

**“Who then is this
whom even
wind and sea obey?”** Mark 4:41



**Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Our Lady of Lourdes • June 21, 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

Altar Servers

Serving the Lord with Gladness

We are getting ready to welcome a new group of altar servers. Altar servers help at Sunday liturgy, parish prayer services, funerals and weddings.

-To become a server you only need to be entering fourth grade and be willing to serve with a great spirit!

If you're interested, please contact the Parish Office at 661.3224, x. 135 or e-mail to jsureau@ollchurch.org.



Our Lady of Lourdes 25th Annual Golf Classic Monday, July 20, 2009 Island Hills Country Club, Sayville

The Our Lady of Lourdes 25th Annual Golf Outing to Support Catholic Education will be held on July 20, 2009 at the Island Hills Country Club, Sayville.

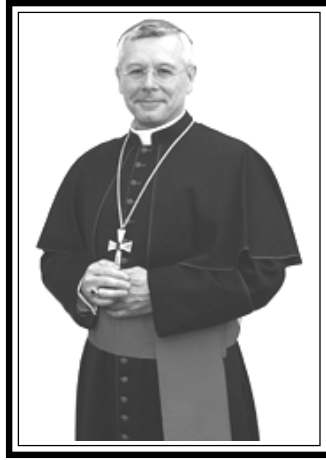
This year we will be honoring **Dom and Mary Anne Lettieri**, who have supported our Golf Outing and our Parish Italian Family Feast for over 25 years. Please mark your calendars and plan to be with us.

Golfing Package includes green fees, golf cart, driving range, continental breakfast, lunch and dinner, all for \$250 per golfer. If you would like to join us for dinner only, \$75 per person. Registration is at 11 AM with a 1:30 PM shot gun tee off. Cocktail hour is 6 - 7 PM with dinner at 7 PM.

For more information please contact Golf Committee member Rich at 661.5478 or Keith at 539.8542.

Summer Evening Prayer

Summer Evening Prayer is a little over a month away and our Summer Evening Prayer Committee has been hard at work to make this a great summer for all of us! Our first evening prayer is



Bishop Libasci Night!

Monday, July 6

7:30 PM

(Dinner for everyone beginning at 6:30 PM)

We are honored to welcome Bishop Peter to kick off our
2009 Summer Evenings of Prayer!

Check the bulletin for more information and for more ways for you to be involved.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, June 17, at 7 PM All are welcome!

Help Save a Life-Give Blood

On **Monday, June 22**, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish will hold a **Blood Drive from 3:30 PM to 8:30 PM. The Drive will be held in the Parish Center.** All eligible donors are strongly urged to give blood.

The Swine Flu has greatly impacted the blood bank reserves. About 50 percent of the population can donate, yet less than five percent actually do. If you live to the age of 76 in the United States, there is a 95% chance that you will need blood. The only way there will be an adequate supply of blood is if each and every member of the community does his/her part. Take a moment to think of the miracle you can accomplish and the many lives your one donation can affect. Your donation can help at least 5 patients.

Blood donors are Quiet Heros. Be One.

For more information about the Drive or to make an appointment, please call Marie at 669-5837.

DISCOVERY Summer Camp

Sponsored by Our Lady of Lourdes School

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.

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 school website at ollchurch.org, click on the link: for OLL School.

Discovery Camp Sports Addition

A part-time Sports Camp is now available. You can choose between a two week or four week session. Please contact Lisa Kennedy in the main office or email your questions to

Lkennedy@ollschool.org.



Congratulations to the graduating Class of 2009!

We would like to recognize the following students on their academic success:

Valedictorian: *Michael Sabarese*

Salutatorian: *Katherine Moeller*

For excellence in Mathematics: *Michelle DeVito*

For excellence in Religion: *Lenny Roveló*

For excellence in Science: *Samantha Salvato*

For excellence in Social Studies: *Taylor Greene*

For excellence in Language Arts: *Samantha Buonincontri*

For excellence in Literature: *Dylan Owens*

For excellence in Music: *Christie Finn*

For excellence in Art: *Cassidy Bock*

For excellence in Computer: *Michael Brogan*

For Athletic Achievement: *Devyn Owens* and *Lynn Paz*

For excellence in Foreign Language: *Brianna Messina*



Our Lady of Lourdes Mission Awareness Trip 2009

Help the Children of Our Sister Parish in El Salvador Art Supplies and School Supplies Needed!



From June 26-July 2, members of our parish community will be traveling to our Sister Parish in El Salvador. We will spend time praying and working among the poor. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!!** We would like to bring down art supplies and school supplies for the children of our sister parish in Tacuba! The school there has very limited supplies for children's projects, and we know that our OLL Family will be generous in sharing as always!

This weekend., the weekend of **June 20-21**, members of our Sister Parish Mission Trip will be at all Masses to collect art supplies and school supplies. We need:

Construction paper
Crayons
Pencils
Pens
Notebooks
Stickers
Spanish children's books or coloring books
Scotch Tape and masking tape
Glitter glue
Yarn
Looseleaf paper and graph paper
Small calculators
Colored Pipe Cleaners

Bins for items collected will be in the Narthex, and members of our Mission Trip will be there as well. At the 6 PM Mass on June 21, we will send our travelers forth with a blessing. All are welcome to come and show your support!

Please pray for the success of our trip, and follow our progress on the parish website:
www.ollchurch.org.



SAFARI Camp
Sharing About Faith and Religion
Our Lady of Lourdes
Vacation Bible Camp '09
July 27-31, 2009
9 AM - 12:30 PM daily

Camp Registration Form
Return to OLL Parish Office along with fees
(\$75 per child) before July 6.
Please make checks payable to Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

We'll journey on an exciting safari of faith and fun as we learn about God, hear stories from the Bible, share cool science activities, and make crafts. And of course, we'll end our camp each day with our famous OLL camp sing-along!!

Please list below the names and present grade levels of the children in your family who will attend camp. Camp is for Nursery (age 4) through Grade 5.
 (Students entering grade 6 and up are volunteer counselors and assistants and do not need to pay any fee.)

Child's First & Last Name	Grade Level in Sept. '08
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Full Names of Parents/Guardians: _____

Family Address (Street, Town, Zip): _____

Email: _____

Phone #: _____

Cell and/or Business Phone(s): _____

Name of Emergency Contact and Phone #:

Please indicate below any health problems, food allergies, or special situations that it might be helpful for the camp staff to know about your child.

You will receive a letter with your child's group name and all important camp information around July 15th. We need adult and teen volunteers! If anyone in your family (teens and/or adults) would be willing to help out at the camp, please list their names and ages. We will hold a meeting for all volunteers in mid-July.

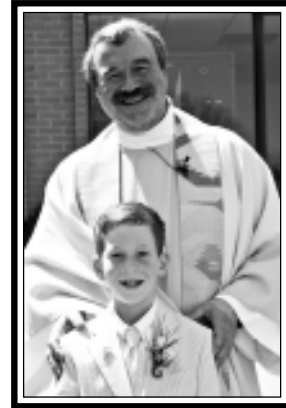
Roving Photographer

Did you get any great pictures of our first communion class?

Why not share them!

Send a digital picture of your first communicant to us and you just might see it here in the bulletin or on the web. Send your picture to firstcommunion@ollchurch.org

We are proud of all those who received First Holy Communion!



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry has extended into the summer.

The dates are: Thursday, July 9 at 9:30 AM and Wednesday, August 12 at 9:30 AM. Both will be held in the Parish Center.

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

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.

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.

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.

Altar Bread & Wine

In Memory of *Frank Monroe & George Shaddock*

Rest In Peace

Lawrence Copple died on June 8 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was June 11. We extend our prayers to his daughter, grandchildren, and entire family.

Barbara Gilroy died on June 8 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was June 13. We extend our prayers to her children, grandchildren, great-grandchild and entire family.

Guido Onofrietti died on June 10 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was June 15. We extend our prayers to his children and entire family.



Remembering . . .

Monday, June 22

St. Thomas More, martyr

8:00 AM In Thanksgiving to God

Tuesday, June 23

8:00 AM Robert Beck

Wednesday, June 24

The Nativity of John the Baptist

8:00 AM Joseph Calderale

Thursday, June 25

8:00 AM Theresa Santiago

Friday, June 26

8:00 AM Kathryn Chazey & Anthony Stiefriater

Saturday, June 27

8:00 AM Patrick Corrigan, Charles Morreale, Carmine Maiocco,
Michael Elefante, Mary Lemonda, Barbara Lanigan,
Benamin Capan, Baby Ryan Barthel

5:00 PM Steven Perone

Fr. Ambrose Cabildo

Sunday, June 28

8:00 AM Barbara McGarrity

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

9:30 AM John G. Meditz

Fr. Ambrose Cabildo

11:00 AM Joseph DiMola III

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

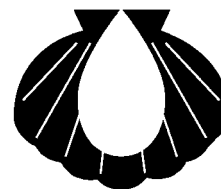
12:30 PM Rachel Scotto

Fr. Ambrose Cabildo

6:00 PM People of the Parish, Mary Anita Conroy, Irene McCarthy,
Joyce Mamalakis, Barbara Gilroy, Margaret Portantiere,
Candice Acampora

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

Baptisms



Joseph Michael Delgado

Michael and Jeannette

Gannon William Johnson

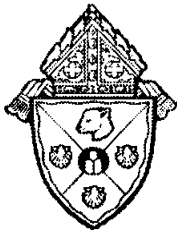
Robert and Heather

Chase Edward Kohlman-Valenti

Christina

Christian Antonio Arellano

Lorenzo and Tricia



Catholic Ministries Appeal

“Supporting the Community Around Us”

Parish Goal	\$101,839
Amount Pledged	\$ 80,993
# of Donors	336
Average Pledge	\$ 241

Hands of Christ-Supporting the Community Around Us

It's Not Too Late to make a difference in our community by supporting the **Catholic Ministries Appeal**.

No Gift is Too Small. *Every gift changes lives.*

Your gift can help buy gas for a van that delivers food to a homebound senior or help a struggling family pay their electric bill.

Thank YOU for helping us to serve over 500,000 people in our Long Island Community.

Pledge cards are available in the back of our Church or you can donate online at www.drvc.org or call 516-379-5210 ext. 2



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 _____

A Guide To Giving

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.

Financial Summary

June 14, 2009

Weekly Collection	\$ 15,407.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 19,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ (3,593.00)

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:



Lorenzo Bacchi-*US Marines*
Bryan R. Dempsey-*US Marines*
Christopher Florca-*US Marines*
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.



©LPI

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Many have tried to describe both courage and fear; it is thought that fear exists in us all and is ever present, but courage must be summoned from deep within when facing those fears. It would be safe to say, however, that courage is most easily exhibited when it is accompanied by faith; one could even argue that courage simply cannot exist without faith. In our lives we are faced with challenges both large and small on a daily basis; without faith, how do we ever expect to muster the courage it will take to face down our challenges and dismiss our fears?

In today's Gospel reading from Mark, Jesus has just finished teaching to a large crowd from a boat. As evening fell, he and the others with him decided to sail to another shore for the evening. As Jesus slept, a storm arose and threatened to swamp the boats. His disciples feared for their lives; they were incredulous that Jesus could sleep through such danger. Waking up, Jesus calmed the storm, but turned to those who were so worried and questioned their faith. Without faith, was courage possible?

Perhaps no other time in our lives do we need to summon courage and strength more than when one of our loved ones is suffering from ill health. The sacrament of anointing of the sick has as its special grace an ability to allow the suffering one to face one's illness with strength, faith and courage (CCC 1532). But we must remember that we need courage every day. When we are faced with moral challenges, especially when we are alone, we are called to listen to that voice telling us what is right. That voice, the Holy Spirit, is our faith summoning the courage we need to make the right choice.

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Readings for the Week of June 21, 2009

Sunday:	Jb 38:1, 8-11/2 Cor 5:14-17/Mk 4:35-41
Monday:	Gn 12:1-9/Mt 7:1-5
Tuesday:	Gn 13:2, 5-18/Mt 7:6, 12-14
Wednesday:	<i>Vigil:</i> Jer 1:4-10/1 Pt 1:8-12/Lk 1:5-17 <i>Day:</i> Is 49:1-6/Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80
Thursday:	Gn 16:1-12, 15-16 or 16:6b-12, 15-16/Mt 7:21-29
Friday:	Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22/Mt 8:1-4
Saturday:	Gn 18:1-15/Mt 8:5-17
Next Sunday:	Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24/2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15/Mk 5:21-43 or 5:21-24, 35b-43

Altar Society

Altar linens this week will be cared for by *Dottie Collins*.
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, Nicholas Buscemi, Jr.,
Howard Campkin, Nicholas Cibelli, Michael Ciotkosz, Regina Cranor,
Ann Donlon, Marge Flem, Susan Gigante, Brian Hinkelman, Lili Hinkelman,
Veronica Kenny, Kathleen Kerrigan, Kara Lobasso, Baby Josephine Mahan,
Vicky Massaro, Michele McCann, Peter McCann, Sr., Joan Melville, Dorothy Meloni,
Rae Morris, Brenden Muldoon, John O'Brien, Arthur Petrino, Joanne Popper,
Laura Prichard, Joe Radosti, Carol Randazzo-Hopkins, James Reilly,
Michael A. Savino, Dorothy Shiavone, Joe Shields, Derek Stahl, Mary Clair Stephen,
Gerry Sullivan, Diana Marie Taveras, Baby John Tramazzo, Vera Vieni,
Pat Wallace, Flo Worysz*

Although Outreach's contributions to the bulletin have slackened off, it is not for want of material to write about! The Outreach office is humming!

We could not offer the assistance we do without the tremendous support of this community. If you are wondering how you can help Outreach, read on...

- Several times a year a family from the Parish stocks the Outreach freezer with meat. The same family provides diapers for children.
- Donations to Outreach will enable 4 children to attend the 4 week summer camp being held at Our Lady of Lourdes School.
- Furniture donations have helped a family moving from a housing project into a house. The family was unable to take the furniture with them due to roaches in the apartment complex.
- Outreach was able to cover the cost of dental work for two adults in need of dentures.
- A donor continues to contribute Spanish food for the Spanish families we service. The donations have been so large that Outreach has been able to assist St. Anne's Outreach Program in Brentwood.
- *Sally's Cycles* on Higbie Lane repaired, free of charge, two bicycles which were donated to Outreach.
- *West Islip Wines and Liquors* continue to donate monthly to the food pantry.

The needs continue...

- We have received a request for a washing machine. A woman, diagnosed with MS, recently experienced a severe relapse and is no longer able to travel to the laundromat to wash clothes. She is in great need of a washing machine. Please contact the Outreach office if you can donate one.
- Our friend, Taryn, may finally have a house. You may remember Taryn, the young mother who was traveling from lower Manhattan to Bay Shore everyday in order to keep her children in school. As I write this, I am waiting for the phone call with the good news. It has been a long year for Taryn, and thanks to the generosity of a former parishioner, Taryn did have a reliable car. Please keep her family in your prayers. She is in need of furnishings-particularly a kitchen table and chairs.
- Outreach also asks for prayers a 4 year old who is battling cancer. The financial contributions to Outreach have assisted the family during the long months of treatment. The prognosis remains guarded.
- Finally, the summer is upon us. The needs continue and are in fact, greater as the children are home from school and not receiving reduced or free lunch. The pantry will be in need of juice boxes, crackers, popcorn, and any other foods that kids can snack on during the day. Don't forget to put in an extra vegetable plant for Outreach!

Thanks.

-Mary McMahon

Director, Parish Social Ministries

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.

- Outreach has received a Father's Day Donation in remembrance of *Frank Monroe and George Shaddock* from Richard and Doris Shaddock.

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.

Give Kids a Healthy Smile

Free Dental Screening & Cleaning Ages 1-17 yrs. Tuesday, July 14 from 9 AM until 3 PM at Stony Brook University School of Dental Medicine. Please call to register at 632.8889 on June 29, 30 and July 1,2,3.

Single Seniors

Next meeting of the Single Senior Group will be

Saturday, June 27 after the 5 PM Liturgy.

REMEMBER TO BRING A GAME!

Pizza & Salad will be served! See you there!

Father's Day

by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

Father's Day. What do you celebrate if you lost your father a long time ago?

My father died 38 years ago, I was twenty-two and just beginning to appreciate what an adult relationship to a father could mean. But he died, at age 62, and our family felt his death as a wound that rubbed raw for three months until our mother, even younger than my father, also died. We went numb after that.

But time heals and now, all those years later, everything about my father, including his death, feels warm and gives off a blessing. The same holds true for my mother. There's a warmth where once there was a wound.

So mostly I don't miss my father, at least not in the way we normally miss someone we love. I don't need him in a certain way any more. In the few years that I had him he gave me what he needed to give me and now I know that no matter what I'm doing, good or bad, he is aware of it. That's frightening too and I wonder if he blinks sometimes as he sees my life.

Remembering him today, on Father's Day, I realize, more than ever, that I was lucky. He was a good father, and in ways not so immediately evident.

Jesus was once speaking in a crowd when a woman raised her voice and complimented his mother by saying: "Blessed is the womb that bore you and the breast that nursed you!" Jesus didn't deny that he had a wonderful mother, but added that his mother was wonderful not so much in that she had given him biological birth but especially in that she had given him birth to deeper life. The same could be said about my father. His fatherhood was more than biological.

The externals of his life weren't extraordinary, though he tended to have a pretty full plate. Besides being a farmer, he was involved deeply in church and community. He worked for much of his life for his favorite political party, was a councillor for the local municipality for many years, and sat occasionally on both the local hospital and school boards. Once he ran for public office, for Reeve of the local municipality (something akin to being a rural mayor) and he lost. It was a tough blow for him. I remember the disappointment in him, even while he was trying to put on a brave face. What hurt was not so much the fact of losing, he

didn't much want the job anyway, but the fact of knowing that the local community preferred someone else to him. There's pride in us all.

Beyond that, he managed a local baseball team for many years. He loved that but, given local politics, that too was sometimes more of a political juggling act (whose sons got to play and whose didn't) than a welcome distraction to the everyday grind. But from that I inherited a lifelong love for baseball and would love to have had the chance to go to a major league game sometime with my father.

But what made him outstanding as a father was his personal integrity and his stubborn, uncompromising moral edge. For my father, there were no excuses for moral compromise, for compensating just because you were tired, or confused, or in an over-tempting situation. He issued no exemptions, to you or to himself. The real effort of life, for him, was to measure up, in faith and in moral behavior. It didn't help to protest that you were human after all and couldn't be expected to be perfect. His answer: "It's no great thing being human. Everyone is that! I want someone to show me something that's divine!"

He made it clear to us, to all of his children, that our lives were not our own, that we were given a vocation from God and that vocation is to give our lives away, even if that means hard sacrifice. I haven't always lived that perfectly, but his voice inside of me has pushed me always in that direction.

He was a strong, stubborn moral voice, one from which you didn't easily walk away. But he never bullied, grew nasty or violent, or over-pressured. The pressure came from whom and what he was and, from that, I inherited, I think, more than I wanted. In that moral stubbornness, he was too a reticent man, he didn't dance easily or with much fluidity. I sense that now in my own life, in my body, in my bones, in my hesitations, in my over self-consciousness at times, and in my failure sometimes to be able to abandon myself healthily to life.

But that's who he was and that's who I am, for better and for worse. He was my father and I carry a lot of his DNA, both the biological and the other.

And, thirty-eight years after his death, I walk in gratitude for that DNA, with both its strengths and its inhibitions.

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.

Divine Intervention

Lights! Camera! Action!

The Telecare Game Show “Divine Intervention” is taping July 29, 30, 31 and August 3, 4, and 5 at their studios in Uniiondale. They want you to be part of the fun. They’re looking for contestants and audience members for the new season. You could win some great prizes! If you’d like to be an audience member or contestant, please call the Divine Intervention hotline at 516.538.8704 extension 155 or email to *divineintervention@telecaretv.org*.

Spring Concerts

Our Lady of Grace, West Babylon will be sponsoring some Spring Concerts in the upcoming months.

David Frye will be visitng once again from Boston, this time with his brother Steven, to perform a unique blend of theater, pop, and classical, including some of his own compositions. The concert will be on Friday, June 26 at 7 PM.

Thrift Shop

Ss. Cyril & Methodius Thrift Shop located at 139 Bay Shore Road, Deer Park is open Tuesday thru Friday from 10 AM until 4 PM. Donations are accepted at the back door until 3 PM. Saturday hours are 10 AM until 3 PM with donations accepted until 2 PM. If you would like to volunteer at the Thrift Shop, please stop in or call 242.6718.

The Beginning Experience

Help for the heartache of divorce, separation, and widowhood. A weekend away for a lifetime of change. The next weekend is August 21 through august 23. For information and reservations, call Connie at 516.735.1720 or Carmen at 516.739.0973.

Upcoming Retreats

St. Ignatius Retreat House
251 Seasingtown Road
Manhasset, NY
516.621.8300

June 25 - July 31

Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola

Thirty-day retreat. For details/application, contact Karen Doyle, SSJ, 516.621.8300, extension 25. (Enrollment limited.)

July 5 - 12; July 15 - 22; July 24 - 31

Directed Retreats (silent)

Register for a week or any part of the days listed. Call for all details: 516.621.8300, extension 15

Families Anonymous

Are you concerned about a family member who appears to have an alcohol, drug, or behavioral problem? We can help. Meetings are held every Saturday at 9:30 AM room 115 and every Wednesday at 8 PM Room 116 at Our Lady of Grace School, West Babylon.

For information, contact Donna at 631.589.3790 or Julia at 631.587.5921.

Centering Prayer Retreat

Centering Prayer Weekend will be at St Ignatius Retreat House in Manhasset, NY on June 26-28. The weekend is sponsored by Contemplative Outreach of LI/Queens. If you have any questions or for further information call Diane at 631.587.0966.

Dominican Village

Please join us for an Open House on Sunday, June 28, 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 "**Parents & Commitment.**" Don't miss it! To listen on-line or receive more information regarding "Religion & Rock" go to www.religionandrock.com.

Don't forget to tune into TELECARE, Cablevision 29 or Verizon FIOS 271 for the Best in Catholic Television!

Sharing the Gospel

The disciples of Jesus had a very scary night, because their faith was not very strong yet. They were crossing the sea in their boat, just as Jesus asked them to do, when a huge storm came up. Their boat was filling up with so much water they thought they would all die. When they woke Jesus up, he simply spoke to the wind and the waves, and the storm stopped completely. Now they were really scared. Who was Jesus, anyway? The wind and waves listened to him!



Prayer



Dear God,
sometimes I feel afraid, too. Help me to remember that you are stronger than any problem I have. Amen.



Empty Squares

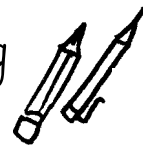
Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

Even the wind and waves obey him!

O	B	E	Y		

©LPI

Something to Draw



Draw a picture of Jesus telling the wind and the waves to be quiet.

Mission for the Week



Sit down with your family, and read Mark 4:35-41 out loud. Then talk about the things you are afraid of. Pray to God, ask for help, and believe that God is stronger than any problem you have.