

Our Lady of Lourdes • Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time • October 31, 2010

**“Come down quickly,  
for today I must  
stay at your house.”**



Luke 19:5



## *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

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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

**Louise Jane Krol**

School Principal

**Sr. Diane Liona**

Director of Religious Education

**Mary McMahan**

Director of Parish Social Ministry

**Robin Reynolds-Brennan**

Director of Music and Worship

**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*

**Jennifer Gallagher**

Women's Chorale Director

**Mary Anne Lettieri**

Parish Office

**Debbie Meyer**

Bulletin Editor/Parish Office

**Rosemary Multer**

School Office

**Rita Spera**

Religious Education Office

**Lori Walsh**

Parish Office

### **Parish Office**

661.3224 (*option 1*)

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 (*option 2*)

Monday-Friday: 9 AM - 3 PM

**email:** [lkrol@ollschoo.org](mailto:lkrol@ollschoo.org)

### **Religious Education Office**

661.5440 (*option 3*)

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 (*option 4*)

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)

## 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 6 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.

## Youth Group Meeting Schedule Fall 2010

**Middle School**  
November 18  
December 9 and 16

**High School**  
November 4  
December 2 and 16

*\*All meetings will be in Room 16 of the school*



### ***Call for St. Bernard League!***

Believe it or not the snow may only be a month or two away and we need volunteers to shovel the snow from the sidewalks and driveways of our elderly and disabled parishioners. This is a great service to many of our older OLL friends and a great way to earn service hours for school or just a nice thing to do with your family. To sign up please send a message to [Allegra@ollchurch.org](mailto:Allegra@ollchurch.org).

### ***also...***

For those who are elderly or disabled, and wish to have a St. Bernard volunteer at their home please contact Allegra by email or phone at 661.3224, ext. 135. **EVEN IF YOU HAVE SIGNED UP IN THE PAST YOU MUST SIGN UP AGAIN!** Please do not assume that you have a partner!



## Confirmation

***“Go out and tell, make disciples of nations. Go out and tell the good news. Sing from your heart, sing to all of creation. Go out and tell the good news.”***

*Go Out and Tell... Fisher and Lee*

This Thursday, November 4, Bishop Dunne will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to our Candidates. We continue to pray for them, their Sponsors and their parents as they look to their Parish Family with an even greater awareness of what the words of the hymn “Go Out and Tell” means to them. Many of those who will receive Confirmation are already actively involved in many ministries including our Religious Education Program, Gr. 6/7/8 Hang Out Nights, Music Ministry, Altar Servers, Lectors, Ushers, Parish Outreach, Stewardship and Art & Environment.

## Adult Faith Formation

### The Psalms: Companions for Everyday

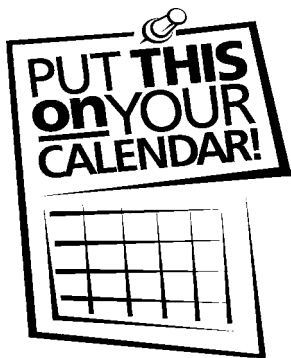
**Presenter: Sr. Diane Liona**

**Tuesday-November 2**

**Parish Center**

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

The 150 Psalms in the Bible are a precious legacy we Catholics have inherited from our spiritual ancestors. The Psalms were the daily prayer of Jesus himself, so praying them is praying the very words the Son of God used to commune with his Father. For many, the Psalms remain an unopened gift, an undiscovered treasure. We will conclude each evening with Compline, the Night Prayer of the Church.



## Martha and Mary

*Action and Contemplation...*

*Doing and Being*

**Presenters : Fr. Bob and Vita Scorgia**

**Tuesdays-November 16 and November 23**

**Parish Center**

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

*Look in next week's bulletin for more information....*

*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).*

## RCIA



### Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

*What's it all about?*

*IF* you are an adult AND

- ... you were never Baptized
- ... you were Baptized in another faith and would like to become a baptized Catholic
- ... you never received Holy Communion (Eucharist)
- ... you never received your Confirmation

*IF* you are an adult AND one or all of the circumstances above apply to you...

*IF* you feel you would like to become a baptized Catholic or become more fully initiated into your Catholic faith

Our email address is [RCIA@ollchurch.org](mailto:RCIA@ollchurch.org) or call the Parish Office at 661.3224, option #1, and we would be happy to help you.

### Rosary Christian Mothers

The Rosary Christian Mothers meet on the first Monday evening of each month. The next meeting will be **Monday, November 1**. We will begin with **All Saint's Day Mass at 7:30 PM in the Church** followed by **meeting at 8 PM in the Parish Center**.

### Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

**Join us ...**

**Wednesday, November 10 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.

### Jesus, King of All Nations Prayer Group

The Jesus, King of All Nations Prayer Group meets each **Thursday afternoon** in the **Church**. Please join us in praying for our nation's healing. We will pray before the Blessed Sacrament from **3 PM until 4 PM**.

### 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.

## Nocturnal Adoration

Nocturnal Adoration will follow the 5 PM Mass on **Saturday, November 6**, concluding with Benediction at 9:50 PM. Please come and pray with us. All are invited and welcome! Bring a friend.



## SAGE

The SAGE Group (Senior Advocates for Growth and Enrichment) will meet on **Tuesday, November 2**, in the **Parish Center at 9 AM**.

## Daytime Eucharistic Devotion

The afternoon adoration for the month of November will be on **Wednesday, November 10 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.



## Praise and Worship Adoration

Please come and join us on **Friday, November 12 at 7:30 PM in the Church** for Eucharistic Adoration. All are invited, *especially the youth of our parish*, to come and adore our Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

## Men's Prayer 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, November 18, 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.

## There's a new...Men's Group

A new *evening* men's prayer group! It will be held once a month, on the third Wednesday of each month from **7:30 PM until 8:30 PM in the Spiritual Life Center**.

The next meeting will be **Tuesday night, November 16**. Come with your ideas.

We'll read and discuss the Liturgy for the following Sunday Mass.

For more information, call Jack Fitzgerald at 587.5548 or Tim Keegan at 926.4900.



**OLL Pilgrimage to the Holy Land  
Walking in Jesus' Footsteps  
April 25 - May 4, 2011**

**Come and walk in the footsteps of Jesus along with our Pastor, Fr. Mike Vetrano.**

Consider being with family and friends on a trip of a lifetime!

Walk the streets of Jerusalem and be in the place of our Christian heritage. Come to Bethlehem, visit the Basilica of the Nativity. Be at the Baptism site of Jesus on the Jordan River, sail on the Sea of Galilee and walk in the Garden of Gethsemane. You will visit the room of the Last Supper, walk on the Via Dolorosa "The Way of the Cross", and drive through the wilderness of Judea and the mountains of Jerusalem. All this on your trip of a lifetime.

*For more information, our next meeting will be on*

**Monday, November 15, 7:30 in the Parish Center**

Please note: Deposits are due and will be taken at this time if you have not done so already.

*All Saints' Day*

Monday, November 1, is All Saint's Day. This year, it is not a holy day of obligation. However, we will have our daily 8 AM Mass and a Mass at 7:30 PM.

*All Souls Day*

Tuesday, November 2, is All Souls Day. We will celebrate our daily 8 AM Mass to commemorate the souls of all the faithful departed.



# Our Lady of Lourdes School Fundraiser

*Your support is always appreciated!*



**Fresh Wreaths**-balsam pine with beautiful evergreen accents  
 "Deluxe" -decorated in burgundy/gold, red/white/silver, and Christmas plaid bows and decorations  
 "Simple" -same color choices as "Deluxe", no decorations- pinecones and bow only  
**Poinsettias**-gorgeous Christmas favorites in red or cream an three sizes to choose from  
**Fresh Grave Blankets & Pillows**-evergreens, decorations, and red velvet bow

Order Deadline Wednesday, November 17

Family Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Contact number \_\_\_\_\_

Item	Size	Color	Quantity	\$ / Item	Total
Grave BLANKETS	-			\$45	
Grave PILLOWS	-			\$30	
Deluxe Fresh WREATHS (w/ Decorations)	10"	Burgundy/Gold		\$25	
		Red/White/Silver		\$25	
		Christmas Plaid		\$25	
Deluxe Fresh WREATHS (w/ Decorations)	12"	Burgundy/Gold		\$30	
		Red/White/Silver		\$30	
		Christmas Plaid		\$30	
Simple Fresh WREATHS (w/ Bow & Pinecones)	10"	Burgundy/Gold		\$20	
		Red/White/Silver		\$20	
		Christmas Plaid		\$20	
Simple Fresh WREATHS (w/ Bow & Pinecones)	12"	Burgundy/Gold		\$25	
		Red/White/Silver		\$25	
		Christmas Plaid		\$25	
POINSETTIAS	4.5"	Red		\$ 6 or 3/\$15	
		Cream		\$ 6 or 3/\$15	
	6"	Red		\$10 or 3/\$28	
		Cream		\$10 or 3/\$28	
	8"	Red		\$20 or 3/\$55	
		Cream		\$20 or 3/\$55	

SUBTOTAL	
Delivery (optional)	\$10
TOTAL	

(payment due at time of order-checks payable to OLL School)

Order pick-up will be Saturday, December 4. Time: TBA

If you have any questions, please contact Bronwen Sessa at [bsessa@ollschool.org](mailto:bsessa@ollschool.org).

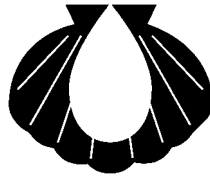
## Support Groups

### **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***

*Ella Marie Brueckmann*

Erich and Diane

*Angelo Michael Matkovic*

Michael and Melissa

*Leonard John Minervini*

Leonard and Debra

*Violet Reese Bivona*

Timothy and Christina

*Matthew Joseph Mannino*

John and Vincenza

*Jacob Christian Rivera*

Joel and Marilyn

*Giana Rose Gonzalez*

Kenneth and Danielle

## ***Welcome***

We would like to extend a warm welcome  
to all newly registered members of our  
parish family...

*Roy and Samantha Miller & family*

*James and Rebecca Salsano & family*

*Brian and Monica Bohnaker & family*

## ***Upcoming Marriages***

*Cari Woolford and*

*Edward Kelly IV, 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, November 1**

*All Saints*

**8:00 AM** Maggi Family members

**7:30 PM** Dec'd mbrs of Lettieri and Turano Families

**Tuesday, November 2**

*All Souls*

**8:00 AM** All Souls

**Wednesday, November 3**

*Saint Martin de Porres, religious*

**8:00 AM** Kay Sullo

**Thursday, November 4**

*Saint Charles Borromeo, bishop*

**8:00 AM** John Lodespoto

**Friday, November 5**

**8:00 AM** John Lovari

**Saturday, November 6**

**8:00 AM** Sr. Grace Smith, John T. Brien, Lance Paul Howard, Ann Donlon, Carmine Maiocco, Robert Racich, Mickey Minghello, Molly Olsen, Richard Whiting, Franz Mahler, Janice Coniglio

**5:00 PM** Tony Squeo

**Sunday, November 7**

**8:00 AM** Frank Monroe (*anniversary*)

**9:30 AM** Dolores O'Dea

**11:00 AM** Frank Masino

**12:30 PM** Joseph Aragona

**6:00 PM** People of the Parish, James Little, Carmella Giannak, Joseph Reale, Thomas Rush, Margaret Mackin, Peggy Smith, Charles Hess, Vera Catarella



## Rest In Peace

*Joseph Viverito* died on October 7 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was October 12. We extend our prayers to his wife, Sally, children, grandchildren, and entire family.

*Frank Raimo* died on October 19 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was October 23. We extend our prayers to his children, grandchildren, great-grandchild, and entire family.

*Douglas William Gerek, Sr.* died on October 21 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was October 23. We extend our prayers to his children, grandchildren, and entire family.

*Sheila R. Timmer* died on October 21 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was October 25. We extend our prayers to her children, grandchildren, and entire family.



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## 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is nearly the largest private foundation in the world. With an asset trust endowment of over \$34 billion, its reach through grants is truly worldwide. The Gates Foundation is able to provide funding at a level that exceeds the ability of many governments. Education and health initiatives have been the biggest beneficiaries of the foundation's grants. It is estimated that literally millions have benefited, especially children who have been immunized against childhood diseases and families that have been sustained by increased agricultural yields. Despite such stellar performance, there are those who have criticized the foundation or who have rebuked the source of its funding (Gates' profits from Microsoft) as monopolistic.“

Not everything is perfect in this world, as this week's Gospel reveals. Zacchaeus is a tax collector, a position in the ancient world reviled for its cooperation with an occupying army. Local tax collectors were often less than savory characters who would occasionally cheat to get ahead, or overcharge to make a little extra on the side. It could be a lucrative position-especially in Jericho, a sizable town-and from the Gospel, it seems that Zacchaeus was making the most of it. The opinion of the Pharisees that Zacchaeus was a sinner was probably the view that most citizens of the town had of him.“

After an encounter with Jesus, Zacchaeus had a change of heart. He was intent on doing good with what he had. Like most philanthropies, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is looking to do good with its assets, propelled by the intent of its founders. We don't need to have \$34 billion to help others. All we need is a conversion, a change of heart, to be ready to do good. Whatever small thing we can do each day to help someone puts us in the company of folks like Zacchaeus, open to the saving power of God. ©2010 Liturgical Publications Inc

### Readings for the Week of October 31, 2010

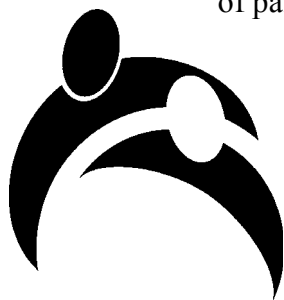
<b>Sunday:</b>	Wis 11:22-12:2/2 Thes 1:11-2:2/Lk 19:1-10
<b>Monday:</b>	Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Wis 3:1-9/Rom 5:5-11 or 6:3-9/Jn 6:37-40
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Phil 2:12-18/Lk 14:25-33
<b>Thursday:</b>	Phil 3:3-8a/Lk 15:1-10
<b>Friday:</b>	Phil 3:17-4:1/Lk 16:1-8
<b>Saturday:</b>	Phil 4:10-19/Lk 16:9-15
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14/2 Thes 2:16-3:5/Lk 20:27-38 or 20:27, 34-38

## Altar Society

Altar linens this week will be cared for by *Elizabeth Netska*.  
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, Bob Becker, James (Jay) Bowers, Viola Callanan, Josephine Carrano, James Casey, Grace Ciccarello, Beverly DeCanio, Mike DeJong, Jeanne DellaRagione, Tony Drexler, Vilma Diaztoral, Debbie Eichen, Mike Gaffney, Kathleen Kerrigan, Robyn Kerrigan, Charlie Macchio, Elizabeth Minicozzi, Michael Montesanto, John Mordente, Ruth Murray, Evelyn Nonnon, Karen Parpounas, Joe Radosti, Dorothy Schiavone, AnnMarie Schiraldi, Baby Isabella Shaw, Roy Sorrese, Lindsay Stahl, Linda Starr, Stephen Straub, Sr., Patrick Tardo, Nancy Turano, Al Van Pelt, Bunny Vilim, Irv Weiss, Joe Yezek, Peggy Yezek*

**Please note:** Any name that has been added to the "Pray for Our Sick" list prior to March 2010 has been removed. However, if the person continues to need our prayers, please call the Parish Office to have the name included. All names shall remain on the list for a "short term" of five weeks or "long term" for five months.

## Financial Summary

### October 24, 2010

Weekly Collection	\$ 15,167.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 19,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ (3,833.00)

*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*

**Joshua Tyrrell**-*US Army*

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



## **Pantry Needs**

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canned pasta, ravioli, etc.  
chili  
macaroni & cheese  
pasta  
tomato sauce

## **Donations to Outreach-September 2010**

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

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

## **Holy Name Society**

Last Sunday the Holy Name bulletin sketched the Canonization movement for Blessed John of Vercelli.

In moving the Cause for the Canonization of Blessed John our National Association has asked for the prayerful assistance of each and every member of our Holy Name Societies.

Paul Divito, Advocate for the Cause, said, “without miracles or favors the Cause for Blessed John is at a standstill”. He has asked to be advised by each Diocesan Union of all Masses, Novenas, Holy Hours, ejaculations, prayers, etc. that have been fulfilled for this Cause.

# On Litmus Tests for Christian Discipleship

by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

We live today with a lot of polarization, both inside of our churches and in society at large. There is something healthy in this, despite its bitter underside. Moral outrage and anger is in the end an indication of moral fervor. We still believe in things, in right and wrong. There's virtue in that.

But that being said, there is also something very unhealthy in our present situation, one within which sincere people can no longer have a civil and respectful conversation with each other over certain moral and religious issues because each side ultimately disrespects the other, convinced that the other has sold out on some issue that constitutes a litmus test for moral goodness. Inside the church and inside of our civic political processes, invariably, each side, liberal and conservative alike, has one issue that is its ultimate non-negotiable and which constitutes the litmus test by which to judge the moral and religious goodness of everyone else.

For some the single issue is a moral one (abortion, gay marriage, justice for a particular group), for others the single issue is an ecclesial practice (church attendance, membership in a particular denomination), and for others the single issue is dogmatic (women's ordination, the uncritical acceptance of scripture or of church authority, syncretism). But invariably one issue is singled out so as to become the basis for an ultimate discriminating judgment, a litmus test, as to whether someone else is worthy of religious and moral respect.

But is this legitimate? Can a single issue become a litmus test? What does Jesus say on this? What do the scriptures say on this? Can one single moral or religious issue be seen as constituting the very essence, the center, the non-negotiable heart of Christian discipleship?

In a sense, yes, though this must be carefully nuanced. As well, each New Testament writer formats this in a different way:

In the Gospel of Matthew the moral heart of discipleship is articulated by Jesus in what we call The Sermon on the Mount. At its center lies this challenge: Can you love an enemy? Can you truly forgive someone who has hurt you? Can you bless someone who has cursed you? Can you be good to those who have done you harm? Can you forgive a murderer?

This challenge is what sets Jesus' moral teaching apart from others and gives it its unique character - and its

real teeth. This is meant to be the distinguishing mark of a follower of Jesus: He or she can love and forgive an enemy. If the Gospel of Matthew, or perhaps the New Testament as a whole, gives us a litmus test for discipleship, this might be its one-line formulation: Can you love and forgive an enemy?

Luke's Gospel makes essentially the same point in a different language. There Jesus challenges us to be compassionate as our heavenly Father is compassionate and then goes on to define that compassion as a love, like that of the Father of the Prodigal Son and Older Brother, that lets its light shine on the bad as well as the good, that reaches out and loves irrespective of what is deserving and what isn't. The litmus test here might be worded: Love each other beyond differences and beyond what you think is deserving of love. Do not love just your own kind or someone who reciprocates. Embrace in love as widely as God embraces in love.

The Epistles of Paul capture this in the distinction Paul makes between what he calls life in the flesh as opposed to what he calls life in the Spirit. The former, life in the flesh, is characterized by "lewd conduct, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, hostilities, bickering, jealousy, outbursts of rage, selfish rivalries, dissensions, factionalism, envy, drunkenness, and orgies." When these exist in our lives, Paul cautions, we may not delude ourselves into thinking we are living inside of God's spirit.

Conversely, life in the Spirit, for Paul, is characterized by "charity, joy, peace, patience, goodness, long-suffering, endurance, mildness, kindness, generosity, faith, and chastity." It is only when we these qualities are manifest in our lives that we may understand ourselves as walking in true discipleship.

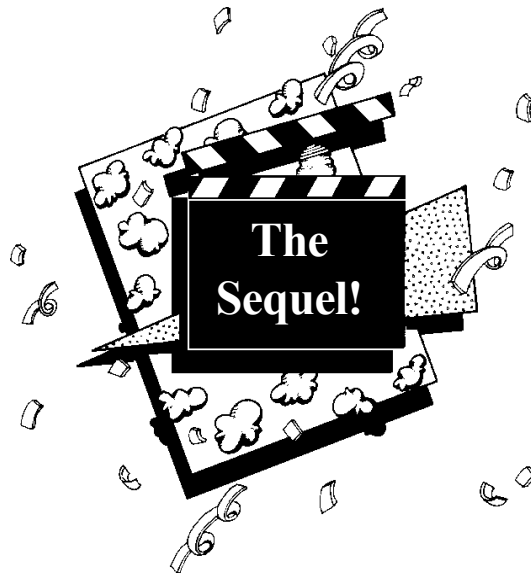
For Paul, the litmus test is not one, single moral issue but rather a whole way of living that radiates more charity than selfishness, more joy than bitterness, more peace than factionalism, more patience and respect than negative judgment and gossip, more empathy than anger, and more willingness to sweat the blood of sacrifice than to give into the temptations of the moment.

This is not to suggest that particular moral, dogmatic, and ecclesial issues are not important; some of them are a matter of life and death. But Christian discipleship is not just about our actions, it's also about our hearts. The essence of Christian discipleship lies in putting on the heart of Christ. Proper morality, defense of truth, and life-giving church practices follow from that - and, when rooted in that, they become respectful, forgiving, and loving.

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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).*





***Help John Sureau become a priest  
and be a movie star !***

**Thursday, November 11  
6 PM  
Church**

OK – we celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism, now...

***we're getting married!***

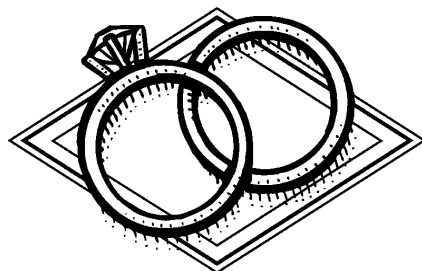
As part of my fourth year Theology classes at the Seminary, I now need to celebrate a “mock” Wedding and video it as part of my classes here at the Seminary!

Once again...  
**I NEED YOUR HELP!**

On Thursday, November 11, we will celebrate this “mock” Wedding at 6 PM in the Church. For this we need as many people as possible to “play a role” – we need a bride, groom, best man, maid of honor, ushers, wedding ministers, altar servers and again, most importantly, an active and lively assembly!

How great it would be if you can come and bring friends! E-mail me to [jsureau@optonline.net](mailto:jsureau@optonline.net) or call at 631.423.0483, x. 528.

It's a help to know if you're coming because there might be a small wedding reception afterwards!





## **Eleventh Annual Elizabeth Ann Seton Award Luncheon**

Please join the Sisters of Charity-Halifax for the 11th Annual Elizabeth Ann Seton Award Luncheon to be held at the Milleridge Inn on Sunday, November 7, from 1 Pm until 4 PM. Please join us in honoring this year's award recipients:

Sister Catherine Donelan, SC  
Msgr. Vincent Fullam  
Rosanne Holtzman  
Eileen Oliver

Our SAGE Sisters - Sister Betty and Sister Margaret, as well as Sister Barbara, our Sunday receptionist at the Parish Office, are all Sisters of Charity.  
For tickets at \$65, contact Lauren Manning: 718.424.1813 or [lmanning@schalifax.ca](mailto:lmanning@schalifax.ca).

## **Compassion: The Womb of God**

**Saturday, November 6 and Sunday, November 7**

**Saturday: 10 AM until 4 PM (registration begins at 9:30 AM)**

**Sunday: 1 PM until 5 PM**

**Presenters: Judy Osterburg, r.c. and Pat O'Connor, Cenacle Staff**

Through prayer services, presentations and time for reflection and sharing, we will focus on: The compassion of God in the Hebrew Scriptures, Jesus, the Compassion of God, and Living out the Compassion of God in our lives.  
Donation of \$75 for both days.

## **Standing at the Foot of Another Person's Cross**

**Saturday, November 20**

**10 AM - 3 PM**

When someone we care about is suffering or grieving, we can feel helpless and at a loss as to what to say or do. Come and learn some practical guidelines for being with someone who is suffering. Donation is \$50 for the day and includes a light lunch. A non-refundable deposit of \$15 is required to hold your reservation. For more information, please call us at 631.588.8366.

## **Christmas Craft Fair**

On **Sunday, November 7, St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School** will host its Annual Holiday Gift and Craft Fair from 10 AM until 4 PM. Join us for a fun-filled holiday shopping experience with over 100 gift and craft vendors! There is great food, raffle prizes and plenty of parking.

## **Chinese Auction**

*Sponsored by Our Lady of Grace Columbiettes*

**Saturday, November 13**

**12 PM - 4 PM**

**Father Shanahan Hall**

Our Lady of Grace, West Babylon

\$5 per person includes 25 free tickets. There will be raffles, refreshments, door prizes, 50/50.

For ticket information, call Pat at 631.888.7938 or Lorraine at 631.884.4219.

## **Indoor Christmas Craft Fair**

**Westminster United Presbyteriana Church**

**Udall Raod, West Islip**

**Saturday, December 4**

**9 AM - 4 PM**

Come One – Come All! Offering free gift-wrapping while supplies last! Vendors are wanted.

Donation fee: \$40 Please call as soon as possible to secure your table. Call the church office for more information: Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday from 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM at 631.661.6740

## An Evening of Jewish/Christian Dialogue

### *In Remembrance of Kristallnacht*

Tuesday, November 9 at 6 PM, McGann Conference Center, O'Connor Hall at St. Joseph's College, Patchogue. Registration fee, including dinner, \$10. *The Teller in the Tale: A Half-Jewish Child in Nazi Germany* by Elizabeth Heyn is the story of a half-Jewish child growing up in Nazi Germany. The story traces its way through her miraculous, narrow escape in 1941, just three weeks before German borders closed. For additional information, or if you have any questions, please call 631.687.5100.

## A Day of Remembering for 12 Step Persons

**Saturday, November 13**

**10 AM - 4:30 PM**

**Presenter: Bonnie Kelley, CSJ**

The day will include input, quiet time for reflection and sharing. Donation is \$50 for the day and includes light lunch. A deposit of \$15 non-refundable deposit is required. For more information, please call 631.588.8366.

## Dominican Village

**Please join us for an Open House on Saturday, November 13 from 1 PM until 3 PM.** Dominican Village is an independent retirement community that offers assisted living and respite care, outstanding programs, all-inclusive services and bountiful amenities. For more information, or to schedule a tour at your convenience, call 631.842.6091 or [info@dominicanvillage.org](mailto:info@dominicanvillage.org).

## Centering Prayer Meeting

**Fridays, November 5, 12, and 19**

**in the OLL "Spiritual Life Center."**

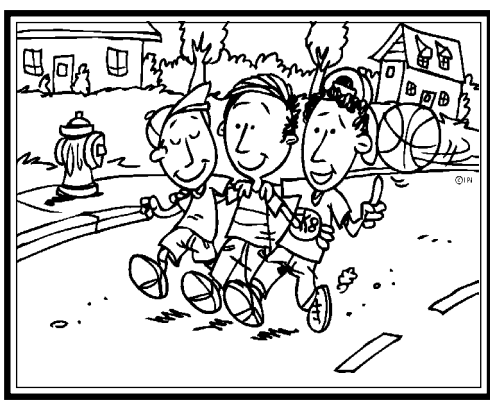
All are welcome to experience this prayer practice of "silence". For any further information, please call Diane at 587.0966.

## 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 "**The Saints 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 296 for the Best in Catholic Television!

# Sharing the Gospel

Zacchaeus had gotten very rich by taking money from his neighbors, so nobody liked him. He was very lonely and sad. When Jesus talked to him, Zacchaeus felt special. When Jesus ate dinner with Zacchaeus, Jesus showed that he was a real friend. When Zacchaeus felt God's love, he was truly happy for the first time. Jesus gave him what he really wanted - friendship - so he gave extra money back to his neighbors.



## Mission for the Week



Read today's Gospel with your family. Write down three things you can do each day to spend more time with Jesus as your friend.

### Puzzle

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

**I want to stay with you today.**

W	A	N	T						

©LPI

### Prayer



Dear God,  
help me to see that  
real happiness comes  
from loving Jesus, not  
money.

### Something to Draw



Draw a picture of  
Zacchaeus happily  
giving money back to  
his neighbors.