

shall be a guest

"Then the wolf



of the lamb,

Isaiah 11:6

**with a little child
to guide them."**



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

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

Diane Ackerly

Stacie Baltrusitis

Mary Borgs

Lisa Cantalino

Sonia DaSilva

Nilo DeLeon

Jerry Esposito

Trish Frodell

Rosalie Mangels

Maryellen McKee

Deacon Jack Meehan

John Muldoon

Bob Natale

Eileen Rega

Vita Scorcio

Fr. Mike Vetrano

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

fax: 661.7143

website: www.ollchurch.org

Our Lady of Lourdes School

587.7200 (option 2)

Monday-Friday: 9 AM - 3 PM

email: 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

Parish Outreach Office

661.9262 (option 4)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:

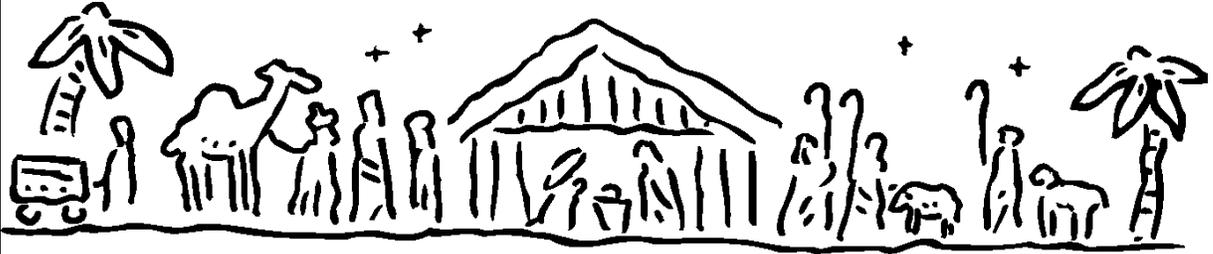
9:30 AM - 3 PM

S.A.G.E.

661.3224

(Senior Advocates for Growth
and Enrichment)

email: Sage@ollchurch.org



Our Lady of Lourdes Ninth Annual Family Christmas Pageant

*Wednesday, December 22
7 PM in the Church*

*What better way to prepare for Christmas
than to share the Christmas story with our children!*

*We invite our entire parish family to come and
share this special evening with us.*

We'd like to involve many members of our parish community,
especially all parish children!
It's easy...there are only two short practices and a dress rehearsal.

There's something for all ages:

Children

Pre-K through Grade 3

Grades 4 through 6

Grades 7 through 12

angels and shepherds

three kings, royal servants, and dancers

*We need lots of help—musicians, singers,
organizers and assistant directors!*

If you can help with our pageant, please email Jennifer Gallagher at
JenGallagher@ollchurch.org.

Adults

We need help with costumes and supervision of the “*angels and shepherds*.” If
you can help with any of these areas, please email JenGallagher@ollchurch.org.

Pageant Practices for All

Sunday, December 5

10:30 AM until 11:15PM in the Parish Center
(right after Family Mass)

Friday, December 10

7 PM until 7:45PM in the Church

Saturday, December 18

Dress Rehearsal at 11:30 AM in the Church

Our Lady of Lourdes School



Breakfast with Santa

Sunday, December 12

OLL School Cafeteria



Don't miss our delicious
Homemade Hot Pancake Breakfast
There will be crafts, prizes, a 50/50 and,
of course, Santa!

Buy your tickets early, seating is limited
\$5 per person - Children 3 and under - FREE
There will be two seatings:
8:30 AM - 10:30 AM and 11 AM - 1 PM
If you have any questions, call Charlene at 254.24998

Please cut out this order form, complete it in full and submit it to our School Office to the attention of: Breakfast With Santa Committee. Enclose form with your check made payable to: Our Lady of Lourdes School. Families will receive a call for ticket pick up.

Family Name: _____

Phone number: _____ email _____

of people in attendance: adults _____ children _____ # of Kids 3 & under: _____

Which seating will you be attending?: 8:30 AM _____ or 11 AM _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____



Breakfast with Santa

St. Nick Celebration

Children's Liturgy of the Word Committee will be hosting a St. Nick Celebration on **Monday, December 6 at 6:30 PM in the Church.**

Come, bring your child to learn about the life of St. Nick, sip some hot chocolate and get a special surprise from a very special guest.



Children's Liturgy of the Word

CLTW Team

Are you a teacher? A catechist? Do you like kids or volunteering for your church?

Come and join our wonderful team for Children's Liturgy of the Word at our 9:30 AM Sunday Mass. We need adults who are passionate about teaching children what it means to be a Christian.

Contact Allegra@ollchurch.org with any questions or to sign up.

Youth Group Meeting Schedule

Fall 2010

Middle School

December 9 and 16

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

Follow the CLTW Angel throughout Advent!

The Advent Angel will be teaching our children the true meaning of Christmas during Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 9:30 AM Mass, all through the Advent season.

On Sunday, November 21, our CLTW participants made an Advent Angel to take home, who would be with them through the Christmas count down. Each week in Children's Liturgy, the Advent Angel will teach a new lesson about preparing for the birth of Christ, which every family can follow on the parish website. Just go to www.ollchurch.org to read our lessons and ask the questions that help us to understand this blessed holiday.

Don't worry! If you did not get to make an Advent Angel on the November 21, we have many angels waiting for a friend. Just find a member of CLTW at the 9:30 AM Mass and you may take an Advent Angel home to make and love with your family.





Lessons & CAROLS



The Festival of Lessons and Carols is a service of Scripture and song that dates to the late 19th century. In this service, we listen to readings (lessons) which preach the Good News. Each reading is followed by a carol or other song that reflects on the message of God.

Our Lady of Lourdes Lessons & Carols will be

Saturday, **D**ecember 11

7 **P**M

Church

Presented by the OLL Lectors and Choirs.

Refreshments will follow.



R.C.I.A. – The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The Family Grows

Last Sunday, those at the 11 AM Mass, participated in the Rite of Acceptance with our candidates and catechumen of the R.C.I.A. - The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. They are gathering every Sunday for 11AM Mass and will be “dismissed” after the Homily to pray and share on the Sunday readings. Every Thursday they will meet for catechesis and reflection. Please pray for them, by name, as they continue on this journey of new life and hope!

Our “Catechumen”(to be fully initiated into the Church) is:

Erin Meier

and “Candidates” (those to receive Eucharist and/or Confirmation) are :

Justin Grover and Jeremy Robertson

Serving the Body of Christ...

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

We congratulate and welcome our parish’s newest Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion—*Greg Baltrusitis, Carole Civile, Timothy Keegan, Gary Levitt, Thomas LiVecchi, and Pat Raimondi*. Each one has been commissioned to serve as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion in our parish! Pray for them as they begin this important ministry in the life OLL!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

Join us ...

Wednesday, December 15 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.

Prayer for Divine Mercy

An invitation to all men and women to be part of God's plan.

We invite you to meet in prayer for the world and our nation to put their trust in God.

Our hope is that the nations will have a new spirit of morality. Please come with your love and hope for humanity as well as your prayer requests.

We gather together every **Thursday at 1:30 PM before the Blessed Sacrament** for about one half hour. For more information, please call Charles Argento at 586.8528.



Daytime Eucharistic Devotion

The afternoon adoration for the month of December will be on **Wednesday, December 8 from 1- 3 PM**. All are invited and welcome!

Men's Prayer Group-AM

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, December 16, 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.

Men's Prayer Group-PM

A new *evening* men's prayer group! It will be held once a month, on the third Tuesday of each month from **7:30 PM until 8:30 PM in the Spiritual Life Center**. The next meeting will be **Tuesday night, December 21**. Come with your ideas. We'll read and discuss the Liturgy for the following Sunday Mass. For more information, call Bob Natale at 893.3041, Charles Zeiss at 669.7189 or Cliff Proctor at 669.3198.

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.

Thank you

The Ministry of Consolation would like to say "Thank You" to the catechists and their students for your "hospitality" service for our annual Mass of Remembrance.

Mission Trip to El Salvador 2011!

This year, our parish will be sponsoring its annual trip to El Salvador from July 2 - July 8, 2011. Those who are interested in joining our team are invited to attend our next meeting which will take place on **December 12 in the Parish Center at 7 PM**. Those who have participated in previous trips are invited to attend as well and will be a source of information for trip hopefuls. Please email Allegra@ollchurch.org with questions.

Bereavement Ministry

Coping With the Holidays

"How Can I Celebrate When My Heart Is Broken?"

All who have experienced a loss are invited to a Presentation and Brunch to help in facing and embracing the holidays while mourning. Please join us on **Saturday, December 11 at 11:30 AM in the Spiritual Life Center**. To register please call the Parish Office at 661.3224.

Mass for Bereaved Parents

Saturday, December 18

OLL Church-- 10:30AM

The holidays are often times of great celebration. But, for many, particularly those who have lost a child, the holidays are painfully hard. They are a reminder of our losses and a reminder of how our lives are perhaps a little less full. Whether you have lost a child in childhood or adulthood, to stillbirth or miscarriage, this Mass will be celebrated to bring you God's peace and consolation.

We invite all who have lost a child to come and gather together for this special Mass on **Saturday, December 18 at 10:30 AM**. Mass will be followed by refreshments. Please feel free to invite family and friends.

For more information, or to let us know you will be able to attend, please call the Parish Office at 661.3224, extension 121. Let's pray that through prayer and coming together, the challenges of the holidays can become a little lighter and that we may be strengthened by God's love and presence.



Holy Name Society

The Holy Name Society meets on the second Sunday of each month.

The next meeting will be on **Sunday, December 12**. 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**.

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.)

Welcome

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

Joel Alabre, Marilyn Rivera and family

John and Tara Trotter

Dawn Lutrario

Timothy and Christine Sokol and family

...we are truly blessed by your presence among us!

Upcoming Marriages

Lisa Wagner and

Steven Durante, 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.

Baptisms

Delaney Isabelle Crowe

Nicholas and Lorrie

Josephine Ana Belasic

Kristian and Lynda

William Joseph James

William and Luisa

Michael Shawn Larick

Keith and Jennifer

Sean Ryan Larick

Keith and Jennifer

Jack Riley Larick

Keith and Jennifer

Gabriella Helen Liriano

Peter and Helen

Rest In Peace

Josephine Carrano died on November 21
and celebration of the Mass of Christian
Burial was November 23. We extend our
prayers to her children, grandchildren, great-
grandchildren, and entire family.

Richard Petrucci died on November 26 and
celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial
was November 29. We extend our prayers
to his children, grandchildren, and entire
family.

Edward McLoughlin died on November 17
and the celebration of the Mass of Christian
Burial was held in Brooklyn. We extend our
prayers to his brother, Tom, his children,
grandchildren and entire family.

Remembering...

Monday, December 6

Saint Nicholas, bishop

8:00 AM David Michael Calogero

Tuesday, December 7

Saint Ambrose, bishop and doctor of the Church

8:00 AM Lydia Ann Olsen

5:00 PM Lodespoto Family
(vigil)

Wednesday, December 8

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 AM Herbert G. Olsen

7:30 PM Laura & Charles Abela

Thursday, December 9

8:00 AM Pearl Harbor

Friday, December 10

8:00 AM Dick Ryan

Saturday, December 11

8:00 AM Angelito Cruz, Vincent & David McCarthy, Larry Kengott,
Theresa Scerbo, Dorothy Langlan, Rev. Christopher Griffin,
In honor of the Sacred Heart for the Holy Souls in Purgatory

5:00 PM Gene Langan
Fr. Mike Vetrano

Sunday, December 12

8:00 AM Heim & Jensen Family
Fr. Bob Scheckenback

9:30 AM Alberta Hawkins-Firth
Fr. Mike Vetrano

11:00 AM Patricia & Joseph Santangelo
Fr. Mike Vetrano

12:30 PM Frederick Ansman
Fr. Bob Scheckenback

6:00 PM People of the Parish, Sheila Timmer, John Stump, Robert Smith,
Dorothy Langlan, Kenneth E. Sattler, Josephine Carrano, William Douglas
Fr. Bob Scheckenback



Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Wednesday, December 8

(holy day of obligation)

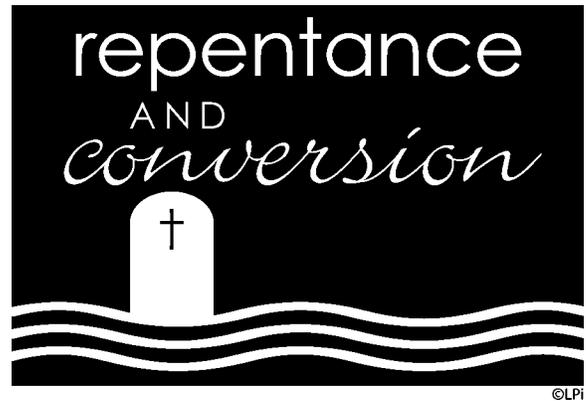
Mass Schedule:

Tuesday, December 7

Mass 5 PM (vigil)

Tuesday, December 8

Mass at 8 AM and 7:30 PM



2nd Sunday of Advent

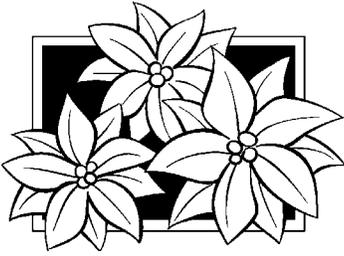
Has anyone ever called you out? When I lived in the central city of a large metropolitan area, calling someone out in the neighborhood was a commonplace occurrence. Large porches and the lack of air-conditioning meant that folks would often spend summer afternoons and evenings sitting out front. Children would play together, while young teens would ride their bikes up and down the street. Block activities meant that everyone knew one another, and if anyone saw something happening in the alley behind the houses, it was certain that someone's momma would be told about it. On a warm summer night, even though you were ten houses away from your own home, you could be sure that if you were doing something wrong, whoever was sitting up on the porch would call you out right then and there.

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist had no hesitation about calling out the Pharisees and the Sadducees. From his perspective, they were coming out to take part in a ritual cleansing—an important rite of Judaism in the time of Jesus—without having the proper disposition of repentance and conversion. John's warning to them does not make for comfortable reading, even today.

As we go about all the hustle and bustle of preparation for Christmas, we might lose sight of the fact that Advent is also a time of preparation for our final end. Just like teens don't like being called out when they're doing something wrong, we don't like to think that much about the end of our lives. And it's even harder to do so in this busy season. But Advent celebrates Christ's coming: his coming in time at Bethlehem; his coming to each individual Christian in the fullness of one's life; and his coming at the end of time. Maybe take a little time this week to reflect on your readiness for Christ, so that you're not called out at the end. ©2010 Liturgical Publications Inc

Readings for the Week of December 5, 2010

Sunday:	Is 11:1-10/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12
Monday:	Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday:	Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Thursday:	Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15
Friday:	Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19
Saturday:	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13 <i>or</i> OL Guadalupe: Zec 2:14-17 <i>or</i> Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Lk 1:26-38 <i>or</i> 1:39-47
Next Sunday:	Is 35:1-6a, 10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11



Christmas Flower Offerings

Christmas Flower offerings received by **Sunday, December 12** will be published in the Christmas bulletin.

Offerings received after that date, will be published in subsequent bulletins.

Altar Society

Altar linens this week will be cared for by *Marie Cirone*.

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, Viola Callanan, Grace Ciccarello, Beverly DeCanio, Mike DeJong, Jeanne DellaRagione, Tony DeVivo, Tony Drexler, Debbie Eichen, Jake Feldman, Patricia Ferrara, Leif Gunderson, Bill Howe, Berdine Ivory, Kathleen Kerrigan, Robyn Kerrigan, Ann Losee, Rachel Mackey, Louise Malcuit, John McNevin, Vincent Meade, Ann Mongeau, 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, Dotty Valerga, Al Van Pelt, Bunny Vilim, Joe Yezek

Please note: All names shall remain on the list for a “short term” of five weeks or “long term” for five months.

Financial Summary

November 21, 2010

Weekly Collection	\$ 18140.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 19,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ (860.00)

November 28, 2010

Weekly Collection	\$ 18,243.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 19,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ (757.00)

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*

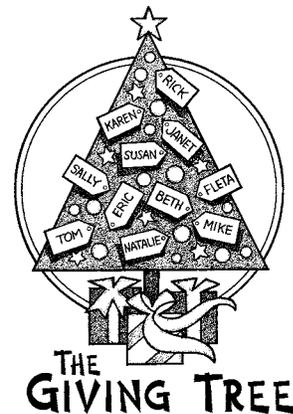
...and remember those of our parish family that are in the armed services, listed in our Parish Book of Intentions.

News From Outreach

In anticipation of the great event: Christmas!

The Giving Tree will be decorated and filled with tags beginning the first Sunday of Advent, November 28. Once again, PODS will be donating a POD for storage of the gifts you donate.

Each Sunday of Advent, starting December 5, volunteers will be sorting your gifts. If you are interested in becoming an 'elf' -we will meet in the APR at 1 PM and are usually finished by 2:30 PM. We are very organized and work in teams of two-so bring a friend, dust off your elf hat and join us! Another way to 'give' during this Advent season.



-Mary McMahon
Director of Parish Outreach

November Donations to Outreach

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

- The MacGregors have made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of their son, *Alexander MacGregor, III.*
- Pam Gagliano has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Nina Pierz.*
- Susan Castonguay has made a Thanksgiving Donation in loving memory of *Jerry Castonguay.*
- Margaret Cook has made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of *Arthur Cook.*
- Phyliss Diesso has made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of *Charles Diesso.*
- Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Franzone have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Sally Dolan and Angelina Barone.*
- Rose Small has made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of her husband *William Small.*
- Joe and Barbara Catuosco have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Antonino Giammona.*
- Jack, Celeste, John and Lily Meehan have made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of *Marianne Lofaso.*
- Rose and Brian Contelmo have made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of *Nick Ballestrino.*
- Clifford Proctor has made a donation to Outreach in honor of *Gene Beteille.*
- Catherine Goldstein has made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of *Alfred Raciti.*
- Dom and Mary Anne Lettieri have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Josephine Carrano.*
- Frances Hodgkins has made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of her husband, *John.*
- Mr. and Mrs. Richard Shaddock have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Charlie Macchio.*
- Marie and Gerry Fogarty have made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of *Alanka Minkler and Josephine Carrano.*

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.

Prayer with an Infallible Guarantee

by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

There are several places in the gospels where Jesus assures us that if we ask for something in his name we are guaranteed to receive it.

In Matthew's gospel, for example, he says: Ask and you shall receive, because everyone who asks receives. In John's gospel he promises us that if you ask anything in my name, the Father will grant it.

Why doesn't this always work? Sometimes we pray for something, pray for it in Jesus' name, and our request isn't granted. Sometimes we literally storm heaven with our prayers and heaven seems shut against them. Did Jesus make an idle promise when he assured us that God would give us anything we ask for, if we ask in his name?

Spiritual writers and apologists have offered a number of answers to this question: Maybe our prayer wasn't answered because we asked for the wrong thing. A loving mother wouldn't give her unknowing child a knife to play with, would she? Or perhaps our prayer was answered, but at a deeper level and only in time will we understand that answer. C.S. Lewis once quipped that we will spend most of eternity thanking God for those prayers of ours that he didn't answer!

There's merit in all these answers, though they are not the answers that Jesus used. Indeed, when he promised us that our prayers would be answered, he didn't add that it is on the condition that we ask for the right thing. He invited us to ask for anything in his name. He didn't specify that it be the right thing. So why aren't our prayers always answered?

Jerome Murphy-O'Connor, a renowned scripture scholar, suggests that in Matthew's gospel, as well as in much of the rest of the New Testament, prayer of petition is linked to concrete charitable action within the community. Hence to pray truly for someone involves also reaching out concretely to help that person. To pray truly for justice and peace involves working actively for justice and peace. When we pray "through Christ" we pray not just through the resurrected Christ in heaven but also through the "body of Christ" on earth, ourselves. We need to be involved in helping answer our own prayers. Thus when our prayer doesn't seem to be answered it might mean that we, Christ's body on earth, have not

been enough involved in trying to answer our own prayer, that we haven't in fact prayed "through Christ".

Karl Rahner, in commenting on Jesus' promise in John's gospel that anything we ask for in his name will be given us, offers us this reflection:

To ask for something in Jesus' name does not mean that we invoke him verbally and then desire whatever our turbulent, divided heart or our appetite, our wretched mania for everything and anything, happens to hanker for. No, asking in Jesus' name means entering into him, living by him, being one with him in love and faith. If he is in us by faith, in love, in grace, in his Spirit, then our petition arises from the centre of our being, which is himself, and if all our petition and desire is gathered up and fused in him and his Spirit, then the Father hears us. Then our petition becomes simple and straightforward, harmonious, sober, and unpretentious. Then what St. Paul says in the letter to the Romans applies to us: We do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us, praying the one prayer, "Abba! Father!" He longs for that from which the Spirit and Jesus himself have proceeded: he longs for God, he asks God for God, on our behalf he asks of God. Everything is included and contained in this prayer. [If we pray in this way] we shall see that God really answers our prayer, in one way or another. Then we shall no longer feel this "one way or the other" is a feeble excuse offered by the pious, and the Gospel, for unanswered prayer. No. Our prayer is answered, but precisely because it is prayer in Jesus' name; and what we ultimately pray for is for the Lord to grow in our lives, to fill our existence with himself, to triumph, to gather into one our scattered life, the thousand and one desires of which we are made. ... To pray in Jesus' name is to have one's prayer answered, to receive God and God's blessing, and then, even amid tears, even in pain, even in indigence, even when it seems that one has still not been heard, the heart rests in God, and that-while we are still here on pilgrimage, far from the Lord-is perfect joy.

Until we have prayed like this, Jesus can truthfully say to us: "Up to now, you have not asked for anything in my name. You may have tried to, you may have meant to, but you have not yet made me the strength and burden of your prayer."

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.

Renewing Our Spiritual Home



A Stewardship Parish

My parish is composed of people like me.
 I help make it what it is.
 It will be friendly, if I am.
 It will be holy, if I am.
 Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them.
 It will do great work, if I work.
 It will be prayerful, if I pray.
 It will make generous gifts to many causes
 if I am a generous giver.
 It will bring others into its worship,
 if I invite and bring them.
 It will be a parish of loyalty and love,
 of fearlessness and faith,
 of compassion, charity and mercy,
 if I, who make it what it is,
 am filled with these same things.
 Therefore, with the help of God,
 I now dedicate myself to the task
 of being all the things
 That I want my parish to be. Amen.

adapted from the stewardship prayer of the Diocese of San Francisco

Do you see the need for these projects?

Here is a list of projects which need to be done...

- Church lighting and electrical
- Narthex entrance
- Church pews, kneelers, chairs, and doors
- Parking lot refurbishment
- Parish Center air conditioner unit
- Parish Center repair and remodel

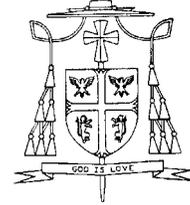
Would you/could you help support these projects?

Is there something we missed?

*Please be sure to fill out a questionnaire.
 Your feedback is important-we want to hear what you think...*

November 8, 2010

Rev. Michael Vetrano
Church of Our Lady of Lourdes
455 Hunter Avenue
W. Islip, NY 11795



Dear Mike,

Just a word of thanks for your kind welcome and hospitality on the occasion of my visit to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation at Our Lady of Lourdes. Despite the inclement weather, the ceremonies went well and had a prayerful atmosphere. All are to be commended for the careful way in which the young people were prepared for the reception of the sacrament.

Please express my thanks, especially, to your DRE, Sr. Nancy Campkin, to coordinator, Sr. Diane Liona and their catechists as well as to the Principal, Louise Krol, and her teachers. Robin Reynolds-Brennan and her musicians did fine. The servers and Deacons were most helpful.

It was good to spend time with staff after the ceremonies. The gathering certainly was bolstered by the wonderful food served.

May I also thank you for the very generous parish gift. It is gratefully received and appreciated. I am pleased to see the progress since your operation. I certainly hope the therapy and rehab go smoothly and quickly. Keep up your good work as pastor, Mike. You are doing a great job. If ever I can be of assistance, please let me know.

With every best wish, I am,

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John C. Dunne'.

Most Reverend John C. Dunne, D.D.
Episcopal Vicar

Christmas Concert

On Friday, December 10 and Friday, December 17 at 8 PM, St. Patrick's Church, Bay Shore will be hosting their 24th Annual Christmas Concert. Featured artists will be internationally famous tenor, Karl Scully, Eily Patterson and her Celtic Harpists, and the Hibernian Festival singers under the direction of Christopher Bilella. Admission is \$35. For further information, please call 631.665.4911, extension 0.

Merry Christmas New York

Father Charles and Laurie Mangano, along with the Love Movement Choir from Trinidad and Tobago present a Christmas Concert, "Merry Christmas New York" on **Saturday, December 11 at 2 PM at Alice Tully Hall Starr Theater at Lincoln Center**. Tickets are \$50 and \$75 per person, with group rates available. For ticket information, email to www.lincolncenter.org.

International Christmas

Saturday, December 11 and

Sunday, December 12

11 AM - 3:30 PM

Sagtikos Manor

Celebrate an International Christmas at the Sagtikos Manor. Join us for a guided tour, where each decorated room interprets the traditions and customs of different countries. Afterwards stop by our holiday themed gift shop and greenery table (hand-made wreaths, etc.) and enjoy some holiday refreshments. Tours leave on the quarter hour. Reservations are highly recommended. For more information call: 631.661.5169 or 631.249.8023 for reservations or download a reservation form from their website www.sagtikosmanor.com. Ticket prices are \$5 for children ages 5 - 12, \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors over 60 and students if tickets are purchased before December 4. Tickets are \$20 at the door.

Annual Holiday Visit to Calverton National Cemetery

On Thursday, December 16, and arriving at Calverton at 10:30 AM. This is a free trip sponsored by your local Dignity Memorial Funeral Home.

Bus pick-ups and location are as follows:

- 9 AM** *D'Andrea Funeral Home, Copiague, 691.5700*
- 9:15 AM** *Claude R. Boyd-Spencer Funeral Home, Babylon, 669.2400*
- 9:30 AM** *Claude R. Boyd-Caratozzolo Funeral Home, Deer Park, 667.8614*

Seating is limited. Parking will be available at the funeral homes. Please plan to arrive at the funeral home at least 10 minutes prior to departure. Last day for reservations is Friday, December 10. Coffee, cookies and cold drinks will be served, along with a pizza lunch on the return trip.

Thirty-eighth Annual Spaghetti Dinner

Boy Scout Troop 194

Sunday, December 5 at the Babylon High School cafeteria from 2 PM until 6:30 PM.

Dinner includes spaghetti, meatballs, bread/butter, salad, beverage and dessert. The cost is \$5 per person, children under five years of age are free. Tickets will be available at the door. All proceeds support the activities of the troop.

Long Island Catholic Sunday

Just a reminder that the collection for The Long Island Catholic is to be taken up this weekend, December 4/5. As our parishes all face increasing financial challenges, we need to ask ALL our readers to contribute to the TLIC Sunday collection, to relieve our parish of that expense.

The \$20 annual donation amounts to less than 45 cents per issue, for what we hope you agree is an essential part of our faith life here in the Church of Long Island.

The Long Island Catholic is a vital tool for teaching and evangelizing the faith, important to have in your home and in the homes of Catholics throughout our diocese. And we implore you to help us keep that happening, by making your \$20 donation when you attend Mass this weekend.

Dominican Village

Please join us for an Open House on Thursday, December 16 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.

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 "**Being Prepared.**" 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 TELECare, Cablevision 29 or Verizon FIOS 296 for the Best in Catholic Television!

Sharing the Gospel

John the Baptist taught people to get ready for Jesus. He told them to change their lives. John helped many people wash away all their mistakes and bad choices. He washed away "all their cheating, lying, fighting, and stealing. Once they were clean, John wanted them to see that living God's way is so much better. John told the people not only to clean their bodies, but to show that they love God by the way that they live.



Mission for the Week

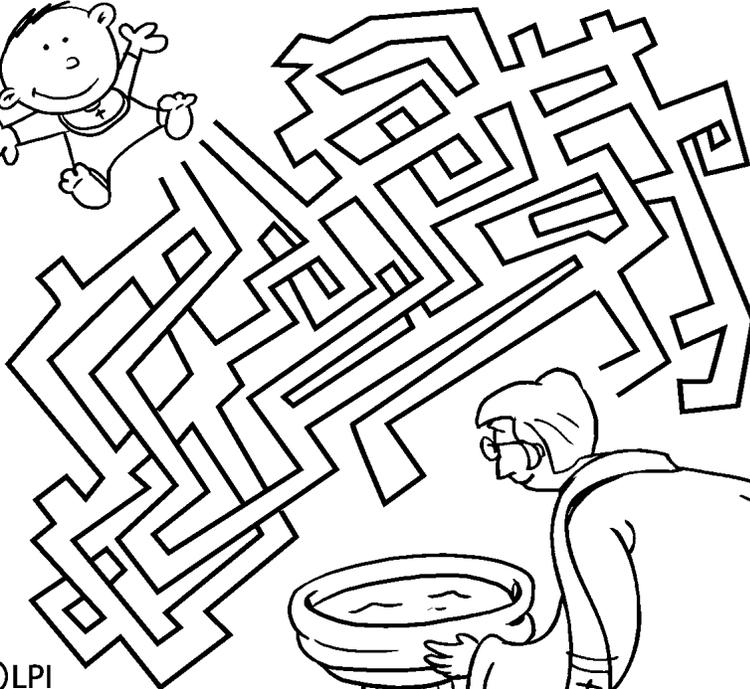
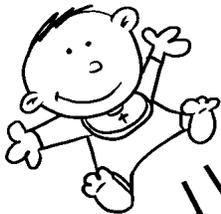


Write a prayer to God, asking him to help you stop doing those things, and start being honest, giving and kind.



Puzzle

Help the baby find his way to the priest for his baptism.



© LPI

Prayer



Dear God,
 help my words
 and my choices to
 show that I love you.

Something to Draw



Draw a picture of
 John washing you in
 the Jordan River.