

**Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Our Lady of Lourdes • October 4, 2009**



Genesis 2:24

**“The two become  
one flesh.”**

*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. Patsy 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

**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, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:

9:30 AM - 3 PM

### **S.A.G.E.**

661-3224

(Senior Advocates for Growth  
and Enrichment)

**email:** [Sage@ollchurch.org](mailto:Sage@ollchurch.org)

## Serving the Body of Christ....

You are invited to serve the parish as a Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.

*What does it take to be an Extraordinary Minister ?*

- Participation in Sunday Eucharist.
- Commitment to serve two or three times a month.
- Attendance at a Diocesan Training and parish training program.
- Openness to bring Communion to the sick.

*What is the commitment?*

There is a training offered by the Diocese of Rockville Centre. The next session will be at St. Anne's in Brentwood, October 22, from 7:30 PM. until 10 PM. Other dates will be available in the future, There is a follow up training here at OLL. We try to schedule you based on the Mass you most frequently attend. Ministers sign up to serve on holidays, holy days and special occasions. We also offer opportunities for reflection and prayer that all are invited to be a part of throughout the year.

If you have other questions or interested in becoming an Extraordinary Minister, please contact Mrs. Mary Borgs of our Parish Liturgy Committee at 665.2928 or you can e-mail to [FrPat@ollchurch.org](mailto:FrPat@ollchurch.org)



## Confirmation

On **Thursday, October 29**, Bishop William Murphy, Bishop of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to the candidates of our parish. These young women and men are the chosen members of this community who have studied, served and prepared for this Sacrament.

During the next few weeks, they will begin the final steps of their journey towards Confirmation and even greater involvement in the life of our Church. The Confirmation Candidates of our parish will participate in "Spirit Nights" with their parents and sponsors. These times together will be an opportunity for them to experience how important it is to be active faith-filled members of the church community. Each evening will include celebrating mass with our parish family at "THE SIX".

Please pray for our Confirmation Candidates as they embrace this very important commitment in their faith journey and that they will continue to be strengthened, loved and supported by YOU... their parish family.

# Adult Faith Formation



## Top Ten Reasons to be a Catholic: What I Learned in 30 Years of Being a Priest!

**Presenter: Fr. Mike Vetrano**

**Tuesdays-October 13, 20, 27 and November 3, 10**

**Parish Center**

**7:30 PM - 9:30 PM**

Being a Catholic is wonderful but not necessarily easy. It is demanding, challenging, and not without its controversy. At its best, it can bring you close to God and at its worst, it can scandalize. The five weeks of this course are designed for either the beginner, the searcher, or the experienced Catholic - it will help you learn what I have learned: how to grow with and deepen your faith.

### **Week 1**

Sunday Mass: What does God get out of it! A view of Mass from the other side of the altar.

### **Week 2**

Lessons learned from hearing confessions: Why forgive? And who needs to be forgiven? A new look at the power behind both forgiving and being forgiven

### **Week 3**

What does it mean to be a moral person and is life really better if you are?

### **Week 4**

The political Christian: Is it possible to be both a good Catholic and a faithful citizen ?

### **Week 5**

More expert than our pastors: The power and importance of the laity in our church today.

*There is a \$5 fee for each session. No fee is required for those who have paid the Religious Education Family Fee or Our Lady of Lourdes School tuition.*

*Registration is necessary and helpful. This will enable us to have enough reading material and refreshments for all those attending. To register, please call the Religious Education Office at 661.5440, option 3 or email to [religioused@ollchurch.org](mailto:religioused@ollchurch.org).*

29 September 2009

Friends –

Greetings from the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception! Today will mark my one month anniversary here at the Seminary (I hope there's a party!). I promised I would be in touch and would let you know how things are going.

First, and most importantly, know how much I miss the weekly interaction and connection that we all shared at OLL (and of course my work at St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School). Let there be no doubt about that!

Life here at the Seminary is good, though. An adjustment, yes! A big adjustment, definitely yes! Yet I'm pretty sure I'm in the right place. The seminary is an amazing place with so much history and tradition to it. On our first night here, the new rector of the Seminary, Fr. Peter Vaccari, asked us to reflect on the legacy of priests who have gone through this institution. When you look at it that way, it's an amazing time.

The seminarians who live here are good and kind people. They come from the Diocese of Brooklyn and Rockville Centre and from places as far as Korea, Uganda, the Congo and Ghana. (Of course, they come from as close as West Islip – as our own John Ryan is in my alley and we work together now every day!) It makes life here even more diverse and interesting. Not only are we learning about theology, prayer and the like but we are also learning about the cultures from people near and far.

So as I have said many times, I'm not going to the Seminary... we are going to the seminary. So we are here! I so want you to remain a part of this journey and know from all I have met of the tremendous amount of prayers and support that are so present for me at OLL! I will try to write in the bulletin at least once a month and want you to think about following me in a different way. I am starting a blog that opens this Sunday... [www.johnsureau.blogspot.com](http://www.johnsureau.blogspot.com). I'll try to post each Sunday about what is happening with me or at the Seminary. I hope you'll check it out and leave comments and questions. I do have e-mail in the Seminary – [jsureau@optonline.net](mailto:jsureau@optonline.net) and you're always welcome to write- my address is: 440 West Neck Road, Huntington, NY 11743.

It sometimes takes me longer than I'd like to write back but I will!

So OUR journey has begun... let's continue to pray for and with one another in the days, weeks, months and years ahead.

Peace –



John Sureau

P.S. Thanks for sending me here!

## All Souls Mass of Remembrance



*We Remember    We Celebrate    We Believe*

During this past year at Our Lady of Lourdes more than 100 Funeral Masses have been celebrated for members of our parish family who have died. Their families will be invited to participate in a special **Mass of Remembrance and Communion Breakfast on Saturday, November 7 at 10 AM.**

If there is someone you wish to honor whose Funeral Mass was not celebrated at Our Lady of Lourdes, please contact the Parish Office at 661.3224 no later than October 31.



## Daytime Eucharistic Devotion

The afternoon adoration for the month of July will be on **Wednesday, October 7 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, October 11.** 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.**

## Rosary Christian Mothers

The Rosary Christian Mothers meet on the first Monday evening of each month. The next meeting will be **Monday, October 5.** We will begin with **Rosary at 7:45 PM in the Spiritual Life Center** followed by **meeting at 8 PM.**

*(please use the entrance located between the school and convent.)*

## An Evening Retreat with the Deacons of OLL



### *Walking in the Footsteps of St. Francis*

An evening to slow down in our busy lives and come to realize our God that dwells in us following the footsteps of St. Francis of Assisi.

Deacon John, Deacon Jack M., Deacon Jack T., and Deacon Tom invite you to an Autumn Retreat on **Monday, October 19 at 7:30 PM in the Church.**



## Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

**Join us ...**

**Wednesday, October 7 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.



## Taize

### Prayer Around the Cross

Please join us for a Taize Prayer Service on **Wednesday, October 14 at 7:30PM in the Church.** If you're interested in singing/playing with our Taize Group, please contact Carol Goetz at [music@ollchurch.org](mailto:music@ollchurch.org) for further information.

## Men's Group

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

Come join us on **Thursday, October 15, 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.

## Join the CASA Project

Your spare change can make an enormous change in someone's life. The CASA Project asks parishioners to bring their spare loose change to Mass on the first Sunday of the month. We are hoping to build several homes for extremely poor families in our sister parishes in Tacuba and Mogotes — El Salvador. Reminder banks are being sold by our Youth Ministry Sister Parish Team this weekend.



## Help Save a Life - Give Blood

Quite simply, blood is LIFE, but frankly, there sometimes isn't enough to go around. That's why it's critical for all of us to do our part in expanding the blood supply, so everyone who so desperately needs blood gets it.

**On Wednesday, October 7, 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 All Purpose Room.**

*All eligible donors are strongly urged to give blood.*

To donate you must be between the ages of 16 (with parental consent) and 72 (individuals over 75 can donate with written permission from their physician, dated within one year), in good health, and weigh at least 110 pounds.

All donors must show proof of identification and should eat some food before donating.

Donating blood is easy and completely safe. The donation includes a mini-health exam, including blood pressure, pulse, temperature and iron count. The entire donation process takes about one hour (the actual donation takes about 10 minutes). After the donation, donors rest and enjoy light refreshments, then are able to go back to their normal day.

For more information about the Blood Drive or to make an appointment, please call Marie at 669.5837 or just walk in the day of the Blood Drive.

## Follow-up Meeting

All captains and feast volunteers are invited to our Follow-up Meeting on **Thursday, October 15 at 7 PM in Room 16.** All are welcome!

## 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

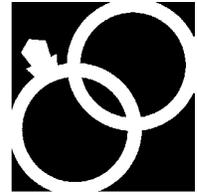
Please contact the Parish Office to schedule an appointment.

### 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.



## Upcoming Marriages

Jennifer Silvestri, Port Chester, NY and  
Lawrence Fantauzzi. OLL



## Rest In Peace

*Lucy Raimo* died on September 22 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was September 26. We extend our prayers to her husband, Frank, her children, grandchildren, great-granddaughter, and entire family.

*Joseph Infantolino* died on September 24 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was September 28. We extend our prayers to his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and entire family.

*Alfred Colotti* died on September 22 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was September 28. We extend our prayers to his brothers, sister, and entire family.

## Remembering . . .

### Monday, October 5

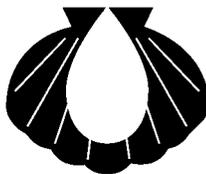
8:00 AM Juliana Davis

### Tuesday, October 6

*St. Bruno, priest*

*St. Marie-Rose Durocher, virgin*

8:00 AM Nicholas Caccavo



## Baptisms

*Brooke Madison Avella*

Michael and Katherine

*Kate Ardriel Habel*

William and Jill

*Julianna Rose Locrotondo*

Philip and Jennifer

### Wednesday, October 7

*Our Lady of the Rosary*

8:00 AM Richard Joseph Shaddock

### Thursday, October 8

*St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, virgin & Doctor*

8:00 AM Virginia & Joseph Beno

### Friday, October 9

*St. Denis, bishop & martyr & his companions, martyrs*

*St. John Leonardi, priest*

8:00 AM Kenneth Boyd

### Saturday, October 10

8:00 AM Michael J. Podhany, Mary Melito, Paul McKee, Joseph Trosa,  
Vincent & David McCarthy, Dolly Lanzaro, Kitty Saidowski,  
Louis D' Achille, Joseph & Dorista Raimondi

5:00 PM Tony Squeo

### Sunday, October 11

8:00 AM Frank Monroe

9:30 AM Ralph Crisci

11:00 AM Rose Facinelli

12:30 PM William Kuhlwilm

6:00 PM People of the Parish, Robert McKeon, Nancy Vetrano,  
Doris Hartman, Kathie Marshall, Wayne & Roland Van Acker, Jack Crean

# Recognizing God's Presence in My Life

by SAGE Group member, *Margaret McHugh*

***“To honor the gift is to honor the giver.”***

Faith is a gift and God is the Giver. You cannot go to Macy's to get it as you would other gifts. Think of all the gifts you have received and how pleased the giver was when you wore it, used it, ate it or displayed it. God, too, is pleased when we nurture our gift of faith.

On a personal level, upon waking, I ask God to direct me to do the right thing during the day, and, while that may not always happen, nonetheless I am inviting God into my life.

Receiving the Body and Blood of Jesus in the Eucharist, and recognizing God's presence in the loving support of family and friends are ways for me to honor God as the Giver of the many ways I am blessed.

Participating in our SAGE Group has also helped me. This active participation with one another as we reflect on our book's contents, and the confidential sharing of life's experiences that comes from our reflection, help all of us to recognize how we might know and serve God and one another better.

As a result of a serious illness, I am totally dependent on a walker to ambulate in my home and on a wheel chair to leave my home. Because have been told I am at a 100% risk for falling, and either dropping, spilling or breaking something, I say, "Thank you, God" everytime I successfully navigate a task (slowly and carefully). If you videotaped me from dawn to dusk, it could be one of the world's funniest videos!

However, with God at my side, guiding my mind and body, I plan ahead and manage to live somewhat independently. And, as wonderful as independence might seem, I believe that a good life is measured not just by independence, but by the joy and excitement it offers, and by the realization of being wanted and needed.

I surely didn't know at 25 what I know at 75!

*Once Again...*

## **Gamblers Take to the Road!**

Trip to Yonkers Empire Casino on Wednesday, October 28. We will be leaving from Our Lady of Lourdes at 10 AM with an approximate time of return:6:30PM.

Cost of Trip is \$30.50 which includes a \$5 coupon for play, a \$5 coupon for food, transportation and FUN!

If interested, or you have any questions, please contact Pat McKeefery at 422.6816.

## **“Peace” Contest at OLL**

Bethanny Hammer’s artwork will represent Our Lady of Lourdes School within the West Islip school district for this year’s Peace Art Competition 2009. One prize in each category will be awarded in the form of a gift card of \$140 along with a certificate. An additional three pieces of artwork will be selected in each category for an honorable mention. The winners will receive a certificate and may have an opportunity for their entry to appear in the 2010 Shanti Fund Calendar. All winners will be invited to a special ceremony to be held at the Suffolk County Executives Office. Good luck to Bethanny!

## **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**.

## **We Need Your Help**

*Are you computer savvy?*

*Can you do some computer work at home?*

The Parish Bereavement Ministry is in need of a volunteer to help with mailings three to four times per year. This would consist of working with mail-merge, word, and excel. The content would always be provided. The task would be to put the names and letters together and label the envelopes to be mailed.

This would be a significant and yet simple way to be a part of an important Ministry. Please leave a message for Diane at the Parish Office at 661.3224, ext 121.

## **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.



©1 Pi

## 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

One of the truisms of statistics is that they can be manipulated to show whatever the person doing the report wants them to show. On the subject of divorce, those who speak out against marriage love to cite that half of all marriages ends in divorce, therefore the sacrament must not be worth the pain that may ensue with divorce. But according to the US Census Bureau, the divorce rate in this country has dropped to its lowest level in nearly forty years, while the marriage rate remains constant. There is always hope!

In today's Gospel reading from Mark, the Pharisees posed a question to Jesus in hopes of catching him teaching against the laws of the time, a punishable offense. "Is it lawful for a husband to divorce a wife?" they asked. Knowing their intent, Jesus allowed them to answer their own question by admitting that Moses had decreed divorce allowable. This gave Jesus the opportunity to remind all who would hear that a marriage between a man and a woman is a sacred bond not only between the two but also with God. Given this opportunity, Jesus explains that no human can overturn an act of God.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that at the very beginning of the sacred Scripture, God reveals his plan for us in marriage in the creation of a man and a woman for each other; and at the end, we are given the vision of the wedding-feast of the Lamb (CCC 1602). Moses realized that among the people, there were hearts that did not possess or accept the sanctity of marriage, therefore he allowed for divorce. But while Jesus acknowledged this, he asked us to understand the sacrament and to do all that we could to preserve it.

2009 Liturgical Publications Inc

### Readings for the Week of October 4, 2009

<b>Sunday:</b>	Gn 2:18-24/Heb 2:9-11/Mk 10:2-16 <i>or 10:2-12</i>
<b>Monday:</b>	Jon 1:1---2:2, 11/Lk 10:25-37
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Jon 3:1-10/Lk 10:38-42
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Jon 4:1-11/Lk 11:1-4
<b>Thursday:</b>	Mal 3:13-20b/Lk 11:5-13
<b>Friday:</b>	Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Lk 11:15-26
<b>Saturday:</b>	Jl 4:12-21/Lk 11:27-28
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Wis 7:7-11/Heb 4:12-13/Mk 10:17-30 <i>or 10:17-27</i>

## Financial Summary

**September 27, 2009**

Weekly Collection	\$ 17,902.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 19,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ (1,098.00)

*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 *Nancy Trujillo*.  
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 ...

*Susan Aviza, Deacon Dick Barry, Ben Bellotti, Bill Best, Anne Bolin, Antoinette Bongiorno, Nicholas Buscemi, Jr., Howard Campkin, Phil Charron, Nicholas Cibelli, Michael Ciotkosz, Ann Donlon, Sal Ferrante, Marge Flem, Edward Herger, Brian Hinkelman, Lili Hinkelman, Mary Kaval, Veronica Kenny, Kathleen Kerrigan, Kara Lobasso, Vicky Massaro, Charles Matushefske, Michele McCann, Peter McCann, Sr., Dorothy Meloni, Rick Mirabella, Brenden Muldoon, John O'Brien, Frances Parine, Arthur Petrino, Joanne Popper, Laura Prichard, Santa Quevedo, Joe Radosti, Frank Raimo, Carol Randazzo-Hopkins, Michael Savino, Jayna Schmidt, Dorothy Shiavone, Joe Shields, Albina Sipplak, Derek Stahl, Mary Clair Stephen, Stephen Straub, Sr., Baby John Tramazzo, Nancy Turano, Vera Vieni, Flo Worysz*

# 2009 Catholic Ministries Appeal

*Hands of Christ-Supporting the Community Around Us*

**Thank you to all those who have responded!**

Our Lady of Lourdes and the Diocese of Rockville Centre would like to thank all those who have made a sacrifice by making a gift to the *2009 Catholic Ministries Appeal*.

## OLL CMA

**September 15, 2009**

Parish Goal	\$101,839.00
Amount Pledged	\$111,537.00
Total Paid	\$ 94,486.50
Number of Pledges	457
Average Pledge	\$244

As you can see, we have reached our parish goal in the amount pledged. However, we do not see the benefits of reaching our goal until the total paid has met or exceeded our parish goal amount. Therefore, our work is not done yet!

Please continue to make your annual pledge. If you have not already done so, please fill out the pledge card below and return to the Parish Office or place in the collection basket at Mass.

Thank you for your continued generosity.



CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL • DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
PO BOX 4000 • ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NEW YORK 11571-4000 • [www.drvc.org/cma.html](http://www.drvc.org/cma.html)

### 2008 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 \_\_\_\_\_

PARISH OF DONOR \_\_\_\_\_

#### A GUIDE TO GIVING

PLEDGE	10 PAYMENTS
\$ 1,000	\$ 100
\$ 500	\$ 50
\$ 350	\$ 35
\$ 250	\$ 25

Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**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.

**Parish Outreach**

**Office telephone:**

661-9262, option 4

**Office hours:**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:

9:30 AM - 3 PM



**Pantry Needs**

- canned fruit
- canned vegetables
- jelly
- peanut butter
- pudding/jello
- soup



**Dosado!**

*Save the date...*

**Third Annual Outreach Fundraiser!**

**Parish Outreach Square Dance**

**Saturday, October 24**

**7 PM until 11 PM**

*Swing yer partners!*

**Promendae!**

**Food! Friends! Dancing! Prizes!**

Tickets are now on sale in the Parish Outreach Office during office hours - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday - 9:30 AM until 3 PM. Tickets are \$40 per person.

**Outreach Update**

- During the month of August, our Parish Community assisted 151 families with food—this breaks down to 338 individuals. Food purchases to supplement pantry donations equaled \$326.35 and financial assistance to families totaled \$346.08.
- In a recent bulletin I wrote of a family which the Parish had ‘adopted’ through Outreach. Your donations-both food and financial assisted this family during very difficult times. In September, the family was to move to Florida. Once the family was settled in Florida, the mom was to undergo radiation for treatment of a brain tumor. Two days before the closing on their home in Bay Shore, there was a glitch in the mortgage, the closing has been delayed until at least the end of October. Mom has decided to undergo treatments here rather than wait the additional months. Outreach will continue to support the family with food and prayers.
- Square Dance Tickets are on sale now in the Outreach Office. Come join us for a ‘swinging good time’...Primo Fiero will be our Caller for the evening. We promise an evening of good food, fun and maybe the Lone Ranger!

# Reading the Signs of the Times

by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

There is a story told about the Russian poet, Anna Akhmatova. During the Stalin purges, she was standing one morning outside a prison along with some other women, all of whom were trying to deliver letters and packages to their loved ones inside. Their waiting was made more painful because they were not even sure whether their loved ones were still alive and by the fact that the guards made them wait needlessly for hours simply to assert their authority. But, if they wanted to get messages to their loved ones, they had no other option but to wait.

On this particular morning, another woman recognized the poet, approached her, and asked: "Can you describe this?" Akhmatova replied: "I can," and a smile passed between the two women.

What had happened? Why did these women, caught up in the madness of a dictator, exchange a smile? Because to describe something, to simply name something properly, in some way already sets you above it. To name something is to be somehow transcendent to it, not fully imprisoned by it, free of it in some way, even if, like Stalin, it has you under its yoke. To name something properly can be prophetic, a defiant act, an act of freedom. Indeed that is what prophets do. They don't foretell the future, they name the present properly - often times in a way that exposes its faithlessness and injustice.

Nearly fifteen years ago, David Tracy wrote a book entitled, *On Naming the Present Moment*. In it, with an objectivity that most of us can only envy, he tried to name, philosophically, the present moment within secular culture so as to highlight what is best both inside of liberal and conservative biases. His essay was hope-filled and gave us direction in the same way that a trip to a good doctor gives us hope and direction concerning our health. Good diagnostics is the prerequisite for good prescription, just as bad diagnostics, bad naming, leads to either bad or useless prescription. Today, both in the church and in the world, there is, I feel, a lot of sloppy naming. We need, both for better diagnostics and better prophecy, to name our present faith moment more accurately. A symptom suffers most when it doesn't know where it belongs.

But there is more: To name something properly

is also a form of prayer. Jesus called this, reading the signs of the times. What does he mean by that expression?

What Jesus had in mind was not that so much that we should try to attune ourselves intellectually to all the cultural, psychological, and religious trends of our time. To read the signs of the times, for Jesus, meant trying to read what is happening in our lives, communally and individually, in such a way as to discern the finger of God inside the outer movements of our lives. My parents called this trying to see "divine providence", namely, trying to hear what God is saying inside the outer events of our lives.

There is a rich biblical background to this. Indeed, in many ways, this is central to the faith of Israel in the Jewish scriptures. For them, nothing happened that was purely an accident. God's finger was always inside of every event, no matter how secular or accidental it seemed, and the task of faith was to try to read what God was saying inside every event. For example, if Israel lost a war, it wasn't because the other army had superior soldiers. It was because God was trying to teach her something, there was something she was supposed to learn from this defeat. Likewise, if there was a drought, it wasn't because there was global warming, it was because, for reasons Israel had to try to discern, God wanted her to live on less that year. For her, nothing was purely accidental, God's finger was somewhere inside of every event, speaking to her.

James Mackey once defined divine providence as a conspiracy of accidents through which God speaks. That runs close to what John of the Cross meant when he said that the language of God is the experience that God writes into our lives. Our task is to read that language, and we read it when we properly name the events of our lives. A proper naming does three things: It is prophetic, it names our faith and our faithlessness, our justice and our injustice; it is diagnostic, it points to the correct prescription to help remedy our ills; and, most importantly, it is a form of prayer, it tries to hear what God is saying inside the outer events of our lives.

Today we tend to name things too much according to our particular ideology, liberal or conservative. This is true both in politics and in the church. The challenge is to be more careful and especially more prayerful. Not everything can be fixed or cured, but it should be named properly.

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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

Saturday, September 19	11 AM - 1:30 PM	Our Lady of Mercy Academy
Sunday, September 20	10 AM - 1 PM	St. Anthony's High School
	1 PM - 4 PM	St. Dominic High School
Sunday, September 27	12 PM - 2:30 PM	Holy Trinity D.H.S.
	2 PM - 4:30 PM	St. Mary's College Prep. High School
Saturday, October 3	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 31. 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.

## Fatima Day

Come and celebrate Our Lady's special apparitions to her children on **Fatima Day, Tuesday, October 13 at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Island, Manorville.** Stations of the Cross begin at 10:30 AM with Mass and rosary to follow. If you have any questions, please call 631.325.0661.

## Help Feed the Hungry

The Mercy INN Soup Kitchen in Wyandanch is in need of a person to pick up food in the West Islip area early on Thursday mornings. If you can help, please call Kathy at 422.1420.

## A Day of Silence and Solitude

This day offers the opportunity to withdraw from daily activities to pray, and to reflect on your relationship with God in an atmosphere of silence and solitude. The day will be **Sunday, October 18 at the Maude Adams House at the Cencale in Ronkonkoma.** The offering for the day is \$35. Please bring a bag lunch. For more information, please call 631.588.8366.

## Rebuilding Together

Volunteers are needed any time, Mondays to Fridays. Rebuilding together Long Island is a volunteer group that performs free repairs to low-income seniors and handicapped homeowners in both Nassau and Suffolk. Volunteers with minor skills are needed. Come join us and feel the joy of helping other in an atmosphere of fun. Call 516.541.7322.

## Pastoral Formation Institute

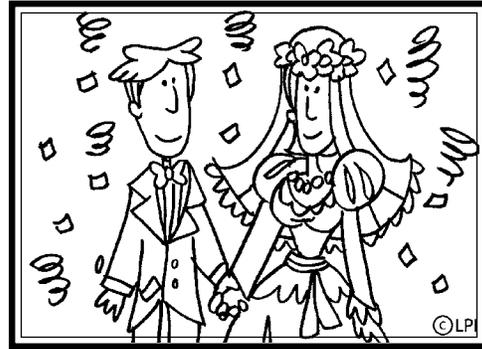
The Diocese of Rockville Centre celebrates the 20th Anniversary of the Pastoral Formation Institute. You are invited to the celebration! **Saturday, November 7 at St. Agnes Cathedral.** Liturgy begins at 6:30 PM, Bishop William Murphy presiding, followed by cocktail hour, dinner and dancing. Limited 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 "**Letting Go.**" 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

In the beginning, when God created Adam and Eve, he created marriage to be good and holy. God wanted husbands and wives to love God and to help one another. Because of sin, some marriages started to fall apart. Divorce is difficult for everyone. God always wants marriage to be good and holy.



## Prayer



Dear God,  
help people who are married to love you and care for each other.



## Word Unscramble

Unscramble words from today's Gospel reading:

Jesus	husband	divorce
Moses	wife	papers
law	married	joined

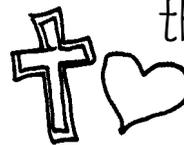
Jssue	<u>J</u>	<u>e</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>u</u>	<u>s</u>	
marrdie	—	—	—	—	—	—
dvrchioe	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mssoe	—	—	—	—	—	
hsbndua	—	—	—	—	—	—
jndoie	—	—	—	—	—	
wfie	—	—	—	—		
lwa	—	—	—			
pprsae	—	—	—	—	—	—

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## Something to Draw

Draw a picture of Adam and Eve helping each other in the Garden of Eden.

## Mission for the Week



Pray for kids you know who have been hurt because their parents are not living with each other. Ask God to heal their broken hearts.