

**Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Our Lady of Lourdes • September 6, 2009**

**“Then will the eyes  
of the blind be  
opened**



**and the lame leap  
like a stag.”**

*Our Lady  
of Lourdes*

455 Hunter Avenue  
West Islip, New York 11795

## *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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## *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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## *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.*

## *Pastoral Team*

**Rev. Michael A. Vetrano**  
Pastor

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**Rev. Pat Amabile**  
Associate Pastor

**Rev. Robert Scheckenback**  
Associate Pastor

**Rev. Ambrose Cabildo**  
In Residence

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**Deacon John DeGuardi**

**Deacon Tom Lucie**

**Deacon Jack Meehan**

Coordinator of Stewardship

**Deacon John Teufel**

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**Sr. Margaret Bickar**

Senior Ministry-SAGE

**Sr. Nancy Campkin**

Director of Religious Education

**Allegra D'Alo**

Youth Minister/Social Action

**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

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## *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



### **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)

# Our Lady of Lourdes Parish



## Italian Family Feast 2009

**September 16 - 20, 2009**

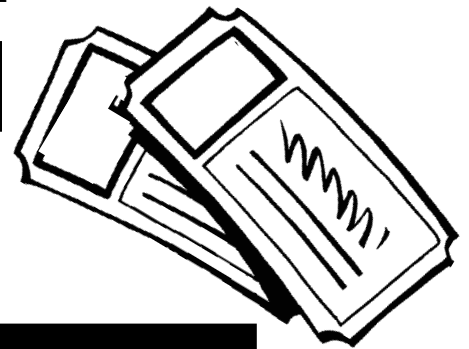
**Opens Wednesday thru Friday at 7 PM**

**Opens Saturday at 6 PM**

**Opens Sunday at 2 PM**

### Pay-One-Price

**Ride *all* rides each day-Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday-for only \$25/day**  
(**\$5 discount with coupon**)  
*purchase Pay-One-Price at the feast*



### Super Raffle

**\$10,000 in Prizes!**

**Super Raffle tickets are \$100 each - only 200 tickets sold!**

**Drawing to be held on Sunday, September 20 at 9 PM**

### Advance Tickets

**Any six rides for \$13 (average discount of over 50%!)**  
**Tickets good for any ride/any day of the Feast!**  
**Purchase "Advance Tickets" at the Parish Office,**  
**Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM.**  
**Advance ticket sales end Monday, September 14.**



# Walk with Mary-Feast Mass

**Saturday, September 19**

**Procession at 4 PM - Mass at 5 PM**

**On Saturday, September 19 we celebrate our Feast Mass and Walk with Mary with a procession at 4 PM and Mass at 5 PM. Please plan on joining us as we bless all those who minister here. All those who take part in ministry here at the parish are invited to walk together with others who share that ministry with you.**

## Official Feast Sponsor

**West Islip  
Wines & Liquors, Inc.**

**Munch Landscape Inc.**

## Volunteers Needed

**Volunteers are always needed and welcomed to support our annual Italian Family Feast. We have our faithful volunteers that come and help year after year-and to them we are very grateful. We need to attract new volunteers to keep our feast the wonderful annual family event that it is!**

***Can you help?***

**If you're interested or have any questions, please call the Parish Office at 661.3224.**

## Captain/Volunteer Meeting

**There will be a brief meeting for all Captains and Volunteers on Thursday, 9/10 at 7:30 PM in the Spiritual Life Center located in the Convent at 50 Toomey Road. (Please use the Toomey Road entrance.) All are asked to attend. Volunteers are always needed and welcome to support our annual Italian Family Feast 2009!**



**Food!**

# Family FUN

*on the Midway*

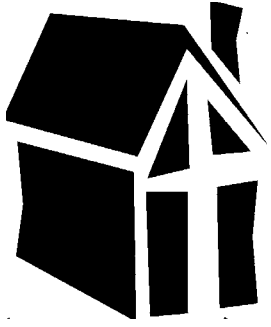
**OUR LADY OF LOURDES R.C. CHURCH**  
**ITALIAN FEAST**  
**SEPT 16-20**  
School Grounds • Hunter Ave. • West Islip  
**Las Vegas Games**  
**International Food**

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www.newtonshows.com  
**Family Friendly Midway**

SPOTLIGHT GRAPHICS • SARASOTA, FL



## El Salvador!

This year's trip to El Salvador was a wonderful success and a beautiful experience for all those who participated. We are all looking forward to next year's trip and in the meantime we aim to help our friends in Central America as much as we can.

On **Saturday, September 26, and Sunday, September 27**, participants in our Mission Trip will be sharing their experiences at all Masses. We are also going to ask every parishioner to join us in helping our brothers and sisters in El Salvador.

There are many ways to be involved, but two special projects will be introduced that weekend:

- 1) **Sponsor a child or elderly person in El Salvador through the Christian Foundation for Children and Aging (CFCA).** Each year, CFCA hosts our trip and shows us the wonderful work they do among the poor in El Salvador. They have sent us photos and profiles of 100 children and elderly from El Salvador who need our help. Sponsorship costs \$30 per month, and helps to provide for basic nutrition, health, and education. We saw firsthand the difference sponsorship makes, and we hope that some of our OLL family will join this important work. We will have sign-up information on the 26th-27th, or you can visit CFCA's website at [www.cfcausa.org](http://www.cfcausa.org).
- 2) **Participate on Our Lady of Lourdes' CASA Project** to build homes for people in our sister parish communities. For only \$1500, a solid and safe home can be constructed in El Salvador. Our goal this year is to build 20 homes as a parish. To fund this project, we will be selling special house-shaped piggy banks, and the "Piggy Back Project" will return to OLL! We will ask our parishioners to return their spare change (not the banks) to our special coin receptacles at the doors on the first Sunday of every month. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could take pictures of the 20 homes we built when we go to El Salvador next year!

Both the sponsorship papers and house banks will be available at all of the masses on **September 26-27**. Just speak with a member of our El Salvador team and you can help in this great way without ever setting foot in JFK! Contact [Allegra@ollchurch.org](mailto:Allegra@ollchurch.org) with any questions

## Young Women's Faith Group Forming

We are Sisters and Mothers and Friends and Wives and Girlfriends and Catholics. As we get a little older each year it sometimes becomes difficult to find our place in the Catholic Church, as young women of faith. Here is that place!

Young Women's Faith Group will have its first meeting on **Thursday, September 24 from 6:30 to 8 in the evening**. The meeting will take place in the new Spiritual Life Center at the Convent. (Please use the entrance on Toomey Road.)

Young women and new mothers are welcome to come discuss their faith and their goals as Catholics over coffee and snacks. Contact Allegra D'Alo by email at [Allegra@ollchurch.org](mailto:Allegra@ollchurch.org) or phone at 661.3224 extension 135.

## 9-11 We Remember

On Friday September 11, OLL will pay tribute to those who lost their lives eight years ago. Services will be held on the **Great Lawn at 8:30 AM** led by students of OLL School and at **6PM in Church** led by our Youth Ministry. Come to one of these events, our 8 AM Mass, or stop by Church any time to pray and light a candle.



## Youth Ministry

Sunday, August 30 was this year's first Youth Ministry Event and it went very well!

A group of about 20 students gathered to play games, enjoy a meal together and talk about this year's upcoming youth events.

Two teams showed their athletic skill in our football relay race which had us all laughing. Thank you to all who participated! Please continue to check the bulletin for upcoming youth projects. Contact [Allegra@ollchurch.org](mailto:Allegra@ollchurch.org) for more details and with any questions or concerns.



## Peace and Justice Spotlight

### – Health Care

We have been inundated with talk shows, commercials, speeches and town halls about health care over the past few months. The Church has taken a strong stand on health care and it'd be helpful for each of us to consider the Church's teaching as form our own opinions at health care reform. Bishop William Murphy, our bishop, is also the Chairperson of the Bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development. His letter, in the name of all of the bishops, might serve as a good guide for each of us.

*“For decades, the Catholic bishops of the United States have been and continue to be consistent advocates for comprehensive health care reform that leads to health care for all, including the weakest and most vulnerable. The bishops want to support health care reform. We have in the past and we always must insist that health care reform excludes abortion coverage or any other provisions that threaten the sanctity of life.*

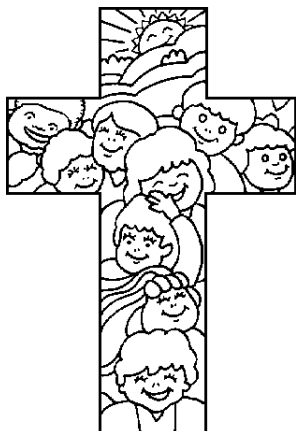
*As Congress begins debate on health care reform the Catholic bishops of the United States offer the following criteria for fair and just health care reform. Health care reform needs to reflect basic ethical principles. We offer these as a guide:*

*a truly universal health policy with respect for human life and dignity;  
access for all with a special concern for the poor and inclusion of legal immigrants;  
pursuing the common good and preserving pluralism including freedom of conscience  
and variety of options; and restraining costs and applying them equitably across the  
spectrum of payers.”*

Look for information in our bulletin soon about our parish's efforts in the areas of peace and justice with a new group forming soon. If you have ideas or thoughts or are interested in getting involved in issues of peace and justice, contact Allegra D'Alo at 661.3224, x. 135 or e-mail to [allegra@ollchurch.org](mailto:allegra@ollchurch.org).

# Religious Education Registration

for children in Public School, Grade 1, September 2009



## Information Meeting & Registration

Meetings will take place in the Parish Center. (room opposite the playground on Hunter Ave)

*Please note: Baptismal Certificates required for any child being registered in PEP 1.*

<b>Wednesday, September 23</b>	<b>10:00 am or 7:30 pm</b>
<b>Thursday, September 24</b>	<b>10:00 am or 7:30 pm</b>
<b>Wednesday, September 30</b>	<b>10:00 am or 7:30 pm</b>
<b>Saturday, October 3</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>

If this is your *first child in our program*, the registration fee (Family Fee) is \$160 and textbooks are \$20 (if needed.) Details will be provided at the meeting.

## OLL Music Ministry

After Labor Day, the CHOIRS are Back !!! JOIN US!!!

There are so many ways to become involved in the OLL Music Ministry. If you've always wanted to sing with a choir or play with a music group, now is the perfect time to join.

### Adult Ministries

**The OLL Choir** rehearses on Thursday night from 8-10 PM and sings at the 11 AM mass and once each month at the 5. Adults who are proficient in playing a musical instrument are also needed and welcome.

Can't make a weekly commitment? Consider one of these options:

Come to a **OLL Choir** rehearsal on a Thursday and sing just the following Sunday.

Join our **Holiday Choir**, attend these special rehearsals and sing for Christmas or Easter.

Join our **Concert Choir** and audition to sing at special events

Join our **Women's Chorale** which sings at the 11 am mass on the first Sunday of the month.

### For Youth

**The Contemporary Group**, middle school through young adult, rehearses on Sunday afternoon 4:30-6 PM and sings at "The Six." Musicians as well as singers are welcome and needed and remember that this choir counts for community service.

**Our Youth Choir**, sings each week at the 9:30 AM Mass. The junior members of our group, Grades K-8 meet on Thursdays from 7 to 7:45 PM for rehearsal, and our senior helpers (high school and college) meet once a month for rehearsal after the 9:30 AM Mass.

For information about the OLL Choir, Holiday Choir, Concert Choir, Contemporary Group and Taize Ministry contact Carol Goetz at 661-3224 or [music@ollchurch.org](mailto:music@ollchurch.org).

For information about Youth Choir and Women's Chorale contact Jen Gallagher at 661-3224 or [jengallagher@ollchurch.org](mailto:jengallagher@ollchurch.org)



## Welcome Father Pat Amabile

Please extend a warm OLL welcome to Father Pat Amabile who joins our team this week as an associate pastor. Father Pat is a priest of the diocese of Camden who is visiting Long Island to be near to his mom who is very elderly. Fr. Pat is no stranger to Long Island. At one time he was the director of Cor Maria Retreat House in Sag Harbor. Fr. Pat is an experienced teacher and counselor and word has it a gardener and good cook (how nice for us here at the rectory). We look forward to benefiting from his gifts here at Our Lady of Lourdes.



## Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Have you ever thought about being an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion? What does it take to be an Extraordinary Minister? *-A love of Jesus and deep reverence for the gift of the Eucharist -Participation in Sunday Eucharist -Commitment to serve two to three times a month -Attendance at a Diocesan training and a parish training -Openness to bring Communion to the Sick.* Questions or interest? Contact Mrs. Mary Borgs of our parish's Liturgy Committee at 665.2928 or e-mail to [mjborgs@yahoo.com](mailto:mjborgs@yahoo.com). Fall, all requests must be made by Monday, September 7, 2009.

## Summer Evening Prayer...A Smashing Success!

This year's Summer Evening Prayer was another great success!

It's a great opportunity for our parish community to come together in prayer and fellowship!

We would not be able to do this without the help and support of our many sponsors.

Be sure to thank and support...

**GRQ Innovations**  
**Mangano Funeral Home**  
**Munch Landscape, Inc.**  
**Newton and Sons**  
**Saving Grace Virtual Assistants**  
**Shear Instincts**  
**West Islip Orthodontics**

We thank who spoke and preached at this year's Summer Evening Prayer, especially *Bishop Libasci + Sandi Smith*, Our Lady of Consolation + *Crossfire + Taize Prayer Ministry* and *Sean Smith*.

And there is no way any of this could happen without our Summer Evening Prayer Committee...

*Diane Ackerly + Mary Borgs + Tony Buonaspina + Sister Nancy Campkin + Lisa Cantalino + Patricia Cunn + Rosemary Feliney + Carl Franckowski + Trish Frodell + Carol Goetz + Maureen Goode + Patrick Gordon + Jean Ann Gottsch + Patricia A. Kelley + Sister Diane + Joanne Maher + Lisa Marie Maher + Bob Petito + Lorraine Petito + Dawn Prate + Michael Prate + Liz Reuther + John Ryan + Fr. Bob + Vita Scorcia + Bronwen Mia Sessa + Carolanne Smith + Barbara Stevens* and all who helped to make Evening Prayer such a special part of our parish's life!

Look for more information about Summer events in 2010 and the many ways you can be involved.

## Daily Mass

8 AM

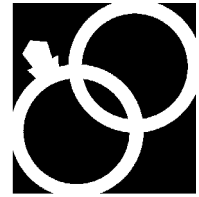
## Weekend Masses

**Saturday:** 5 PM

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

## Reconciliation

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



## Upcoming Marriages

*Kerry Kolodziejski, OLL and  
Chris Fosorile, Maria Regina, Massapequa*

## 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)



## Rest In Peace

*Michael J. Podhany* died on August 22 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was August 26. We extend our prayers to his wife, Frances, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and entire family.

*Angelina Wagner* died on August 23 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was August 27. We extend our prayers to her children, grandchildren, and entire family.

*Florence McLoughlin* died on August 26 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was August 29. We extend our prayers to her husband, Francis, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and entire family.

## 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.

# Remembering . . .

**Monday, September 7**

**8:00 AM** John Lovari

**Tuesday, September 8**

*Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

**8:00 AM** William Kuhlwilf

**Wednesday, September 9**

*Peter Claver, priest*

**8:00 AM** LaRocca & Sweeney Family

**Thursday, September 10**

**8:00 AM** 9/11 Victims

**Friday, September 11**

**8:00 AM** Victims of 9/11 and their families

**Saturday, September 12**

**8:00 AM** James Celiberti, Salvatore Carrano, Marion Squillanti,  
Ray Brogan, Peter Schreiner, Peggy Scanlon, George Rickard,  
Oliver, Thomas & Elliot Raymond Feltzer

**5:00 PM** Michael Reilly

**Sunday, September 13**

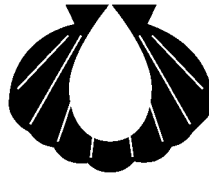
**8:00 AM** John Sweeney

**9:30 AM** Arthur Donald Gallagher

**11:00 AM** McKeefery Family

**12:30 PM** Jeanette Donnelly

**6:00 PM** People of the Parish, Joseph Buccola, Mary Occhiuzzo,  
Anthony Caputo, Maryanne Arcese, Eileen McIvor,  
Joan Margaret Polipo, Ryan Barrett, Manuel Albenio,  
Linda DeLuca, Pietro Delia



## *Baptisms*

*Emily Louise Golder*

Fred and Lori

*Jaiden Christopher Rivera*

Jaime and Amanda

*Madeline Patricia Schiano*

Andrew and Jennifer



The Parish Office will be closed on  
**Monday, September 7** in observance  
of Labor Day.

The Parish Office will reopen on  
Tuesday, September 8 at 9 AM.

**Dosado!**



*Save the date...*

## **Parish Outreach Square Dance**

**Saturday, October 24**

**8 PM until Midnight**

Come join us for what will be an evening of great fun and laughs! Watch upcoming bulletins for more information.

*Swing yer partners!*

**Promendae!**

## **Wedding Ministry**

Our parish has a wonderfully active Wedding Ministry. Women and men from our parish work as teams to guide brides and grooms through their rehearsal and their most special wedding day!

Could this be the ministry for you?? If so, e-mail Fr. Bob at [frbob@ollchurch.org](mailto:frbob@ollchurch.org) for more information about this wonderful ministry.

## **Men's Group**

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

Come join us on **Thursday, September 17, in the Parish Center**

**following 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.

## Back to School

### Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday, September 13

9:30 AM Family Mass

All are welcome!

It's that most wonderful time of the year — BACK TO SCHOOL!

Join us at the 9:30 AM Mass on Sunday September 13 when all our students are invited to a blessing of the new school year.

Bring your backpack — we will bless it — and you!



## Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

Join us ...

**Wednesday, September 9 at 9:30 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.



## Daytime Eucharistic Devotion

The afternoon adoration for the month of September will be on **Wednesday, September 9 from 1- 3 PM.** All are invited and welcome! We will be praying for our children, our country, our men and women in the military and our clergy.

## Holy Name Society

The Holy Name Society meets on the second Sunday of each month. The next meeting will be on **Sunday, September 13.** We will begin with the **Rosary at 7:40 AM in the Church** and the **meeting will follow the 8 AM Mass at 9 AM in Room 16.**

## Bereavement Support Group

You are invited to join our next Bereavement Support Group. This is a wonderful opportunity to be supported in a small discussion group with people who have also suffered a loss. The group will meet on **Wednesdays for six weeks starting on September 23, from 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM.** Please call the Parish Office at 661.3224 to register. The meeting will be held in the Spiritual Life Center, located in the Convent at 50 Toomey Road—please use the Toomey Road entrance.



©LPI

## 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

You may have heard of Patrick Henry Hughes, hopefully because of his accomplishments. A gifted piano player, trumpeter, and singer, at age twenty he has performed on such stages as the Grand Ole Opry and the Kennedy Center. But Patrick Henry is also known as the young man in the wheelchair who, with his dad, performs with his University of Louisville marching band. Not only is he confined to a wheelchair because of a birth disorder, Patrick Henry is blind. He was born without eyes, but this is how he "sees" life: "I believe God gave me blindness so that I may see the inner qualities in everyone I meet."

How do you view disabilities? Like Patrick Henry Hughes, do you view them as a gift? Is it possible to understand that in some aspects of our lives, we all have areas that could be deemed a disability? We may be blind to the needs of others, deaf to the sounds of praise from a friend, unable to express gratitude for the many gifts we receive on a daily basis. In today's reading from Mark, Jesus is presented with a blind man with a speech impediment. Pulling him out of the crowd to a solitary place, the man is healed through Jesus' touch.

Jesus' decision to lead the man away into solitude in order to heal him stresses the importance of praying without distraction. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Jesus always responds to a prayer offered in faith, whether healing infirmities or forgiving sins (CCC 2616). It is often difficult to listen to the wonders of God or speak to him when we are surrounded by the clamor of the world around us. We are healed by the loving touch of Jesus when we allow ourselves and our hearts to listen, see, and feel only him.

2009 Liturgical Publications Inc

### Readings for the Week of September 6, 2009

<b>Sunday:</b>	Is 35:4-7a/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37
<b>Monday:</b>	Col 1:24---2:3/Lk 6:6-11
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Mi 5:1-4a <i>or Rom 8:28-30/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23</i>
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Col 3:1-11/Lk 6:20-26
<b>Thursday:</b>	Col 3:12-17/Lk 6:27-38
<b>Friday:</b>	1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Lk 6:39-42
<b>Saturday:</b>	1 Tm 1:15-17/Lk 6:43-49
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Is 50:5-9a/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35

## Financial Summary

### August 30, 2009

Weekly Collection	\$ 19,394.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 19,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ 394.00

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

### 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 ...

*Andrew Albert, Christine Ausiello, Susan Aviza, Deacon Dick Barry, Ben Bellotti, Nicholas Buscemi, Jr., Howard Campkin, Nicholas Cibelli, Helen Ciolino, Michael Ciotkosz, Regina Cranor, Jeanne Della Ragon, Ann Donlon, Debbie Eichen, Andrea Flathman, Marge Flem, Edward Herger, Brian Hinkelman, Lili Hinkelman, Veronica Kenny, Kathleen Kerrigan, Kara Lobasso, Vicky Massaro, Michele McCann, Peter McCann, Sr., Dorothy Meloni, Rick Mirabella, Rae Morris, Brenden Muldoon, Evelyn Nonnon, John O'Brien, Gertrude Parine, Jacqueline Patwell, Arthur Petrino, Joanne Popper, Laura Prichard, Santa Quevedo, Joe Radosti, Carol Randazzo-Hopkins, Michael A. Savino, Jayna Schmidt, Dorothy Shiavone, Joe Shields, Albina Sipplak, Derek Stahl, Mary Clair Stephen, Stephen Straub, Sr., Baby John Tramazzo, Grace Cunneen, Vera Vieni, Flo Worysz*



## Outreach Update

Financial contributions donated to Outreach enable us to assist families in need. Your generosity continues to make a difference to so many families and children. Thank you for the many school supplies we received this year. Children can return to school with backpacks filled with all the supplies they required.

I would like to update the Parish on the status of a family our community has assisted through some very challenging times. In January this family of six was rushed to the hospital with carbon monoxide poisoning due to a faulty heating system. Through the donations to Outreach during the holidays, our Parish was able to contribute to the repairs of the chimney so the family could return to their home. This family has been with Outreach for two years and we have watched the youngest members of the family-twins; grow and prosper from infancy thru to the 'terrible twos.' Mom had worked part-time in a supermarket chain but was laid-off due to the recession. Dad continues to work in a discount superstore. The family did not qualify for food stamps, with income slightly above the limit. Weekly, your donations helped provide diapers for the twins and the food donated to Outreach allowed the family to have the staples needed for four children: peanut butter, jelly, cereal and juice boxes. When the children were ill, you helped pay for the antibiotics; and most recently, when one of the twins required surgery to have tubes placed in his ears, your contributions helped defray the cost to the family. When Outreach received meat or fresh fruit, we would phone the family-sometimes a volunteer would bring the food over if Dad was at work with the car.

As we all know, the cost of living continues to rise and for this family it has become impossible to remain on Long Island. The superstore which employs the father was able to offer him a transfer to a store in Florida. The decision was made to accept the transfer, their home was sold and throughout the summer Mom has been coming to Outreach not only for food, but also for empty boxes in which to pack their belongings. The emotional shift in Mom has been so evident since these plans have been in place. Mom is smiling, happy to have the opportunity to start over, to start fresh. Does she think life will be 'greener' on the other side of the fence? Well, mom has hope again-with the sale of the house, they will be able to clear out some debt and have a small amount for a down payment on another house in Florida. The kids are excited, anticipating this adventure!

Two weeks ago Mom came to Outreach to pick up food and boxes. She was distraught. She had a report from her doctor. She had had an MRI earlier in the week and has been diagnosed with a brain tumor. The volunteers in the office that day cried with our client. We listened and when we could all breathe again, we started planning and offering advice: delay the closing on your house, get a second opinion, don't do anything in haste! At a time when she is most vulnerable, we hate to see her go.

The family will be moving in two weeks. Mom has sought out a second and third opinion and she has been advised to remain under that care of a doctor. She will follow up with a neurologist and surgeon in Florida, after her family is settled. School records for the two older boys have been forwarded to an elementary school in Florida. Her husband has been transferred and the family needs to be together, now more than ever. Truly, Hope is a gift and in your generosity, you have given, many times over the gift of hope to this family. Please continue to remember them in your prayers, as their journey continues.

*-Mary McMahon  
Director, Parish Outreach*



## Parish Outreach

### Office telephone:

661-9262, option 4

### Office hours:

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



## Pantry Needs

canned fruit  
canned vegetables  
jelly  
peanut butter  
pudding/jello  
soup

## Outreach Memorial Donations

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

- Outreach has received a donation in memory of *Bill Heim*.
- Margaret Cook has made a donation to Outreach in memory of her husband, *Arthur*.
- A donation to Outreach has been made in memory of *Agnes Hallahan*.

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.

## Special Thanks

Outreach would like to extend "Thanks" to the following families, groups and individuals who made donations in honor of John Sureau. Your gifts will be used to assist those in need in our Parish Community.

*The Sage Group*

*Marilyn Kolk*

*The Telesca Family*

*The Petito Family*

*The Mirabella Family*

*Elizabeth Goode*

*Helen Bukowski*

*The Palumbo Family*

*The Carrano Family*

*The Reilly Family*

# The Struggle to Love

by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

After his wife died, Jacques Maritain published her journals. In the preface to that book, *Raissa's Journal*, he talks about her death, brought on by a stroke, and then gives this commentary:

"But there is still something else, which is not easy to express and which, nevertheless, I want very much to add. This concerns God's mode of action. At a moment when everything collapsed for both of us, and which was followed by four agonizing months, Raissa was walled up in herself by a sudden attack of aphasia. Whatever progress she made during several weeks by sheer force of intelligence and will, all deep communication remained cut off. And subsequently, after a relapse, she could barely articulate words. In the supreme battle in which she was engaged, no one here on earth could help her, myself no more than anyone else. She preserved the peace of her soul, her full lucidity, her humor, her concern for her friends, the fear of being a trouble to others, and her marvelous smile (that unforgettable smile with which she said thank-you to Pere Riquet after Extreme Unction) and the extraordinary light of her wonderful eyes. To everyone who came near her, she invariably gave (and with what astonishing silent generosity during her last two days when she could only breathe out her love) some sort of impalpable gift which emanated from the mystery in which she was enclosed, And throughout that time she was being implacably destroyed, as if by the blows of an axe, by that God who loved her in his terrible fashion, and whose love is only 'sweet' in the eyes of saints, or of those who do not know what they are talking about."

God's love is sweet only to those who are already saints and to those who do not know what they are talking about. That is true not just of God's love, but of all love.

Love isn't easy, except in our daydreams. We do not even need to look at the superficiality of the cheaper romantic novels or movies to see the truth of that. It suffices to go to church regularly: I go to mass every day and I go there with good people - who are sincere, committed, honest, and full of faith. But they (along with myself) are also human and thus, as we stand together in a circle of faith, we are not always the idyllic picture of harmony and love of which our church hymns speak. We may be gathered in faith, but we are human and we cannot but feel certain things in each other's presence: jealousy,

irritation, hurt, paranoia, distrust, the sense of not being fully valued. And so beneath our rhetoric of love we also feel tension, distance, and even hostility sometimes. We sing brave songs that proclaim how open our hearts are and how we welcome everyone into this space, but invariably there are parts of us that don't quite mean those words, at least as they apply to some people.

And this isn't an anomaly; it's true for all congregations, of every gathering, except those where everyone is already fully a saint. Love, this side of eternity, is not easy, at least not if we try to actually embrace everyone and not just our own kind.

The older we get, the more we sense what love actually demands. It isn't easy to say the words "I love you" and actually back that up.

What does it mean to love someone? I'm pretty cautious now about what kind of words I put around that. Maybe I would use just two words, fidelity and respect. Love means keeping your word, staying with a relationship and not walking away. And love means fully respecting someone else, not violating anyone's freedom, and positively blessing and helping others to grow according to their own internal dictates. What we actually feel when we do those things is sometimes less than warm, but love, as we know, is not a question of feeling but of fidelity.

And partly that is gift, something from beyond us, from a God who can do for us what we cannot do for ourselves, namely, remain together inside of family and community. In the end, that is what church and Eucharist are meant to do:

On the night before he died, Jesus sat down with his disciples and what he found there was what we too find whenever we go to church, a sincere bunch of people struggling to not let the jealousies, irritations, self-preoccupations, and wounds of life drive them apart. We come to church and to the Eucharist to ask God to do for us what we cannot do for ourselves, love each other.

Maritain is right: Love is only sweet for those who are already saints and for those who are dangerously naive. Since we are neither, it's good to be humble, admit our struggle, and to go to those places that can do for us what we cannot do for ourselves.

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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).*

## 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*  
**Peter Provenzano**-*US Army*  
**Frank Sliva**-*US Army*

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

## Education of a Lifetime

A Catholic High School education offers young people a challenging, value-centered liberal arts education. It also affords each student an opportunity to test abilities, add skills, build confidence and develop an understanding of faith, while preparing for college and for life.

Open Houses present students and parents with a special opportunity to gain information about the programs, faculty, and facilities of the Catholic High Schools on Long Island. Administrators, faculty members, staff, and students are available to describe school programs and to answer questions at the Open House events. For additional information on particular schools, plan to attend one or more of the Open House.

### Open House Schedule

<b>Saturday, September 19</b>	11 AM - 1:30 PM	Our Lady of Mercy Academy
<b>Sunday, September 20</b>	10 AM - 1 PM	St. Anthony's High School
	1 PM - 4 PM	St. Dominic High School
<b>Sunday, September 27</b>	12 PM - 2:30 PM	Holy Trinity D.H.S.
	2 PM - 4:30 PM	St. Mary's College Prep. High School
<b>Saturday, October 3</b>	9 AM - 12 PM	Sacred Heart Academy
	10 AM - 1 PM	Kellenberg Memorial H. S.
	2 PM - 4 PM	Chaminade H. S.
<b>Saturday, October 17</b>	10 AM - 1 PM	McGann-Mercy D.H. S.
<b>Sunday, October 19</b>	10:30 AM - 2 PM	St. John the Baptist D.H.S.

The Catholic High School Entrance Exam is scheduled for Saturday, October 3. Applications for the Catholic High School entrance exam are available at the Religious Education Office and the OLL School Office.

If you have any questions, please call the Religious Education Office at 661.5440, option #3 or the OLL School Office at 661.7200, option #2.

## Golden Wedding Jubilee

On Sunday, October 18, 2009 couples married 50 years or more are invited to a special mass to be celebrated by Bishop Paul Walsh as Christ the King, Commack at 2:30 PM. Please pick up your registration card at the Prish Office, fill it out and return it no later than September 28. If you have any questions, you may call 516.678.5800, extension 242.

## Gennesaret Retreat

*...for those facing serious illness.*

A retreat, especially designed for persons who live with a serious illness, is planned for **September 25 -27, 2009 at Montfort Spirituality Center on Saxon Avenue in 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, God's forgiveness and God's faithfulness. To register or to receive more information about this weekend, please call: Colette Fanelli 631.665.7052.

## Retrouvaille-*A Life Line for Married Couples*

Retrouvaille is a peer ministry. Couples who have had problems in their own marriages and have recovered from those problems, share their experiences with troubled couples in the hope that they too will see that their marriage can be saved.

For more information about the upcoming Retrouvaille weekend that begins on **Friday, September 11 at the Montfort Retreat House in Bay Shore**, please call 1.800.470.2230 and you will be connected to an experienced couple confidentially who can help.

## Self Esteem in Relationships

Women's peer support group for women who want to explore the nature of their intimate relationship within a Christian context. The group is free and confidential and open to all women. The next group begins on September 10 at Ascension Lutheran Church, Bay Shore Road, Deer Park. For information call Vicki at the Church office at 631.667.4188 weekdays between 9:30 AM and 2 PM.

## Pastoral Formation Institute

The Diocese of Rockville Centre celebrates the 20th Anniversary of the Pastoral Formation Institute. You are invited to the celebration! **Saturday, November 7 at St. Agnes Cathedral**. Liturgy begins at 6:30 PM, Bishop William Murphy presiding, followed by cocktail hour, dinner and dancing. Limited seating so reserve your tables early! Tickets are \$55 per person. Ticket purchase includes cocktail hour, full course buffet dinner, dessert, wine, beer and soft drinks. Please make check payable to "Pastoral Formation Alumni Association" and mail to Diocese of Rockville Centre, Office of Faith Formation, P.O. Box 9023, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-9023, Attn.: Patricia Schreck.

## 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. Listen on Saturdays at 11 PM on Sirius Radio, Channel 159, the Catholic Channel and at 11 PM on XM Satellite, channel 117. Next Sunday's theme is "**Routine in Our Lives.**" Don't miss it! To listen online or receive more information regarding "Religion & Rock" go to [www.religionandrock.com](http://www.religionandrock.com) or at "Religion & Rock" on ITUNES. Don't forget to tune into TELE CARE, Cablevision 29 or Verizon FIOS 271 for the Best in Catholic Television!

# Sharing the Gospel

Imagine what it would be like to be deaf-unable to hear music, voices or anything. In today's Gospel reading, Jesus did something amazing. Jesus healed a deaf man, so that for the first time he could hear and talk clearly. What would you listen to? What would you say?



## Prayer



Dear God,  
you are so amazing. Thank you for healing the deaf man.  
Help me to use my ears and my voice to praise you.



## Word Search

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

GALILEE	TOUCH	SPIT
DEAF	FINGERS	TONGUE
TALK	EARS	AMAZED

O D L A D H M A C D  
 F T O N G U E R O G  
 N A D W A B G I S N  
 H L I N L M D E A F  
 J K S P I T S A U I  
 L E O H L V I R E N  
 A M A Z E D K S O G  
 W H F B E O B T I E  
 E L T O U C H M L R  
 T M N G S W I E K S

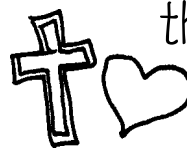
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## Something to Draw



Draw a picture of all the things you like to listen to.

## Mission for the Week



Go to the library and find out how to say "Jesus loves you" in sign language. On the way home, pretend you cannot hear or speak.