

“Everyone who listens to these words

of mine and acts on them



Matthew 7:24

will be like a wise man who built his

house on rock.”

**March 6, 2011 - Our Lady of Lourdes
Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



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

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-Catho-
lics and for Catholics who have
never received formal religious
education. If interested, please call
the Parish Office.

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.

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 Scorgia

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 Scorgia

Fr. Mike Vetrano

Parish Staff

Jennifer Gallagher

Women's Chorale Director

Mary Anne Lettieri

Parish Office

Debbie Meyer

Bulletin Editor/Parish Office

Rosemary Multer

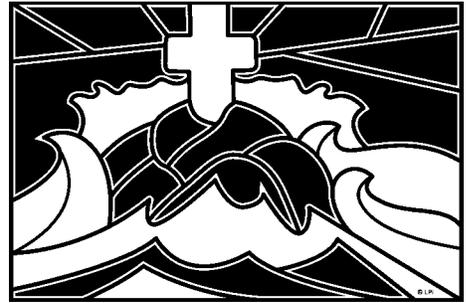
School Office

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@ollschool.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

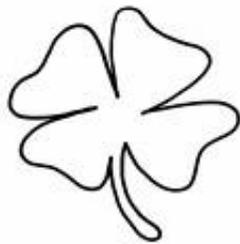
S.A.G.E.

661.3224

(Senior Advocates for Growth
and Enrichment)

email: Sage@ollchurch.org

Our Lady of Lourdes 3rd Annual St. Patrick's/St. Joseph's Day Celebration



Saturday, March 19
7:30 PM - 11:30 PM
in the All-Purpose Room



The evening will include music, dancing,
Italian and Irish buffet,
beer, wine and soda
-all for only \$35 per person.



To reserve tickets, please call
Parish Outreach at 661.9262, option 4.
Space is limited, so get your tickets early!

The event is hosted by the combined efforts of
Our Lady of Lourdes Holy Name Society,
Rosary Christian Mothers and Parish Outreach.
Proceeds will benefit OLL Parish Outreach.



Walking with the Word

**Our parish Lenten Retreat will be given on
Monday, March 14 through Thursday, March 17
by Dominican preachers
Fr. Ron Henerey and Fr. Bob Vaughan.**

The vision of this parish retreat is that of awakening faith and trust in God's prodigal care for human beings. The parish community is the place where people experience the visible signs of God's graciousness through Word and Sacrament.

Monday, March 14

8:00 AM	Morning Eucharist	How Christians See Reality
7:30 PM	Vespers Prayer Service	People of the Book: Entering into the Story

Tuesday, March 15

8:00 AM	Morning Eucharist	Encountering God in Unexpected Places: Twelve Step Spirituality
7:30 PM	Vespers Prayer Service <i>(a penance service)</i>	God's Forgiveness: Closing the Gates on the Past

Wednesday, March 16

8:00 AM	Morning Eucharist	Prayer: Being Attentive to God
7:30 PM	Evening Prayer Service	Everything Belongs: Living in the Great Compassion

Thursday, March 17

8:00 AM	Morning Eucharist	Eye-Opening Experiences
7:30 PM	Evening Prayer Service <i>(a healing service)</i>	If I Could Only Touch His Garment: God's Healing Love

The parish retreat is scripturally oriented, bringing the Word of God into perspective with people's lived experience. The preaching is practical and contemporary, with the use of poignant examples, humor and inspiration to call forth a response of faith and trust in the God who has promised to be with us always.



LENT 2011

Burning of the Palms

We are actively preparing for the season of Lent at OLL and we need your help!

Ash Wednesday, March 9, begins the Lenten season and the signing of ashes is a powerful reminder to us of this time of reflection, reconciliation and renewal.

The ashes come from burned palm – preferably the palm distributed last Palm Sunday.

Please bring back any palm you have at home and place it in the baskets at the doors of the Church. *This palm will be burned during the weekend of March 5/6.*

The purpose of this action is twofold. First, it actively involves each of us in the celebration of Ash Wednesday and Lent. Second, it demonstrates the continuous work of our liturgical cycle/year. By connecting last Palm Sunday with this year's Ash Wednesday, we are reminded of the dying and rising of Christ – the Paschal Mystery - which the liturgy invites us to experience.

OLL 27th Annual Golf Classic

Are you tired of all the snow, ice and unbearable cold weather?

Then why not think of warmer climate, good company and a day of golf.

This year's outing will be held on **Monday, July 18, 2011 at the Southward Ho Country Club.**

Who is our honoree?

Let me give you a few hints... He is an amateur photographer, who likes to hike in the mountains. He has graced the hallowed grounds of Our Lady of Lourdes for close to eleven years. He himself is an avid golfer. He is considered by many to be the number one fan of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. Do you think you know who it is? Well mark your calendars for July 18th, and look for further information (including our honoree) in upcoming bulletins.

It's Time for (practice)Mass

Friday, March 11

5:30 PM



Help John Sureau become a priest and be a movie star – PART III.

OK – we celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism, we've celebrated the Sacrament of Matrimony – NOW it's time for the Mass!

As I finish up my fourth year Theology classes at the Seminary, I now need to celebrate a “mock” Mass and video it as part of my classes here at the Seminary! Once again....

I NEED YOUR HELP!

On Friday, March 11, we will celebrate this “mock” Mass at 5:30 PM in the Church. For this we need as many people as possible to “play a role” – we need servers, sacristans, ushers, music ministers, extraordinary ministers, lectors, greeters – and, 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 or call at 631.423.0483, x. 528. It's a help to know if you're coming because there might be a small “happy” hour after our “holy” hour!

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, March 21, 7:30 in the Parish Center

Directed Prayer Retreat Week

Sunday, March 20 thru Saturday, March 26

Looking for something to do for yourself during Lent?

RIGHT HERE...in our own parish surroundings....Vita Scorcia and her team from St Ignatius Retreat House offers the opportunity to experience a Directed Prayer Retreat to the people of Our Lady of Lourdes..RIGHT NOW....as we live out our daily lives.

*What's God like for you? What's praying like for you?
Perhaps taking a week to focus more intently on noticing
God's loving presence in and around you might be just
the way for you...*

What's involved?

- a commitment to spend a half hour a day in prayer – at home, on the train, wherever...
- a commitment to meet at the parish for approximately a half hour; with a spiritual director...your companion on the journey - an openness to God's love. After an initial small group gathering on **Sunday, March 20**, each retreatant will meet with his/her director at the Parish for approximately a half hour each day, Monday through Friday, at a mutually convenient time.

Are there any special requirements?

- No, this experience is helpful for all – experienced pray-ers, beginners, and all who might be somewhere in-between. **However, the number of participants is limited! Deadline Tues.. Mar. 15.** Brochures/applications available at the RelEd/Parish Office. For more info call Vita Scorcia/RelEd Office at 661.5440 or religiouslyed@ollchurch.org.

Sometimes it's nice to be able to "get away" and focus on God. Sometimes it's not possible to get away, but it is still very possible to focus on God, for God is with us everywhere, all the time. A directed prayer retreat week can help us to notice God's presence right in the midst of our everyday lives and noticing leads to response. Prepare! Our God is a God of faithfulness and of surprise!

Centering Prayer Group

OLL Centering Prayer Group will be meeting in the **Spiritual Life Center** on **Thursday, March 24 at 7:30 PM**. If you have any questions, please contact Diane at 587.0966.

Men's Prayer Group-Morning

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, March 17, 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-Evening

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, March 8**. 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.

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, call Charles Argento at 586.8528.



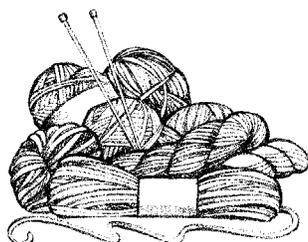
Daytime Eucharistic Devotion

The afternoon adoration for the month of March will be on **Wednesday, March 9 from 1- 3 PM**.

All are invited and welcome!

Holy Name Society

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



Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

Join us ...

Wednesday, March 16 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.

Bereavement Ministry

Bereavement Support Group

You are invited to join our next Bereavement support group. This is a wonderful opportunity to be supported in a small discussion group with people who have also suffered a loss. We are a general group for all losses. The group will meet on Wednesday for 6 weeks starting **March 23, from 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM in the Spiritual Life Center**. To register and for more information please contact Diane Ackerly at 631.226.9373 or email dkkkk710@hotmail.com.

Coffee and Conversation

You are invited to join us on **Tuesday March 8, for dinner at Lily Flanagan's**. We will be meeting at 6:30 PM. Please contact Diane Ackerly for information at 631.226.9373.



Rosary Christian Mothers

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

Serving the Body of Christ-

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

What does it take to be an Extraordinary Minister?

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

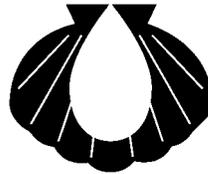
If you have other questions or are interested in becoming an Extraordinary Minister, please contact Mrs. Mary J. Borgs of our Parish Liturgy Committee at 665.2928 or you can email to FrPat@ollchurch.org.

Please respond by March 14 to be registered in the upcoming Spring Diocesan Training Session.

Baptisms

Tori Ann Cohen

Jason and Andrea



Welcome

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

Rose Rienza

Michael Perone

Rita Willoughby

Evelyn Trimboli

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



Rest In Peace

Alfred DeSimone died on February 16 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was February 21. We extend our prayers to his wife, Margaret, children, grandchildren, and entire family.

Dorcas DaVila died on February 17 and Prayer Service was February 19. We extend our prayers to children, grandchildren, great-grandchild, and entire family.

Christopher P. Flynn died on February 18 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was February 18. We extend our prayers to his parents and entire family.

Jerome Marino, Jr. died on February 22 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was February 26. We extend our prayers to his wife, Barbara, children, grandchildren, and entire family.

Gertrude Parine died on February 24 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was February 28 at St. Martin of Tours, Bethpage. We extend our prayers to her daughter, Deborah Meyer, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and entire family.

Remembering...

Monday, March 7

Saint Perpetua and Saint Felicity

8:00 AM Nancy Esposito

Tuesday, March 8

Saint John of God, religious

8:00 AM Carmela & Vincent Stumpo

Wednesday, March 9

Ash Wednesday

8:00 AM John Celiberti

8:00 PM Molly Sweeney

Thursday, March 10

8:00 AM Nancy Bencivinni

Friday, March 11

8:00 AM LaRocca & Sweeney Family

Saturday, March 12

8:00 AM Lance Paul Howard, Vita J. Kelly,
Lawrence F. Kelly, Robert J. Kelly,
Jimmy Calabrese, Carol A. Ferrigno

5:00 PM Hank Gau

Mission Priest

Sunday, March 13

8:00 AM Brennan Family

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

9:30 AM Grace Cavalluzzo

Fr. Mike Vetrano

11:00 AM Steven Perone

Mission Priest

12:30 PM Donale & Patrick Manning and Grandparents

Fr. Ambrose Cabildo

6:00 PM People of the Parish, Tony Squeo, Stephen Straub,
Deborah Belezos-Johnson, Vincent Siani, Helen Luckey,
Gerard Simons, William Crosby, Pat Hein

Fr. Pat Amabile



Distribution of Ashes

On Ash Wednesday, March 9,
we celebrate the distribution of
blessed ashes every hour on the hour
from 7 AM until 9 PM.

Mass, with distribution of ashes, is
celebrated at 8 AM and 8 PM.

Pastoral Visit



The students, faculty and staff at Our Lady of Lourdes welcomed Bishop Dunne for a week long visit! Bishop Dunne in conjunction with Father Mike conducted the School Mass on February 9. At the end of the Mass students were able to ask Bishop Dunne a lot of exciting questions about his life and his choice to become a bishop! Bishop Dunne also met with the faculty, parents, and school board members to discuss the exciting opportunities that Our Lady of Lourdes offers the students and the community. Our congregation was also blessed with the Bishop's visit on Sunday Mass! It was a very remarkable week for our school and church. A big thank you to Bishop Dunne for visiting!

Foreign Language is Colorful!

Every Wednesday and Friday the nursery school children at Our Lady of Lourdes are learning Italian! Ms. Verni, the Italian teacher, practices the colors (*I colori*) with the shapes. The children are building vocabulary and pronunciation with color coordinated visual images.



To the Heart Through the Stomach Mangia! Mangia!

Recently, the students of Our Lady of Lourdes, *Daniel Antonawich and Brooke Wainwright*, had the pleasure of sharing a kitchen with Telecare's very own celebrity chef Msgr. Jim Vlaun.

With "DO NOW's" student film and production crew on hand, students prepared a shortbread cookie cake with a pink butter-cream frosting in the spirit of St. Valentine's Day... not to mention the fresh chocolate covered strawberries that didn't stand a chance!

Topping the meal off with some wonderful stories, family recipes and laughs, students are hungry to see what's next to come out of Our Lady of Lourdes' kitchen.

OLL Week-at-a-Glance

Week of	Church	Parish Center	Spiritual Life Center
Monday March 7	8 AM Mass after 8 AM Mass Miraculous Medal Novena		8 PM Alcoholics Anonymous LH 8 PM RCM meeting SLC
Tuesday March 8	8 AM Mass		7 PM Men's Prayer Group 8 PM Alcoholics Anonymous LH
Wednesday March 9 Ash Wednesday	8 AM Mass		10 AM AIAnon LH
Thursday March 10	8 AM Mass 1:30 PM Prayer for Divine Mercy 5 PM Youth Choir 7 PM Adult Choir		7:30 PM Evangelization Ministry meeting SLC
Friday March 11	8 AM Mass 7 PM Stations of the Cross		
Saturday March 12	8 AM Mass 4-4:45 PM Confessions 5 PM Mass Mission Priest		2 PM Alcoholics Anonymous LH 2 PM Campaign 2011 SLC 7 PM Alcoholics Anonymous LH
Sunday March 13	8 AM Mass 9:30 AM Mass-CLTW 11 AM Mass, 12:30 PM Mass 6 PM Mass Contemporary		11 AM RCIA

STRONG foundation

©LPI

9th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The downturn in the housing market has taken its toll on plenty of people. From real estate agents to developers, from mortgage bankers to members of the construction trades, the lack of home building has severely curtailed economic activity in all of these employment sectors. The questionable practices of bundling, repackaging, and trading mortgage assets by various financial institutions as well as outright fraud on the part of some buyers and sellers led to a banking crisis that threatened to swamp the financial industry and destroy it much like the house that was built on sand that is described in today's Gospel. Many smaller banks and credit unions, which continued to own the mortgages they wrote, found themselves in the enviable position of having solid assets. They were never in any danger of failing despite the buffets of the economic storm.

For the most part, the financial institutions that avoided trouble during the crisis lived by strong values that had been inculcated into the fiber of their existence. The boards of directors of these institutions were not going to go out on a limb and try to find quick, easy money. They may not have been glamorous investments, but their worth was proven over time. These are the banks and credit unions that more easily survived.

Holding on to solid values in life can help individuals survive as well. In the Gospel, Jesus talks about those who hear his words and then put them into practice. Taking the values that Jesus teaches and making them a part of everyday life ensures our connection to him. When we think or act with the values of Jesus in the forefront of our minds we build a firm foundation as a structure for our lives. Forgiveness, love, a strong faith, compassion toward others, patience, a desire for justice, mercy, and a spirit of prayer are strong foundation blocks for a holy life.

©2011 Liturgical Publications Inc

Readings for the Week of March 6, 2011

Sunday:	Dt 11:18, 26-28, 32/Rom 3:21-25, 28/Mt 7:21-27
Monday:	Tb 1:3; 2:1b-8/Mk 12:1-12
Tuesday:	Tb 2:9-14/Mk 12:13-17
Wednesday:	Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20---6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:	Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25
Friday:	Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14-15
Saturday:	Is 58:9b-14/Lk 5:27-32
Next Sunday:	Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

Altar Society

Altar linens this week will be cared for by *Carol Grillo*.
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 ...

Giovanni Andriola, Susan Aviza, Antoinette Baier, Deacon Dick Barry, Viola Callanan, Edith Caputo, Nicole Cerny, Grace Ciccarello, Katherine Colleran, Edward Cronin, Beverly DeCanio, Antonio DeLeon, Jeanne DellaRagione, Tony Drexler, Debbie Eichen, Jerry Fabozzi, Jake Feldman, Patricia Ferrara, Mike Gaffney, Winifred Hanrahan, Kathleen Kerrigan, Marty Kerrigan, Robyn Kerrigan, Frank Larkin, Eric Lee, Ann Losee, Louise Malcuit, John McNevin, Vincent Meade, Jerry Mirabella, Frances Miranda, Julio Miranda, John Mordente, Ruth Murray, Evelyn Nonnon, Philomena Owens, Karen Parpounas, Dorothy Proctor, Joe Radosti, Mary Rizzo, Dennis Ryan, Dorothy Schiavone, AnnMarie Schiraldi, Baby Isabella Shaw, Derek Stahl, Lindsay Stahl, Patrick Tardo, Paul Trupia, Nancy Turano, Joe Yezek

Financial Summary

February 27, 2011

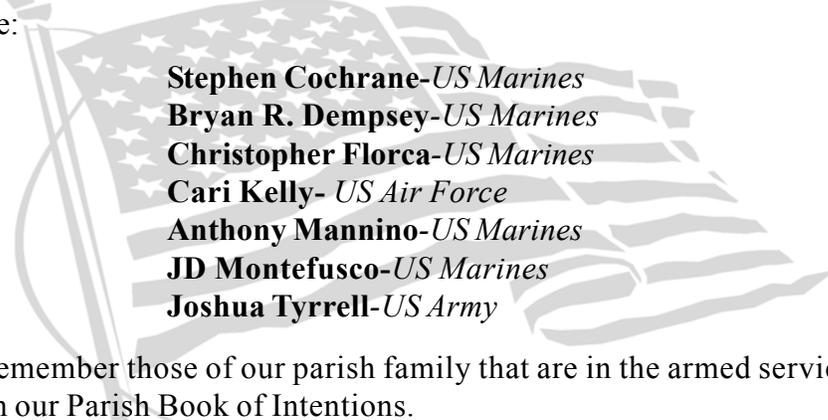
Weekly Collection	\$ 19,171.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 19,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ 171.00

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:



Stephen Cochran-*US Marines*
Bryan R. Dempsey-*US Marines*
Christopher Florca-*US Marines*
Cari Kelly- *US Air Force*
Anthony Mannino-*US Marines*
JD Montefusco-*US Marines*
Joshua Tyrrell-*US Army*

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

Valentine's Day Dance

The Rosary Christian Mothers would like to thank all those who helped to make our Valentine's Day Dance a success!

To the members, who not only attended the dance, but also contributed the wine for our 20 bottle basket, THANKS!

Sister Nancy and her wonderful group of boys and girls who helped set up and decorate the All Purpose Room and turned into our Romantic, Candle Lit Hall, THANK YOU ALL!

West Islip Wine & Liquor for the generous donation of Wines and The BRIGHTWATERS BEER DISTRIBUTORS for their donation of discounted beer. THANK YOU!

We're getting closer to the realization of our Grotto-

Outreach Donations

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.

Clothing Drive

Boy Scout, Peter Calves will be holding a **Clothing Drive this weekend, March 6.** Peter is working towards his Eagle Badge. He will be collecting new and gently used adult clothing. Please bring any items you might have to the bins that will be located in the Narthex. Thank you for your support.

Never too early to prepare for Spring!

Victorian Tea

Sunday, May 22

“The English Parlour Room”

Do polish your silver and air your linens. There will be no excuse deemed acceptable for those attending in less than their finest of Victorian fashion and lace. (Advance tickets are not yet on sale-but do mark your calendars as we have no tolerance for weeping if your request for tickets is denied!)



“Reach Out” Program

“Some people live their entire lifetime and wonder if they have ever made a difference in the world...”

Ronald Reagan

Please contact the Outreach office if someone you love is serving on active duty overseas. Outreach will be starting a “Reach Out” Program offering support to men and women on active duty in any branch of the Military.

On Being One with the Saints in Praising God

by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

We are all familiar with a refrain that echoes through many of our Christian prayers and songs, an antiphon of hope addressed to God: *Grant that we may be one with all the saints in singing your praises!*

But we have an over-pious notion of what that would look like. We picture ourselves, one day, in heaven, in a choir with Mary, Jesus' mother, with the great biblical figures of old, with the apostles and all the saints, singing praises to God, all the while feeling lucky to be there, given our moral and spiritual inferiority to these great spiritual figures. We picture ourselves spending eternity feeling grateful for having made a team whose talent level should have excluded us.

But that is a fantasy, pure and simple, mostly simple. What would it mean to be among the saints singing God's praises?

We are one with the saints in singing God's praises when we are one with them in the way we live our lives; when, like them, our lives are transparent, honest, grounded in personal integrity, with no skeletons in our closet. Being one with the saints in singing God's praises is less about singing songs in our churches than it is about living honest lives outside of them.

We are one with the saints in singing God's praises when we radiate God's wide compassion; when we, like God, let our love embrace beyond race, creed, gender, religion, ideology, and differences of every kind. We are one with the saints in praising God when our heart, like God's heart, is a house with many rooms. Being one with the saints in singing God's praises means being compassionate as God is compassionate, it means letting our sun shine on the bad as well as the good and letting our empathy embrace too those whose ideas oppose us.

We are one with the saints in singing God's praises when we tend to 'widows, orphans, and strangers', when we reach out to those most vulnerable, when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, visit the sick and imprisoned, when we work for justice. Being one with the saints in singing God's praises means reversing nature's proclivity for the survival of the fittest and working instead to enable the opposite, the survival of the weakest.

We are one with the saints in singing God's praises when we work for peace, when in both our personal lives and our politics we strive to radiate God's non-violence,

when we refuse the temptation to try to end a cruel violence by a morally superior one.

We are one with the saints in singing God's praises whenever we forgive each other, particularly when that forgiveness meets a bitterness that does not seem worthy of the gift. We are one with the saints in singing God's praises when we absorb hatred, anger, violence, and murder itself and, like Jesus, not give back in kind, when we forgive our enemies.

We are one with the saints in singing God's praises when, like them, we give away our time, talents, and our very lives in self-sacrifice without counting the cost, when we live altruistically, accepting that our own personal fulfillment is not the first aim of our lives.

We are one with the saints in singing God's praises when we live in a healthy self-effacement, when we dethrone ourselves as the center of the universe, when we take the lower place without resentment, when the conversation need no longer be about us.

We are one with the saints in singing God's praises when we are one with them in prayer, when, like them, we regularly lift our eyes upward beyond the horizon of the present world to ground ourselves in a reality beyond this world.

We are one with the saints in singing God's praises when we live in patience and endurance, when we accept without bitterness that all symphonies must remain unfinished and that we must live in inconsummation, when we live among the frustrations of this life without murmuring so that life can unfold in God's good time.

We are one with the saints in singing God's praises when we live in hope, when we ground our vision and our energies in the promise of God and in the power that God revealed in the resurrection of Jesus. We are one with the saints in singing God's praises when, like Julian of Norwich, we live in the belief that, irrespective of any present darkness, the ending of our story is already written, that in the end all will be well and every manner of being will be well.

We are one with the saints in singing God's praises when, rather than living inside of envy, resentment, bitterness, vengeance, impatience, anger, factionalism, idolatry, and sexual impatience, we live instead inside charity, joy, peace, patience, goodness, long-suffering, fidelity, mildness, and chastity.

We are one with the saints in singing God's praises only when we live our lives as they lived theirs.

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.

Good Samaritan Hospital Needs You!

Good Samaritan invites Eucharistic Ministers to bring Communion to patients in our hospital. The days of greatest need are Wednesdays and Sundays. The gift of your presence once a week or once a month would mean a great deal to our Catholic patients. If interested, please call 631.376.4103.

Since You Went Away

“A Gentle Touch for a Soldier’s Mom”

Anthony Kearns will sing for the newly formed benevolent organization-Since You Went Away” begun by eight young ladies whose goal is to reach out to the mothers of our troops. Make your plans to join a world famous Irish Tenor to celebrate St. Patrick’s Day weekend, and celebrate the mothers of our troops. Friday, March 18 at 7 PM, St. Joseph’s College, Patchogue. Ticket prices are \$30 - \$40. Please visit www.sinceyouwentaway.org to reserve your tickets or call 800.595.4TIX.

New Translation

A new translation of the prayers we use at Mass will begin on the First Sunday of Advent 2011. This new translation is for English speaking countries and you can preview the new prayers by visiting the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

www.usccb.org/romanmissal

You will be receiving more information about this in The Long Island Catholic, our diocesan website, and on our parish website. Stay tuned.

Volunteers needed for Annual HEC #27 Weekend

Handicapped Encounter Christ (HEC) is in need of volunteers for its annual retreat which will be held **Thursday, April 28 through Sunday, May 1 at Camp Alvernia in Centerport, NY.** HEC is a retreat weekend for persons 18 years and older with special needs. Each candidate has a team member with them throughout the weekend. It is a prayerful experience of song, talks, sharing, Eucharist and many other joyful moments.

There are many roles to be filled. We are in need of team members, kitchen help, setting up and taking down the camp, as well as drivers or our candidates.

If interested, or you have any questions, please call Deacon Frank & Michele Barone at 516.420.1207 or email at Mrbarone@verizon.net.

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.

Golden Wedding Anniversary

On Sunday, April 3, 2011, couples married 50 years or more are invited to a special Mass to be celebrated by Bishop William Murphy at **St. Lawrence the Martyr in Sayville at 2:30 PM.** Please pick up your registration card at the Parish Office, fill it out and return it to the Parish Office *no later than March 17.* Approximately one week before the ceremony, information regarding the day will be mailed to you. If you have any questions, you may call 516.678.5800, extension 583.

Writings of St. Paul

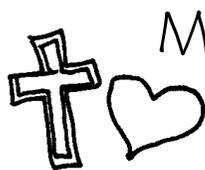
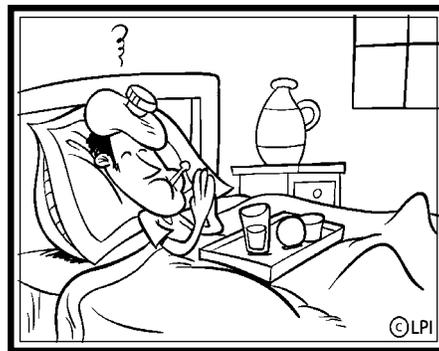
This four week course develops four themes Fr. James McNamara identified while on sabbatical, studying the writings of St. Paul. -Paul's Personal Journey - Justification through Faith -Eschatology (The end times and eternal Life) -Church. Each evening will consist of a presentation followed by a question and answer segment. The course will be held, **Tuesdays, March 29, April 5, 12 and 19 at St. Joseph's Church, Babylon from 8 PM until 9:30 PM.** The course is offered free of charge, but you must RSVP to reserve your seat. Please contact Jane at 669.0068, extension 159 or email stewardship@stjosephsbabylon.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 "**Sacrifice.**" 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 Channel 29/137 or Verizon FIOS 296 for the Best in Catholic Television!

Sharing the Gospel

Because God loves you, you can trust him. A wise man builds his house on a rock. When it storms, the house still stands. God is your rock. When you choose to follow God, he will hold you steady. When you get hurt, God's love will comfort you. When you get sick, God's love will be strong for you. When you are sad, you can look forward to heaven.



Mission for the Week

Read "The Three Little Pigs" by Jean Claverie. Following God is wise, like building a house with strong bricks.



Puzzle

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

LORD
FATHER
HEAVEN

DEMONS
WISE
HOUSE

ROCK
FOOLISH
SAND

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

©LPI

Prayer



God,
thanks for being so
loving and strong.

Something to Draw



Draw a picture of
a house built on a
rock.