

Our Lady of Lourdes • **Third Sunday of Easter** • April 18, 2010

**"Bring some of the
fish you just caught."**



John 21:9



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.

Our Lady of Lourdes

*455 Hunter Avenue
West Islip, New York 11795*

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

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.

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

Rev. Patsy Amabile

Associate Pastor

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

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

Robin Reynolds-Brennan

Coordinator of Worship

Vita Scorcia

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 Scorcia

Mary Steck

Fr. Mike Vetrano

Christine Volk

Parish Staff

Barbara Catusco

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

fax: 661.7143

website: www.ollchurch.org

Our Lady of Lourdes School

587.7200

Monday-Friday: 9 AM - 3 PM

email: lkrol@ollschoo.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, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:

9:30 AM - 3 PM

S.A.G.E.

661.3224

(Senior Advocates for Growth
and Enrichment)

email: Sage@ollchurch.org

Welcome...

to Our Lady of Lourdes!

We are so happy to welcome everyone who has come to worship with us today! Whether you have come a long distance or you live locally, we are glad that you have decided to spend some time with us as we worship our Lord together. Please know that your presence today is a blessing to our parish family.

Would you like to know more about our parish family?

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

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

Welcome...

to Our Lady of Lourdes!



I would like information about:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religious Education of my Children | <input type="checkbox"/> Becoming a Catholic or Adult Confirmation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marriage or Annulment / Remarriage | <input type="checkbox"/> Spiritual Direction or Counseling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Our Parish Catholic School | <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Joining the Parish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baptizing my Children | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

I would prefer to be contacted:

Your Name: _____

Phone at: _____ Email at: _____

Mail at: _____



Movie Night is back!

By popular demand we are watching *"17 Again"* at 7 PM in the Cafeteria on Friday, April 23!

Come in your pajamas and get comfortable with snacks and friends!



First Annual Youth Relief Talent Show Youth Relief 2010!

Friday, April 30 at 7 PM in the All Purpose Room the

OLL Youth Groups are sponsoring the First Annual Youth Relief Talent Show!

Admission to the Talent Show will be \$5 and all proceeds will be donated to a local homeless charity. All are welcome to attend and to show off their talent.

There are prizes to be won! If you sing, dance, act or do something special come down on Friday, April 30 and compete. The first ten acts to show up will get to perform.

This is going to be an annual thing as you can see but it's purpose, besides getting the kids to lead and to help others, is to put youth ministry out there in the church community so it is very important that it gets as much attention as possible. The kids are going to be making posters for the buildings too.



Youth Group

High School students! Youth Group for grades 9-12 has moved from Thursdays to Mondays at OLL! We will still meet at 7 PM in Room 16. For a full list of dates please go to ollchurch.org/youth, email Allegra@ollchurch.org or check the bulletin board in the All Purpose Room!

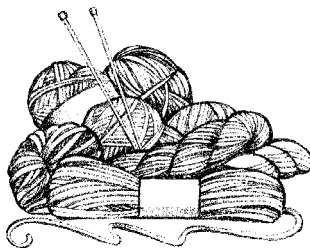
Rosary Christian Mothers

Our next meeting will be **Sunday, May 2**, which will be our annual **May Crowning followed by Communion breakfast.**

Watch the bulletin for further details...

Holy Name Society

The Holy Name Society meets on the second Sunday of each month. The next meeting will be on **Sunday, May 9**. 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.**



Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

Join us ...

Wednesday, May 12, 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.

Men's Group

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

We invite all men of the parish to meet for prayer and reflection after 8 AM Mass on **Thursday, May 20, in the Parish Center.** 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. Call Jack Fitzgerald at 587.5548 for more information.



Taize-Prayer Around the Cross

Friday, April 23 at 7:30 PM in the Church

Looking for another way to pray?

Taize is a form of worship that provides some time in our busy lives where we can stop and focus on the love of God. Together we will share simple chants and prayers that will help guide us as we bring our concerns and hopes to the Lord. Please join us for a Taize Prayer Service on **Friday, April 23 at 7:30 PM in the Church.**

OLL Music Ministry

This Spring ...SING A NEW SONG...WITH 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 a great time to join!

The OLL Choir rehearses on Thursday night from 8-10 PM and sings weekly at 11 AM Mass. Adults who are proficient in playing a musical instrument and are interested in playing with the choir at 11 AM Mass are also invited to join.

The Contemporary Group, grade 8 through college age and young adult, rehearses on Sunday afternoon 4:30-6 PM and sings at "The Six." Students, we'd love to have you come and sing with us - bring a friend or two with you. Also, if you're proficient at a musical instrument, you're welcome to join our group.

If you can't commit to a weekly rehearsal schedule, consider becoming part of a group that performs less frequently throughout the year.

The Concert Choir performs several times a year and is open to singers with a musical background. This group is by audition only.

Our newly developed Taize Ministry welcomes singers/musicians who are interested in singing/playing at Taize prayer services throughout the liturgical year.

If you have any questions regarding the OLL Choir, Contemporary Group, Concert Choir, Taize Ministry please contact Carol Goetz at 661.3224 or music@ollchurch.org.

Our Youth Choir, sings at 9:30 AM Mass on Sunday and Women's Chorale sings at 11 AM Mass on the first Sunday of the month. If you have any questions about the Youth Choir or Women's Chorale, please contact Jennifer Gallagher at 661.3224 or jengallagher@ollchurch.org.

Senior Circle

The Senior Circle meets on the last Monday of each month. The next meeting will be held on **Monday, April 26, at 12:30 PM in the Parish Center.**

SAGE

The SAGE Group (Senior Advocates for Growth and Enrichment) will meet on **Tuesday, April 27, in the Parish Center at 9 AM.**



Nocturnal Adoration

Nocturnal Adoration will follow the 5 PM Mass on **Saturday, May 1**, concluding with Benediction at 9:50 PM. Please come and pray with us. All are invited and welcome! Bring a friend.

Daytime Eucharistic Devotion

The afternoon adoration for the month of July will be on **Wednesday, May 5 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.



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.

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**.

Learning & Spirituality



Why We Pray the Way We Do

Fr. Bob Scheckenback
Tuesdays, April 20, 27 and May 4
7:30 - 9:30 PM
Parish Center

What's really happening when we go to Church on Sunday? Understand the liturgy and its role in your life and the life of the Church. Does God need the Sacraments? Understand the sacramental principle of Roman Catholicism and how we believe God communicates with us.

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.



OLL School's Annual Spring Plant Sale is coming up on **May 1 and May 2**. We will be selling plants after Masses on that weekend. This year we are also offering Blooming Ornamental Selections specifically for those looking for Mother's Day gifts!

Something new! We are taking pre-orders through April 21.

The Plant Sale flyer can be found at school website www.ollschool.org, under "In The Backpack", 2010 Plant Sale flyer. Pick-up **OR** delivery, whichever you prefer, will also be on May 1/2.

Science Fair

The science fair at Our Lady of Lourdes in West Islip was a great success. After the cancelation due to the snow, it finally happened on Friday March 5th. The whole school participated in this event. The students have been working on their experiments since December. There are already students thinking of what they want to do next year. The experiments are getting more challenging. These students blew the parents and teachers away with their great knowledge of their topics. Just to think, their experiment started off as a question and then flourished. Students experimented with plants, solar heating, evaporation, fingerprinting and even the myth of the "5 second rule."



OLL Golf Outing

Monday, July 19, 2010

Island Hills Country Club, Sayville

Do you miss the outdoors? Do you miss the warm feeling of sunshine?
Join us and swing ahead to summer!

This year we will be honoring:

Deacon John and Anne DeGuardi

Paul and Diane Munch

For more information contact Rich Maher at rmaher@ollschool.org

Religious Education

at Our Lady of Lourdes during the Easter Season...

For all in Grade 7 in our Parish Family...

Sponsor/Candidate Enrollment Sunday

Sunday, May 2

6 PM Mass

All seventh graders in our Parish Family choose a Sponsor in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please come and join with all the seventh graders of our parish, their families and their newly chosen Sponsor, as we celebrate this commitment. They look to their Parish Family for prayers and support on their faith journey.

For all in Grade 8 in our Parish Family...

“Rescue Closing”

Sunday, May 16

6 PM Mass

All eighth graders in our Parish Family, their Sponsors and parents share in celebrating their time together. The eighth graders and their Sponsors have been getting together and doing service for others.

For all in Grades 6/7/8 in our parish family...

Hang Out Nites continue...

Friday April 16	7:30 PM - 9:30 PM	Parish Center
Friday May 21	7:30 PM - 9:30 PM	Parish Center
Friday June 18	7:30 PM - 9:30 PM	Parish Center

Don't forget... there's something for everyone !

All 6th / 7th / 8th graders of our Parish Family- come play volleyball, basketball.

We have Guitar Hero 2, free raffles, music and more. DON'T MISS IT !

also...

Grades 9/10/11/12

ALL ARE WELCOME! Be a part of the Team. High School leaders help with set-up, participating in activities, refreshments, clean-up, etc... and assist Adult Chaperones.

For more information, call 661.5440, option 3 or email religioused@ollchurch.org.

Reminder...

Important Confirmation Meeting

For all Eighth Grade Parents in OLL Parish Family -

Wednesday, May 5 at 7:30 PM in the Parish Center

or

Thursday, May 6 at 10 AM in the Parish Center

or

Thursday, May 6 at 7:30 PM in the Parish Center

Did you know?

You can go to “eChalk” at www.ollreled.org to link and follow your “own” grade to find new and exciting activities, important parent info, and view our OLL Religious Education Calendar.

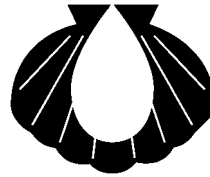
Support Groups

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-9:30 AM beginners meeting convent lower level.
(Free babysitting available.)



Baptisms

Benjamin Andrew Brennan
Drew and Melissa

Meghan Laura Farrell
Joseph and Katherine

Natalie Marie Ansman
David and Michele

Gavin John Hugasian
Hugo and Michelle

Marin Elizabeth Biggers
Jeff and Kristin

Riley John Rebholz
John and Stephanie

Nicholas Philip Sans
Paul and Cari

Upcoming Marriages

Lee-Ann Capozzi and
Justin Puccia, both OLL

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, April 19

8:00 AM Rosemary Lena

Tuesday, April 20

8:00 AM Michael McCabe

Wednesday, April 21

Saint Anselm, bishop and doctor of the Church

8:00 AM Sylvan Lodespoto

Thursday, April 22

8:00 AM Erna Schmid

Friday, April 23

Saint George, martyr

8:00 AM Joseph Preston

Saturday, April 24

8:00 AM Sylvia Capaccia, Florence O'Regan,
Charlie Murphy, Lily Murphy,
Ann Bartley, Josephine Valentine,
Linda Kelly (*living*)

5:00 PM Marie D. Turano

Fr. Ambrose Cabildo

Sunday, April 25

8:00 AM Christine Sklarsky

Fr. Mike Vetrano

9:30 AM Charles Diesso

Fr. Pat Amabile

11:00 AM Marie D. Turano

Fr. Mike Vetrano

12:30 PM Rudolph Vrana

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

6:00 PM People of the Parish, Howard Campkin, Edna Barrera (*Millie*),
Betty Garcia, Eugene Squillanti, Ross Goldin, Luz Munez,
John McAllister, Donald Wickes, souls in Purgatory,
Jesus Wilson, Rita Ciancuilli, Phyllis Morrin

Fr. Pat Amabile



Rest In Peace

Arlene J. Joseph died on April 4 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was April 9. We extend our prayers to her husband, Peter, children, grandchildren, and entire family.

Annette C. Ferrara died on April 6 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was April 10. We extend our prayers to her children, and entire family.

Angela Perico died on April 9 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was April 13. We extend our prayers to her children, grandchildren, great-grandchild, and entire family.



3rd Sunday of Easter

The Book of Revelation uses highly symbolic language to communicate its message to the church in the first century as Christians were being persecuted. The author, who calls himself John (not the Gospel writer), wants to assure the community that Jesus lives, hope endures, and the final victory is theirs, if they are faithful to Christ. Turning away from him as a short-term expediency is not the solution, even though the allure of avoiding persecution may seem stronger than being true to Christ.

Some of the visions that John writes about, like the one we hear in today's second reading, are meant to reveal what is the final end for those who remain faithful and endure the trial. They surround the throne and cry out in praise of God. They live in blessedness. One of the great comforts of this vision is the way in which John describes the throng gathered around the throne of God: "They were countless in number" (Rev 5:11).

In the Gospel today, we hear of the miraculous catch of fish made by the disciples after Jesus' resurrection. Standing on the shore, he directs them to lower their nets one more time, even though they had been hard at it all night. The result is that they haul in an incredible catch. The underlying theme of this miracle, as well as the message revealed in the Book of Revelation, is that God's mercy is without end. Through the resurrection of Christ, God wills that all people be saved. While the visions of the second reading from Revelation reveal the final outcome, the story of the Gospel today reminds us that we disciples have to keep cooperating with God's grace to help bring others into the fold. Then the words of Revelation, "They were countless in number," will truly come to pass.

2010 Liturgical Publications Inc

Readings for the Week of April 18, 2010

Sunday:	Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41/Rv 5:11-14/Jn 21:1-19 <i>or</i> 21:1-14
Monday:	Acts 6:8-15/Jn 6:22-29
Tuesday:	Acts 7:51---8:1a/Jn 6:30-35
Wednesday:	Acts 8:1b-8/Jn 6:35-40
Thursday:	Acts 8:26-40/Jn 6:44-51
Friday:	Acts 9:1-20/Jn 6:52-59
Saturday:	Acts 9:31-42/Jn 6:60-69
Next Sunday:	Acts 13:14, 43-52/Rv 7:9, 14b-17/Jn 10:27-30

Parish Outreach

Office telephone:

661-9262, option 4

Office hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:

9:30 AM - 3 PM

April Donations to Outreach

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

- Barbara and Joe Catuosco have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Joseph Walsh* and *Matthew Badamo*.
- Barbara Foster has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Matthew Badamo*.
- An anonymous donation has been made to Outreach in memory of *Dominic Pallacio*, cousin of Marie Ricigliano.
- Jerry Esposito has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Joseph Walsh*, *Ross Goldin* and *Matthew Badamo*.
- The Giuffré Family has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Nick LaGiglia* and *William Heim*.
- Suzanne Fasano has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Anthony Alfieri*, on the occasion of his first anniversary in heaven.
- Peggy Cook has made a donation to Outreach in memory of her husband, *Arthur Cook*.
- Julie Kowalczyk has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Flo Worysz*.
- Mr. and Mrs. John Amabile have made a donation to Outreach *in honor of deceased family members*.
- Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Edwards have made a donation to Outreach *in gratitude for blessings received*.
- Mr. and Mrs. James Reilly have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Geraldine Cassidy*.
- Marge Cassiano, her children, and grandchildren have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Janet M. Eifler*.

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.

Financial Summary

April 11, 2010

Weekly Collection	\$ 19,255.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 19,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ 255.00

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

Members in the Military

We ask that you pray especially for those in our parish that are on active duty in the Middle East conflict.

They are:

Bryan R. Dempsey-US Marines

Christopher Florca-US Marines

Michael Mallimo- US Army

Anthony Mannino-US Marines

JD Montefusco-US Marines

Peter Provenzano-US Army

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

Easter Flower Offerings

Angela D'Ambrosio

Walter P. Sokol, Sr.

James McGrade

M/M J. Brown

M/M John Gerter

M/M J. McGrade

M/M Carl Czurda

Marvelli Family

Frank DiBisceglie

McGuire Family

Perdue/Endres Families

Susan Keegan

Michael Reilly

Roy Jensen

Cesar Zaragoza

Homann Family

M/M Vincent Mondelli

Joseph Ennis, Sr.

Douglas Killane, Sr.

Lawrence Killane

William Adams

M/M James Miraval

Rainone Family

George J. Frank

Bart Simone

Anna Gotthelf

Kenneth Gotthelf

Eugene Surace

Cousin John Radosti

Margaret Zimmerly

Brian D'Angelo

Anna Graffeo

Madeline Nadvornik

Claire Hopkins

Helen Ianno

Michael Davis

Pamela Gagliano

Henry J. Kollmer

M/M Joseph Lehmann

Debbie Cummings McLaughlin

Lawrence W. & Mary Bamberger

Conaughton & Mundy Families

Ireneo & Consolacion DeLeon

Salerno & D'Angelo Families

Margaret & Bill Corrigan

Altar Society

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

Pastoral Care of Our Sick

Please call the Parish Office at 661.3224 to leave the names
of parishioners who:



- are homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist
- are in Good Samaritan Hospital and would like to be visited by a member of our Pastoral Care Ministry.
- would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick.

Pray for Our Sick

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

Roy Anderson, Susan Aviza, Deacon Dick Barry, Ben Bellotti, Antoinette Bongiorno, Theresa Buffa, Nicholas Buscemi, Jr., Jerry Castonguay, Nicholas Cibelli, Michael Ciotkosz, Donald L. Coffey, Regina Cranor, Jeanne DellaRagione, Ann Donlon, Debbie Eichen, John Fallon, Edward Herger, Brian Hinkelman, Lili Hinkelman, Max Illiano, Diana Kaehne, Mary Kaval, Kathleen Kerrigan, Josephine Kosiczky, Joseph Lehmann, S. Diane Liona, Kara Lobasso, Charlie Maccio, Louise Malcuit, Vicky Massaro, Michele McCann, Peter McCann, Sr., Donie McDermott, Dorothy Meloni, Rick Mirabella, Rae Morris, Brenden Muldoon, Ruth Murray, Evelyn Nonnon, John O'Brien, Arthur Petrino, Joanne Popper, Laura Prichard, Joe Radosti, Carol Randazzo-Hopkins, Baby Skyler Rene, Reneida Rivera, Michael Savino, Ann Marie Schiraldi, Jayna Schmidt, Dorothy Shiavone, Joe Shields, Derek Stahl, Mary Clair Stephen, Stephen Straub, Sr., John Tramazzo, Nancy Turano, Vera Vieni, Pat Wallace, Kyle Williams, Geraldine Wloszczyna, Joe Yezek

The Major Points of Convergence within the Great Spiritual Traditions

by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

When we look at all the major world religions we see that they are more similar than dissimilar in how understand the spiritual quest, the path of discipleship and holiness. When we look at Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, and Native religions, we can draw out these major points of convergence:

- First, in all of them the aim of the spiritual quest is the same, union with God and union with everyone and everything else. There are different disciplines, different understandings of God, and different understandings of life, but all the great spiritual traditions are ultimately seeking the same thing, union with the divine and, through that, peace with one another and with physical creation.

- Second, in all the great spiritual traditions the path to union is understood as coming through compassion. In every great spiritual tradition, what religion ultimately strives to achieve is to form a heart that is properly shaped in compassion and wisdom. Then, and only then, are worship, dogma, and justice done correctly.

- Third, in every great spiritual tradition, the route to compassion and union with God is paradoxical, requiring that somehow we have to lose ourselves to find ourselves, die to come to life, and give so as to receive. In every major spiritual tradition we are taught that we cannot come to joy, delight, and happiness by actively pursuing these. These are always a byproduct of something else, namely, of trying to create joy, delight, and happiness for someone else. Every great spiritual tradition would be at ease with the Prayer of St. Francis: Affirming that in giving we receive, in consoling others we are consoled, and in trying to understand others we are understood.

- Fourth, every great spiritual tradition is clear that spiritual progress requires hard discipline and some painful renunciations, that the road-more-travelled won't get you home. The gate to heaven is always the narrow one, the one that requires discipline and renunciation. Indeed the word "discipleship" comes from the word "discipline". When Hinduism and Buddhism speak of different kinds of "yoga" they are simply referring to various forms of discipline (from which we take our reduced sense of the word "yoga").

- Fifth, every great spiritual tradition tells us that the spiritual quest is a life-long journey with no short-cuts, no quick paths, no hidden secrets, and no appeal to privilege that can short-circuit the discipline and renunciation required.

They also tell us that there are no exempt areas within the spiritual life and that there are no moral or psychological areas that we can ignore or write-off as unimportant. No great spiritual tradition lets us chose between personal integrity and social justice, personal holiness or political action. Every one of them tells us that both are non-negotiable.

- Sixth, in every great spiritual tradition consolation and desolation, religious fervor and dark nights of the soul, both have an important role within the spiritual journey. Both provide a necessary, if very different, kind of nurturing. All traditions caution us not to identify progress only with consolation and fervor, just as all of them caution us not to make suffering, desolation, and dark nights an end in themselves.

- Seventh and perhaps surprisingly, all the great spiritual traditions downplay the importance of extraordinary phenomena within the spiritual journey. Visions, altered states of consciousness, mystical trances, ecstasies, miracles, and appearances by persons or forces from the other world, whether benign or malevolent, soothing or frightening, are all downplayed in every major tradition. These can be real and they can mark our lives, but they are not indicative of real growth and progress which, in all great traditions, take place within the ordinary bread-and-butter of life. In every major spiritual tradition, the essential things that God wants us to know are public, available to all, and written down. All traditions make the distinction between public revelation (which is binding for everyone) and private revelations (which can be meaningful but which are not binding for everyone and are not the salient revelation even inside of the life of the person to whom they are given.)

- Eighth, all great spiritual traditions affirm that, while we are on the spiritual path, we will meet great temptations and powerful demons and that these need to be recognized and taken seriously. All of them caution against naiveté, especially naiveté regarding certain innate tendencies within our own make-up and within the dynamics of every crowd.

- Finally, all the major spiritual traditions agree that the spiritual journey will always partly be mystery. Just as the God we meet on this journey is ultimately ineffable, so too is the experience. In the end we will never find adequate words and concepts either to understand or to describe what we experience on the journey. Hence all traditions caution strongly against ever thinking that our grasp of things is adequate, even remotely so.

All the great religious traditions agree: The road is narrow and hard and there are no short-cuts.

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.

2010 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

CMA 2010

One Faith, One Hope,
Many Gifts.

Parish Goal	\$101,839
Amount Pledged	\$ 64979
# of Donors	292
Average Pledge	\$ 223

100% of all money raised by the Catholic Ministries Appeal goes to support the five critical ministries of the Appeal.

Every year, through the support and commitment of individuals and organizations, we serve more than 500,000 people in our Long Island community. This support enables our children to continue to receive the gift of spiritual formation, sacramental preparation, and quality education. It allows seminarians, deacons, and lay leaders to fulfill their calling to serve their community. With your support Catholic Charities can maintain its services for the poor and disadvantaged, and we can continue to reach out to our young people and others to find the best ways to guide and pass on our faith from generation to generation.

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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.



2010 Catholic Men's Conference - Diocese of Rockville Centre

Saturday, April 24

Holy Trinity High School, Hicksville

Your life is a journey. It is a journey of family, of work, of play, and of faith. It is our hope that this men's conference will serve to enrich your faith so that family, work and play will be filled with more joy than ever before.

Program begins at 9 AM. Mass at 4:30 PM with main celebrant, Bishop William Murphy. Keynote speakers include Rich Donnelly, Major League baseball coach, Fr. Brian Barr, Diocesan Vocations Director and several breakout guest speakers.

For additional information, visit the conference website at www.catholicmensministry.net or call 516.678.5000, extension 1234. Contact Jack Fitzgerald at 587.5548 if you plan to attend.

HEC-Handicapped Encounter Christ

Each year, HEC holds a retreat weekend designed for men and women (18 years or older) who are physically or mentally challenged. It is a weekend of prayer, song, discussion, fellowship and community building. The retreat will be April 22 - 25, Thursday evening through Sunday afternoon. The retreat is held at Camp Alvernia in Centerport, NY. Adults with special needs, who would like to attend the retreat, and individuals or organizations looking to volunteer in any capacity, please contact Deacon Frank and Michele Barone at 516.420.1207 or email mrbarone@verizon.net.

St. Ignatius Jesuit Retreat House to honor... Sr. Karen Doyle, SSJ

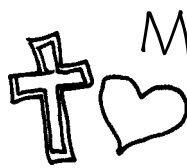
St. Ignatius Jesuit Retreat House will honor their Director of Ministerial Services, Sr. Karen Doyle, SSJ at their Spring at Inisfada Event on Sunday, April 25, beginning at 4 PM with a concert performed by the Manhasset High School Kinsmen. The concert will be followed by a Liturgy and supper. Please join us to honor this very special woman. Call for reservations at 516.621.8300, extension 15.

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 "**Poverty.**" Don't miss it! To listen online or receive more information regarding "Religion & Rock" go to www.religionandrock.com or at "Religion & Rock" on ITUNES. Don't forget to tune into TELE CARE, Cablevision 29 or Verizon FIOS 296 for the Best in Catholic Television!

Sharing the Gospel

After Jesus rose from the dead, he must have looked very different. Jesus helped his apostles catch a lot of fish, just as he had done before. Jesus invited his friends to eat with him, and he still broke his bread to share it in the same way he always had. The disciples still recognized Jesus by the things he did.



Mission for the Week

Invite a friend over to eat dinner with your family, so you can share food just like Jesus did.



Puzzle

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

FISHING
CATCH
BOAT

JUMPED
DRAGGED
BREAD

CHARCOAL
APPEARED
RAISED

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

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Prayer



Dear God,
help me to always
recognize Jesus.

Something to Draw



Draw a picture of
Jesus cooking fish
for his friends.