

**"LORD, WHEN DID WE SEE YOU  
HUNGRY OR THIRSTY OR A  
STRANGER OR  
NAKED OR  
ILL OR  
IN PRISON?"**



**MATTHEW 25:44**

**OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING  
OUR LADY OF LOURDES-NOVEMBER 20, 2011**



*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.*

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.

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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

**Rev. Michael Holzmann**  
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

**Louise Jane Krol**

School Principal

**Sr. Diane Liona**

Director of Religious Education

**Mary McMahon**

Director of Parish Social Ministry

**Robin Reynolds-Brennan**

Coordinator of Worship

OLL Choir Director

**Vita Scorcia**

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 Scorcia

Fr. Mike Vetrano

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## *Parish Staff*

**AnnMarie Buonaspina**

Director of Youth Choirs

**Michael Buonaspina**

Parish Organist

**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-Thursday: 9 AM - 7:30 PM

Friday: 9AM - 5 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@ollschool.org](mailto: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](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, ext. 122

(Senior Advocates for Growth  
and Enrichment)

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

# An Advent Festival of Faith



**Well-Known Musician and Composer**

**Dan Schutte**

**is coming to OLL!**

Our Lady of Lourdes is happy to host an evening of music and prayer with Dan Schutte, one of the renowned “St. Louis Jesuits” and composer of liturgical favorites such as *Here I Am*, *Lord*, *Table of Plenty* and many others.

*People who have attended Dan’s concerts have often commented that it seems more like an evening of music, prayer and spirituality than a concert. Dan introduces each song with stories about their creation and with moving reflections about our common journey of faith.*

These events are a wonderful way of bringing community together to be spiritually renewed around the singing of Dan’s inspiring music.

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**Concert and Evening of Prayer**

**Friday, December 2**

**7:30 PM in the Church**

**Tickets: \$10 adults, \$5 children and young adults**

**Tickets available at the Parish Office**

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**Workshop for all OLL Liturgical Ministers**

**Thursday, December 1 at 7:30 PM in the Church**

**Tickets: free to all OLL Liturgical Ministers**

# Ordination to the Priesthood



**Saturday, December 3**  
**St. Agnes Cathedral**  
**11 AM**

Bishop William Murphy will ordain John Sureau to the priesthood at St. Agnes Cathedral. You are welcome. In fact, you are more than welcome! It would be a true sign of our gratitude to God if the Parish Family of Our Lady of Lourdes would FILL the cathedral of St. Agnes.

Please join the Parish Family of Our Lady of Lourdes in prayer and joyful celebration as Father John Sureau offers a Mass of Thanksgiving

**Sunday, December 4**  
**OLL Church**  
**12:30 PM**

Please join us to celebrate this wonderful event! The Mass will be followed by a reception in our cafeteria and the opportunity to receive John's first blessing as a priest. All are welcome to join in this celebration!

# Our Lady of Lourdes School



## Breakfast with Santa

Sunday, December 11

OLL School Cafeteria



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

Buy your tickets early, seating is limited  
\$7 per person - Children 3 and under - FREE

There will be three seatings:

8 AM- :45 AM and 10:15 AM-11:45 AM and 12:15 PM-2 PM

If you have any questions, call April at 917.449.5015

Breakfast with Santa

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 AM \_\_\_\_\_ 10:15 AM \_\_\_\_\_ 12:15 PM \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_





*Join us on Thanksgiving Day at 9:30 AM  
to celebrate the 55th Anniversary  
of the first Mass offered in OLL.  
Come join with your brothers and sisters  
to give thanks for all God's many gifts.*

*Please remember all those assisted by our  
Parish Outreach by bringing canned goods  
or other non-perishable food for the food pantry.*

*You are also welcome to bring food  
for your Thanksgiving table to be  
blessed and we will give each family  
in attendance a gift of blessed bread  
for your family celebration.*





*Welcoming the*  
**ROMAN MISSAL** THIRD EDITION  
*Deepen. Nurture. Celebrate*

## **Scriptural Reflections on the New Roman Missal** *by Msgr. Chris Heller*

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### **Our Lord Jesus Christ the King** **Nov 20 - Matthew 25:31-46**

11. God has guided us through another liturgical year to this wonderful feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King. Jesus the Christ, God's Chosen Messenger, has spoken to us week after week at Mass. At times His message was consoling: when Jesus embraced us as our Good Shepherd, He reminded us of God's permanent claim on each of us as a chosen and precious people. At other times the words of Jesus have challenged us: when He told us that we are to forgive one another seventy times seven times, Jesus identified a virtue that is central to our Catholic Christian identity, and that our vocation is to **choose** to deepen our loving devotion to God and one another.

Starting next weekend, we will begin to use the new translation of the Mass that we love so much. At the end of each Mass, the deacon or priest will as usual send forth **all of us**, to do the works of charity that Jesus will name in today's gospel. Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI conducted a survey among the bishops of the world regarding these statements that "send us forth," and we will hear one of **four possible phrases**. One is: "go forth: the Mass is ended." A second is "Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord." The third phrase is "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life." And the final statement is simply "Go in peace."

However, to whatever statement the deacon or priest makes, the congregation's final response at each Mass remains the same: "Thanks be to God." As we embark on this new voyage of prayer and reflection, we ask God to deepen our gratitude by learning from and listening to one another, even as we celebrate together the Eucharist that will shape us for years to come. Blessed be God, who gives us new life and new hope in Christ Jesus our Savior.

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*Fr. Chris can be seen delivering these reflections on the program The Word on Telecare. The episodes will run until November 14. The schedule is as follows: Wednesdays at 7 PM, Thursdays at 9:15 AM, 1 PM, and 7:15 PM, Saturdays at 9 AM, 12:45 PM, 7 PM, and Sundays at 10:45 AM.*



## Ministry of Consolation

During the month of November, we remember all of the faithful departed - especially those from our Parish Family. As you leave Mass today, be sure to stop by the bulletin board in the Narthex and see the names of our friends and loved ones who have left us during this past year. Let us continue to pray for them, and their families, now and always!

## Advent Alive



Come join us at Children's Liturgy of the Word at 9:30 AM Sunday Mass. All children ages 4 yrs to 4th grade (or shorter than Fr. Bob) will follow the living scriptures on OLL's channel WGOD in the Parish Center.

A character from the readings of the day will light our Advent Wreath at the beginning of Mass and then will be interviewed during the Children's Liturgy of the Word in the Parish Center. The four week season of Advent, beginning November 27, will help the children and their families "prepare" for the true meaning of the Christmas Celebration

## "I was sick and you visited me"

On **Monday evening, November 28 at 6PM**, there will be a training program at Good Samaritan Hospital for those who would like to visit OLL hospitalized parishioners. This is a wonderful and very fulfilling ministry. We encourage you to consider this work which provides a very fine link between parish and parishioners in the hospital. If you have additional questions about our OLL hospital visiting program, please contact Sister Betty or Sister Margaret at the SAGE Ministry office, 661.3224, extension122 or [sage@ollchurch.org](mailto:sage@ollchurch.org). Thank you for considering this great ministry opportunity

## Saint Nicholas Day

St. Nicholas was called "the secret gift-giver." The night of his Feast he would fill the children's shoes with sweets and goodies. All the children of the parish are invited to come to the Church on December 6 at 7 PM to celebrate St. Nicholas.

Wear your pajamas and make sure you have shoes or slippers for St. Nick to fill. Bring your favorite Christmas cookie.

Come and see St. Nicholas and learn about Christmas traditions from around the world. Don't forget - Tuesday, December 6 at 7 PM in the Church





## Bee a Believer!

Our first graders began their Religious Education Program with an exciting session. They came to Church with their family and heard the story of Jesus in the Temple and learned that, they too, would be coming to learn about God. Trish Frodell took them to the parish center where they learned that the activity of bees reminds us of all the things we have to do to come to know Jesus better: *bees know where they are going*; they have a *great sense of direction*; and they have *to work together*. When they came back to church, their parents blessed them as they began this special venture – and the children blessed their parents, thanking them for nurturing their faith. It was a wonderful beginning!



## PEP 2 News

Our second graders are in the midst of preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Their lessons are filled with opportunities to think about their loving choices and their unloving choices. Zaccheus is becoming a well-known character from the Bible, showing them that when *we* meet *Jesus*, we want to be better people!

## PEP 4 News

Our fourth graders are continuing to learn to enlarge their hearts with God's love. Their recent lesson challenged them to be a witness for God's Kingdom by getting involved in some activities outside their own circle. They will be having a special guest speaker, who will invite them to share something in a very unique way. More to come....



## Family Liturgy and Children's Liturgy of the Word

### *We need your help -*

At the 9:30 AM Family Liturgy each Sunday, we invite all of the children in attendance to be dismissed for their own Liturgy of the Word. There is a committee of parishioners that take responsibility for the planning, and for the Scriptural presentation itself.

Of course, everyone is invited to be on the committee or to be a Scripture leader, but what we really need is: People to help escort the children to the Parish Center and to stay in the Parish Center while the Scripture Leaders offer the presentation. You would only be scheduled about once a month, maybe every six weeks. You would escort and help with the children. Please consider this an easy way to contribute to our Family Liturgy; the entire committee would be extremely grateful!

## Operation Gratitude

### *Attention all knitters and crocheters!*

The Prayer Shawl Ministry of OLL has been busy making 'Scarves for Our Troops'. We will be sending them to Operation Gratitude in early December. All of these handmade items are created with love, and prayers are said over them for the safety and well-being of all who will wear them.

If you would like to add to our collection, please make these scarves **according to instructions only from Operation Gratitude**. You may use your own patterns and yarn, but only certain sizes and colors are permitted. For exact instructions visit:

[www.operationgratitude.com/2010/08/05/scarf-hat-cool-tie-project-details-materials-size-patterns/](http://www.operationgratitude.com/2010/08/05/scarf-hat-cool-tie-project-details-materials-size-patterns/) Please call Vita Scorcia at 669.4717 for more information.

There will be a collection box in the Narthex for the scarves. Also, if you would like to donate a dollar or two for shipping costs, please leave it at the Parish Office, c/o Vita Scorcia. Any amount donated over what is needed to ship the scarves will be donated to Operation Gratitude for their own shipping costs. Thank you!

## Rosary Christian Mothers

### Holiday Raffle

This weekend, **November 19/20**, the Rosary Christian Mothers will be selling raffle tickets **after all Masses (except 6PM)** in the back of the **All-Purpose Room**. The winning numbers will be called after the 12:30 PM Mass.

Through your generous support of the fund-raisers held by the Rosary Christian Mothers, we are planning to erect a grotto in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes.

We thank you in advance for your generous support in helping to make our project a success!

### Support Groups

**Alcoholics Anonymous:** Monday and Tuesday at 8 PM and Saturday at 2 PM and 7 PM in Lourdes Hall-convent lower level.

**ALANON:** Each Wednesday at 10 AM in Lourdes Hall-convent lower level.  
(Free babysitting available)

## 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.



## *Rest In Peace*

*Gertrude Regina Johnson* died on November 10 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was November 14. We extend our prayers to her husband, Joseph, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and entire family.



## *Upcoming Marriages*

*Brittany O'Hara, and  
Anthony Notaroberta, both OLL*

## *Welcome*

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

*Sandra Antenussi  
Terrance and Patricia Lane & family  
Edward and Susan German & family  
Matthew and Carrie Mulé & family  
Frank and Sofia Cetero & family*

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

### **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 21

*The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

8:00 AM Andy Duong

### Tuesday, November 22

*Saint Cecilia, virgin and martyr*

8:00 AM Joan O'Brien

### Wednesday, November 23

*Saint Columban, abbot*

8:00 AM James & Charlotte Quinn

### Thursday, November 24

*Saint Andrew D'ing-Lac and companions, martyrs*

8:00 AM Dec'd mbrs of Turano & Lettieri Family

### Friday, November 25

*Saint Catherine of Alexandria, virgin and martyr*

8:00 AM Patricia Wallace

### Saturday, November 26

8:00 AM Cornelius J. Peterson, Rosemaria Russo,  
William Suchan, Michael Verriotta,  
Walter Jacoby, Camille Kovalski

5:00 PM George Shaddock

*Fr. Bob Scheckenbeck*

### Sunday, November 27

8:00 AM Josephine Carrano

*Fr. Mike Vetrano*

9:30 AM Antonino Giammona

*Fr. Bob Scheckenbeck*

11:00 AM Tony Squeo

*Fr. Patsy Amabile*

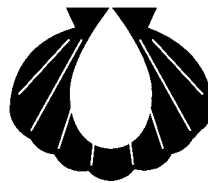
12:30 PM Sonny Viverito

*Fr. Bob Scheckenbeck*

6:00 PM

People of the Parish, Salvatore Sciortino (*1st Anniversary*),  
Dorothea Mackey-Daisley, Lillian O'Connor, Paul Hornik,  
Doris Dailey, Helen Dreeben, William Brennan, Frances Doris Killane

*Fr. Michael Holzmann*



## Baptism

*Nolan Atienza Cajigal*

Noel and Rochelle

*Emily Rae Hofacker*

Brian and Francesca

*Hunter Gene LaBonte*

Raymond and Laura

*Brianna Theresa LoMonaco*

Charles and Debra

*Vincent Peter Nappo*

Vincenzo and Aimee

*Julianna Lynn Perrone*

James and Kerri

*Vanessa Lizette Voltaire*

Guichard and Lizette



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## Our Lord Jesus Christ the King

Our notions of royalty tend to be formed from two sources: fairy tales and modern day royals. Fairy tales give us images like Prince Charming, the wicked queen, King Midas, etc. These people are either very good or very bad. Some others are simply clueless, like the emperor who had no clothes. We often view modern day royals as rich and maybe a bit spoiled. The royal wedding earlier this year was the talk of fashion magazines and inspiration of dress designers. And while it gave the British people an additional holiday, its effect on the populace was probably not more than a few extra pints at the pub.

How different our modern notions of royal leadership are from the biblical understanding of kingship. In the Hebrew Bible, the king is the one responsible for the whole people. He is the Lord's anointed and holds sovereignty in the name of the Lord. The king is to rule justly and to judge righteously for the land's afflicted. He is not to use his position for his own aggrandizement or profit. When the king neglects the widows and orphans and fails to protect the downtrodden then God's just punishment is meted out to the king. We see this again and again in the prophetic books of the Old Testament and in the theology that is present in the Books of Kings.

Jesus is the fulfillment of biblical kingship. He is the king par excellence who fulfills completely the duties and responsibilities of the king. But there is the twist provided by today's Gospel: the duties are not those of Jesus alone. All who are baptized in his name, who have been anointed as members of the priestly, prophetic, and royal people of God, have the same responsibilities as the king. We are to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, and welcome the stranger. All of the royal duties are also ours.

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### Readings for the Week of November 20, 2011

**Sunday:** Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-46  
**Monday:** Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Lk 21:1-4  
**Tuesday:** Dn 2:31-45/Lk 21:5-11  
**Wednesday:** Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Lk 21:12-19  
**Thursday:** Dn 6:12-28/Lk 21:20-28  
**Friday:** Dn 7:2-14/Lk 21:29-33  
**Saturday:** Dn 7:15-27/Lk 21:34-36  
**Next Sunday:** Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37

## Altar Society

Altar linens this week will be cared for by *Janet Loehr*.  
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 ...  
*Nicole Cerny, Eddie Cronin, Jeanne Marie DellaRagione, Frank Edwards,  
Jake Feldman, Ann Finn, Elizabeth Fredriksen, Kenneth Garretson,  
Baby Gavin Gradiska, Jennifer Horne, Baby Peter Horyczun,  
George Impellizeri, Marie Impellizeri, Peter Joseph, Robyn Kerrigan,  
Anne Losee, Christopher J. Maher, Marge Marotta, Tony Marotta,  
Vicky Massaro, John McNevin, Margaret Meringolo, Denise Michelback,  
Arlene Monte, Rae Morris, Patricia Muller, Andy Nolfo, Evelyn Nonnon,  
Peter Porzio, Joe Radosti, Teresa Saraceno, Ann Marie Schiraldi,  
Baby Isabella Shaw, Angelo Tedesco, Nancy Turano, Joseph Yezek*

## Dealing with Loss, Grief, and Obsessions *by Ron Rolheiser, OMI*

What can we say in the face of deep loss, inconsolable grief, or unrequited obsessions?

As a graduate student in Louvain, I once posed that question to the renowned psychologist, Antoine Vergote: "When you lose a loved one, either through death or because that person dies to you in some other way, what can you do? What can you say to help someone in that situation?"

His answer was cautious, words to this effect: "When someone is grieving a deep loss, there is a period of time when psychology finds itself rather helpless. The pain of death or the pain of losing a deep relationship can trigger a paralysis that is not easy to reach into and dissolve. Psychology admits its limits here. Sometimes I think that the poets and novelists are of more use in this than is psychology. But, even there, they can offer some insight but I am not sure anyone can do much to take away the pain. There are some things in life before which we simply stand helpless."

That was, I believe, a wise and realistic answer. The death of a loved one, or even just the pain of an unrequited obsession, can bring us to our knees, literally, and, as the author of *Lamentations* says, leave us with no other option than to "put our mouths to the dust, and wait!" Sometimes, for a period of time, the pain of loss is so deep and obsessive that no clinic, no therapy, and no religious word of comfort can do much for us.

I remember, twenty-five years ago, sitting with a friend who had, that day, been rejected by his girlfriend. He had proposed marriage to her and had received a clear and definitive refusal. He was shattered, utterly. For some days afterwards he had trouble simply going through the motions of ordinary living, struggling to eat, to sleep, to work. A number of us took turns sitting with him, listening to his grief, trying to distract him by taking him to movies, without really having much effect in terms of drawing him out of his depression and obsession. Eventually, of course, he slowly began to emerge from the grip of that over-concentration and, still further down the road, was able to regain his freedom and resiliency. But there was a time during which we, his friends, could not do anything else for him other than to be with him.

What can anyone say to someone who is in the throes of a deep loss or in the grips of an unrequited

emotional obsession? We have our stock expressions which are not without merit: Life must go on. Every morning will bring a new day and eventually time will heal things. Remember too you are not alone; you have family and friends to lean on. Beyond that, you have faith. God will help you through this.

All of that is true, and important, but not particularly consoling or helpful during an overpowering period of grief. I remember writing a series of letters to a woman who had lost her husband to suicide and was totally shattered by that, believing that she would never experience happiness again. Time and time again I repeated the same lines to her: "This will get better - but not right now! Time will heal this, but its rhythm cannot be rushed. You will get better, but it will take time!"

Is there anything practical beyond this that we can offer someone who is in deep grief or in the grip of a bitter emotional obsession?

In 1936, when his sister, Marguerite-Marie, died, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin wrote these words in a letter: "I feel that a great void has opened in my life - or rather in the world around me - a great void of which I shall become increasingly aware. ... The only way of making life bearable again is to love and adore that which, beneath everything else, animates and directs it."

Antoine Vergote suggests that sometimes time, only time, can bring about healing and that in the interim the only real option is to bear the unbearable, to try to get one foot in front of the next, stoically, with patience, holding our pain with as much dignity as we can muster, while waiting for time to eventually work its alchemy, knowing that nothing can short-circuit that process.

But Teilhard suggests there is something that can help make the unbearable bearable, namely, a more conscious, deliberate effort to love and to adore.

How do we do that? Not easily. But we do it when, despite our crippling obsessions, restlessness, frustration, bitterness, and anxiety, we let our generous and noble side be the deepest voice inside of both our sympathies and our actions. When we are driven to our knees by loss and frustration, the best, and only useful, thing we can do is to genuflect in helplessness before a God who can help us and express our affection to anyone who can support us.

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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).*



## Financial Summary

### November 13, 2011

Weekly Collection	\$ 16,316.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 19,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ (2,684.00)

*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:

**Kimberly Braun** - *US Army*

**Bryan R. Dempsey**-*US Marines*

**Christopher Florca**-*US Marines*

**Cari Kelly**- *US Air Force*

**Anthony Mannino**-*US Marines*

**JD Montefusco**-*US Marines*

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



In addition to our Parish website at [www.ollchurch.org](http://www.ollchurch.org), please visit us on Facebook at **The Parish Family of Our Lady of Lourdes**.

Click “like” and you will receive the latest news on upcoming Parish events and information.



# TAKE NOTE

Due to electrical work continuing in the Church- Monday and Tuesday, November 21 and 22- the Church will be **closed from 7 AM until closing**. Also, the **8 AM Mass will be in the Parish Center**.

## Parents Night Out to benefit Parish Outreach

Senior/Cadette Girl Scout Troop 1082 will once again offer their babysitting services to help parents finish up some holiday shopping or just enjoy a few hours without the kids! Parents Night Out will be Friday, December 16 from 6:30 until 10 PM in the Parish Center.

There will be crafts, games, movies and light snacks provided by the troop. Children must be potty trained. We can only accept a limited number of children so register ASAP by contacting Susan Hahn at 631.667.0736. Cost – monetary donations will be collected at drop off to support Parish Outreach – please be as generous as you possibly can, especially at this time of year. Thank you.

## Donations to Outreach: November 2011

- Mr. and Mrs. Connell McGee have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Henry Graff*.
- Barbara Foster has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Henry Graff*.
- Gloria and Bill Johnston have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Jack Stehling*.
- Marie Nappo has made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of *Cheryl Nappo*.
- Thomas and Michelle Milligan have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Doris Killane*.
- Outreach has received a donation from *Minnie Polini*. Minnie died recently and as her family was cleaning her home they found a jar of coins which they donated in Minnie's memory.
- Mr. and Mrs. John Amabile have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Henry Graf*.
- Elaine Pleines has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Frances Caccavo*, mother of Grace O'Connor.
- Aloisia Foote has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Edith Caputo and Jack Stehling*.
- Gerald and Marie Killane have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Frances Doris Killane*.
- Sylvester Bonacci has made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of his wife, *Alice*.
- Mary DeVivo has made a donation to Outreach for *Helen Valentine*.
- The West Islip Bicentennial Committee has made a donation to Outreach.
- The Guglielmo Marconi Lodge No. 2232 has made a donation to Outreach for the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays.
- Deacon John and Anne DeGuardi have made a donation to Outreach in the name of *Mary Gau*.
- Mary Borgs has made a donation to Outreach in honor of *Kimberly Braun*, Mary's niece serving our country in Afghanistan.
- Richard and Doris Shaddock have made a donation to Outreach *in thanksgiving for prayers answered*.

## Parish Outreach Food Pantry

*A picture is worth a thousand words...*



**Outreach needs food!**

## Thanksgiving

### How are we going to do this?

If your budget has room to help Outreach this Thanksgiving, we suggest a donation of a “Thanksgiving Fixings Basket” for families of 2, 4 or 6.



A “Fixings Basket” would include anything that you serve at your Thanksgiving table: vegetables, instant potatoes, canned gravy, stuffing, cranberry sauce and dessert. If your budget allows, Outreach would gladly accept a turkey or ham.

Donations will be accepted anytime up to Monday morning, November 21. Outreach volunteers will begin distributing baskets that afternoon.

Our parish has always been exceptionally generous. I truly believe that the scarcity in Outreach these months is a reflection of the struggle most of us are experiencing. Many are choosing to do without material items we once thought were necessities. We are finding it necessary to simplify in order to meet basic expenses, hopefully in the process we will discover a wealth not found in possessions- but found in relationship with Self-with others and with God.

*-Mary McMahan*

## Hand-made Christmas Cards

For information about Christmas cards, designed by a prisoner to help needy children, please e-mail Sister Camille D'Arienzo, RSM at [Cherilife@aol.com](mailto:Cherilife@aol.com).

## The Treasures of Christmas at Sagtikos Manor

Get in the holiday spirit and take a guided tour of the Manor all decked out for this year's theme, "The Treasures of Christmas". The tours will be on Saturday, **December 10 and Sunday, December 11, from 11 AM – 3 PM** (tours begin every 15 minutes). Sponsored by the Sagtikos Manor Historical Society and Suffolk County Parks Department. For more info please call 631.661.5169 or [www.sagtikosmanor.com](http://www.sagtikosmanor.com).

## 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.

## Good Shepherd Hospice:Volunteers Needed

*Have you always wanted to make a difference in someone else's life?  
Are you that special person who is willing to walk along with our patients and families during their final journey?*

### **FIND OUT!**

Please call the Volunteer Department at Good Shepherd Hospice at 631.465.6355 to learn more about our volunteer opportunities. Training and education are provided.

## Long Island Catholic Donation Sunday

For fifty years The Long Island Catholic has been Long Island's trustworthy source of Catholic teaching, news and commentary! You can share your Catholic faith with the next generation, by continuing or beginning your family's subscribing membership in The Long Island Catholic. Just place your TLIC envelope, with name, address, and donation of \$20 or more, in your parish's TLIC Sunday collection the weekend of December 3/4. Or, if you like, make your donation/subscription online, by visiting us at [www.licatholic.org](http://www.licatholic.org). We'll make sure you are glad you did!

## 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 "**Thanksgiving.**" 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 TELECare, Cablevision Channel 29/137 or Verizon FIOS 296 for the Best in Catholic Television!

