If you have yet to make your gift, please consider this opportunity to help those in need by completing the pledge envelope located in the pews and at the entrance & exits of the Church. You can return it by placing it in the collection basket or mailing.



## Nocturnal Adoration

Nocturnal Adoration will follow the 5 PM Mass on **Saturday, May 2**, followed by Benediction at 9:50 PM. Please come and pray with us. All are invited and welcome! Bring a friend.

## Senior Circle

The Senior Circle meets on the last Monday of each month. The next meeting will be held on **Monday, April 27**, at **12:30 PM in the Parish Center**.

## Rosary Christian Mothers

The Rosary Christian Mothers will host a Communion Breakfast on **Sunday, May 3** beginning with 9:30 AM Mass. Communion Breakfast to follow at 11:30 AM in the Parish Center.

## 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...*

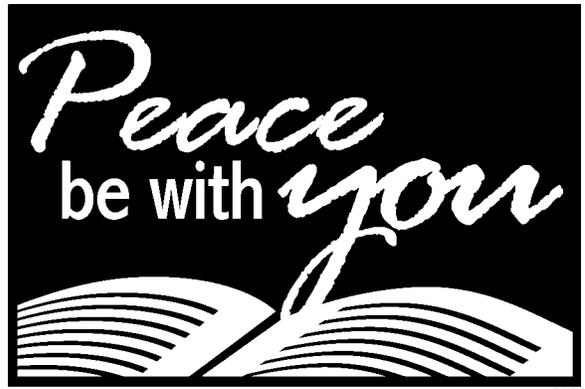
## **Our Lady of Lourdes 25th Annual Duffers Classic Monday, July 20, 2009**

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.



©LPI

## 3rd Sunday of Easter

It had been an especially trying day. He had been out of work for over six months, and despite many interviews, he had not been offered any positions. He thought he had qualifications for the positions he had applied, what with a college degree and many years' experience in his field. Still, he continued to be turned down, often with no explanation whatsoever. Depressed, he turned to a particularly good book and read the words of a reassuring friend: "Peace be with you." That afternoon, he received a call from an employer.

Today's Gospel reading is Luke's version of last week's reading from John. Two men have just visited the disciples and told of their encounter with the risen Jesus on their way to Emmaus. Excitedly, they recalled how they did not recognize him, but felt a burning in their hearts as they walked along and listened to him speak. Not until he broke the bread at dinner did they understand in whose presence they were. And as they told their story, Jesus appeared to them all in the room, startling them with his presence so they were unable to recognize him. "Peace be with you," he tells them.

At times in our lives, we are hidden behind locked doors, fearful of the world and what it may have to offer us, or even what it may want to take from us. It is at these times that we must look for the resurrected Jesus and listen for his offer of peace. We celebrate the liturgy in expectation of Christ's return; we pray in hope through the Holy Spirit (CCC 2657). When we are fearful, remember the prayer of St. Paul: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the holy Spirit" (Rom 15:13).

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### Readings for the week of April 26, 2009

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>Sunday:</b>      | Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48  |
| <b>Monday:</b>      | Acts 6:8-15/Jn 6:22-29   |
| <b>Tuesday:</b>     | Acts 7:51---8:1a/Jn 6:30-35  |
| <b>Wednesday:</b>   | Acts 8:1b-8/Jn 6:35-40   |
| <b>Thursday:</b>    | Acts 8:26-40/Jn 6:44-51  |
| <b>Friday:</b>      | Acts 9:1-20/Jn 6:52-59<br><i>or</i> St. Joseph the Worker: Gn 1:26---2:3<br><i>or</i> Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24/Mt 13:54-58 |
| <b>Saturday:</b>    | Acts 9:31-42/Jn 6:60-69  |
| <b>Next Sunday:</b> | Acts 4:8-12/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18   |

## 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](mailto:jsureau@ollchurch.org). We'd love to have you!

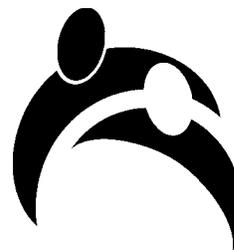
## Altar Society

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.

## 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, Marion Coletto, Regina Cranor, Ann Donlon, Anita Ferruggiari, Marge Flem, James, Jr. & Julia Florio (infants), Susan Gigante, Brian Hinkelman, Lili Hinkelman, Kathleen Kerrigan, Kara Lobasso, Baby Josephine Mahan, Vicky Massaro, Michele McCann, Peter McCann, Sr., Dorothy Meloni, Rae Morris, Brenden Muldoon, John O'Brien, Arthur Petrino, Joanne Popper, Joe Radosti, Carol Randazzo-Hopkins, Anthony Rao, James Reilly, Patricia Salimbene, Connor Serio, Dorothy Shiovone, Joe Shields, Mary Clair Stephen, Diana Marie Taveras, Baby John Tramazzo, Vera Vieni, Pat Wallace, Flo Worysz*

## Hungry Long Islanders...How can this be?

*“There are people in the world so hungry, that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread.”*

**-Mahatma Gandhi**

### ***Send a Letter to the Governor through Rock and Wrap It Up!***

**MICAH\*: An Interfaith Advocacy Campaign to End Poverty on Long Island**  
(\*Mobilized Interfaith Coalition Against Hunger)

*“Do justice, love mercy, walk humbly with your God.”*

**-Micah, 6:8**

You may remember the MICAH bulletin insert form last December that described the Rock and Wrap It Up! school cafeteria food recovery program and invited MICAH members and congregations to join in helping to feed our hungry neighbors in local communities across Long Island. In addition to their many other greening tactics, RWU also has a legislative arm that can help carry our voice to the next level.

Rock and Wrap It Up! invites you to visit their website [www.rockandwrapitup.org](http://www.rockandwrapitup.org) to help feed the hungry in our country. They have recently started a letter writing campaign asking all 50 Governors to encourage their state buildings not to throw out their leftover food, but to feed the hungry with it. Last year, they wrote a bill which became the Federal Food Donation Act of 2008. It encourages federal buildings to feed our nation's hungry and not let food go into land fill.

Here's how New Yorkers can send a letter to Governor David Paterson:  
visit [www.rockandwrapitup.org](http://www.rockandwrapitup.org).

Click on the black icon on the bottom right hand side indicating “Send Letter to Your State Governor”.

From the drop-down menu to choose your state, select “New York”.

Hit Print. Add any further comments you would like,, sign, seal and deliver to the post office. Simple!

To learn how you can get involved, or make a donation to the MICAH Campaign, contact Rev. Thomas Goodhue at L.I. Council of churches ([licchelp@aol.com](mailto:licchelp@aol.com)) or LICC Advocacy Director Neelofer Chaudry ([liccmicah@aol.com](mailto:liccmicah@aol.com))

## Parish Outreach

Office telephone:  
661-9262, option 4

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



## Pantry Needs

detergent  
kleenex  
paper towels  
personal feminine products  
shampoo  
soap  
toilet tissue  
toothbrush  
toothpaste

## Outreach Memorial Donations

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

- A donation has been made to Outreach in memory of *Paul Micewicz* from Marge Cassiano.
- Jerry Esposito has made an Easter Donation to Outreach in memory of his parents, *Nancy and Jerry Esposito, Sr.*
- John and Ann DeGuardi have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Anne Nardone and Marie Turano.*

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

## Dziekeyé, Muchas Gracias, Graci

The above words say "Thank you" in different languages-my thank you is from a very grateful heart to all my Parish Outreach family, my adult Choir family, my Senior Circle family, my OLL Parish family, for all your cards, calls, good wishes, but most especially ALL your prayers. Our Lord heard your prayers, as well as, mine. I am now recuperating at home and hope to be back to all my activities at OLL-a little bit slower perhaps, but I'll be there.

God Bless All,  
*Flo Worysz*

## A Mellow Heart in a Bitter Time

by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

In her novel, *A Good House*, Bonnie Burnard tells the story of a relatively happy family. But even happy families have unhappy moments where bitterness chills an otherwise warm house.

She describes one such incident: A young couple, solid and trusting in their relationship, are having a rather intimate talk one afternoon when the woman's instincts tell her that her husband is hiding something from her, not necessarily at the level of infidelity, but something that he, for whatever reason, will not share with her.

Instantly a door begins to close inside of her, her warmth and trust harden, and she feels the need to protect herself, assert some independence from her husband, and let him know that there are aspects of her life that he doesn't necessarily know about either. Their intimacy, so warm and trusting just minutes before, dissolves for a while into a certain coolness and distance. What's happened here?

What's happened is what happens to all of us, spontaneously and daily, in virtually all of our relationships, particularly with those with whom we are most intimate. Such is our emotional metaphysics, the way our hearts try to protect themselves: We tend spontaneously to replicate the energy we feel around us and feed it back in the same way as we feel it.

Quite simply, whenever we feel warmth, mellowness, vulnerability, transparency, generosity, trust, and big-heartedness in a relationship, we tend to respond in kind, with warm, mellow, vulnerable, transparent, generous, trusting hearts. But the reverse is also true: When we feel coldness, bitterness, self-protection, jealousy, dishonesty, pettiness, or distrust, we tend to become cool, hard, self-protective, assertive, small-hearted, and distrustful.

It's not easy not to do this. More than anything else, our hearts crave the warmth and trust of intimacy, but, precisely because these make us vulnerable, are hearts also tend to close doors rather quickly at the first signs of betrayal, distrust, or dishonesty.

Fear, especially, tends to do this to us. Most of our fears and anxieties arise out of a lack of confidence, from a poor self-image. Then, because we are insecure, we try to assert ourselves, to prove that we are loveable, attractive, talented, and worthwhile. When we are afraid, we can't risk vulnerability, instead we try to do things to show that we aren't weak or needy. But, to do this, we have to harden ourselves precisely against the type of vulnerability that invites others into our lives.

Jealousy, especially of a person we love but whose love we can't have, also creates that same hardness in us. That's why we can be caught up in that strange anomaly where we are cold, distant, and perhaps even hostile, to a person whose love we badly want. Our coldness and feigned indifference towards that person is simply the heart's attempt to protect itself, to cope with an intimacy it can't have and the loss of self-esteem that comes with that.

The heart has its reasons, even for turning cold.

Given the truth of this, what makes for a truly big heart is the strength to resist this emotional metaphysics and remain mellow, warm, trusting, and present to others in the face of bitterness, coldness, distrust, jealousy, and withdrawal. More than anything else, this is what defines a great lover.

This is perhaps the greatest moral challenge Jesus left us: We all do pretty well in love when the persons we are loving are warm and gracious, but can we be gracious and mellow in the face of bitterness, jealousy, hatred, withdrawal? That's the litmus test of love.

It's also one of the deeper invitations towards maturity. Everywhere in our world - in our most intimate relationships, in our families, in our workplaces, in our churches, and in society as a whole - we forever find ourselves in situations where we meet suspicion, jealousy, coldness, distrust, bitterness, and withdrawal. Our world is often a hard, rather than an intimate, place.

The challenge is to offer a heart that creates a space for warmth, transparency, mellowness, vulnerability, and trust inside of hard places. The challenge is to offer our hearts as a space within which people can be honest, where nobody has to assert herself, where no games of pretence need be played, and where intimacy isn't held hostage to the momentary fears, jealousies, hurts, and emotional acting out that forever assail us.

And, the more bitter and the more emotionally trying the situation, the more this is needed. When times are bitter, angry, cold, full of disrespect, and fraught with jealousy, when it seems everyone is withdrawing into his or her own world, when most everything seems a lie, and when we are feeling most hurt, taken for granted, slighted, and marginalized, what's called for is not less, but more, attention to the quality of graciousness and warmth within our response. Bitter times call for, precisely, a deeper response of warmth, mellowness, transparency, truth, and compassion.

What's needed most in a bitter time is a mellow heart.

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*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](http://www.ronrolheiser.com).*

## Financial Summary

**April 19, 2009**

|                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Weekly Collection | \$ 18,361.00  |
| Weekly Budget     | -\$ 19,000.00 |
| +/- for the week  | \$ (639.00)   |

*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.

## Spring Fair

West Islip Spring Fair is scheduled for Saturday, May 9 from 10 AM until 4 PM at the Westminster United Presbyterian Church, Udall Road, West Islip. (rain date is Saturday, May 16) For information, please call the Church Office at 661.6740.

## Beauty and the Beast

James Street Players proudly presents Disney's Beauty and the Beast beginning on Friday, May 8 at 8 PM at the United Methodist Church, Babylon. Other showtimes are Tuesday, May 12 at 8 PM, Friday, May 15 at 8 PM and Saturday, May 9 and May 16 at 2 PM and 8 PM. All tickets are \$15. For tickets and information call 1.866.811.4111.

## Elizabeth T. McNamee Memorial 5K Run

The 11th Annual Elizabeth T. McNamee Memorial 5K Run is set for Sunday, May 10 at 9 AM. For applications and information call 321.0806 or register online at ACTIVE.com.

## Gennasaret Retreat

A retreat especially designed for persons who live with a serious illness is planned for **May 1, 2, and May 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.

## Dominican Village

**Please join us for an Open House on Thursday, May 7 from 1 PM until 3 PM.** Dominican Village is an independent retirement community that offers assisted living and respite care, outstanding programs, all-inclusive services and bountiful amenities. For more information, or to schedule a tour at your convenience, call 631.842.6091.

## 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 "**Doing and Being.**" Don't miss it!

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

