

**“When the fullness of time
had come, God sent his Son,
born of a woman.”**



**Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Our Lady of Lourdes • January 1, 2012**



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

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.

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

Rev. Michael Holzmann
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

Louise Jane Krol
School Principal

Sr. Diane Liona
Director of Religious Education

Mary McMahan
Business Manager

Robin Reynolds-Brennan
Coordinator of Worship
OLL Choir Director

Vita Scorcia
Ministry Spiritual Director

Sr. Betty Toohig
Senior Ministry-SAGE

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

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: 9 AM - 5 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, ext. 122
**(Senior Advocates for Growth
and Enrichment)**
email: [Sage@ollchurch.org](mailto: Sage@ollchurch.org)

Welcome...

to Our Lady of Lourdes!

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

Would you like to know more about our parish family?

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

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

Welcome...

to Our Lady of Lourdes!



I would like information about:

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

I would prefer to be contacted by:

Phone at: _____ Email at: _____

Mail at: _____

Your Name: _____

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!

There are so many who helped to make our Christmas celebrations so beautiful—too many to mention by name, but I wish to thank all those who:

*prepared our worship space, welcomed our parishioners,
presided at our liturgies, set our altar, ushered those who came to worship,
ministered the Eucharist, read the Word of God, led us in song,
praised God with instrument and voice, served at our Masses,
and most of all, for all who prayed and celebrated with us.*

Fr. Mike



Christmas Poster Contest
Holy Name Society Diocesan Union
“Christmas is Jesus’ Birthday”

Every year posters are made by students up to eighth grade, from all over the Diocese of Rockville Centre, including children from our School and Parish.

The Award Ceremony this year will be sponsored by Our Lady of Lourdes, and be held here in our school cafeteria on Sunday, January 8, 2012 from 2 PM-5 PM. The former President for Our Lady of Lourdes Holy Name Society, *Ronald Koraus*, will be honored posthumously, with the award for Outstanding Service-Man of the Year, by the Diocesan Union.

Please join us in honoring Ron and celebrating the faith of our young people. The posters submitted this year were beautifully made, and show that our children still know the meaning of Christmas. Mark your calendars-

Sunday, January 8, 2012 from 2 PM to 5 PM in the school cafeteria.



Pep 4 Program

Our fourth graders are halfway through the classroom part of their program. We're preparing a special family celebration in January – and we're planning to have the children speak about their experience as pilgrims vs. nomads and how that impacts their spiritual growth. We also collected about 400 children's books which have gone to the Learning Connection in Brentwood — an educational venue for women learning English as a second language. Many of them never had a book of their own, and they want to be able to read to their children. Our wonderful youngsters not only brought in their favorite books, but wrote letters to the children who would receive them. Who knows – a pen-pal exchange might begin! I'm very proud of them!

Pep 3 Program

After our "fishing trip" with Father Bob in the fall (did you know that the qualities of a good fisherman are the same ones needed for a good disciple?), we're looking forward to the beginning of the classroom part of the program, which begins in January, with a great bagel breakfast! All are welcome after the 9:30 Mass on Sunday, January 22.



Pep 2 Program

Our Pep 2 students received the Sacrament of Reconciliation this fall, and will begin their Eucharist preparation after the Christmas vacation. They have been very earnest about their participation in class, at home and at weekly worship. They are really great at singing their "Vine and Branch" song, too!



Pep 1 Program



Our Pep 1 classes are a beehive of activity! This group of students wins the prize for being great friends of Jesus! They are so bright that I thought the 4th graders came in their place! Watch for upcoming news of the great things they will be doing in the coming weeks!

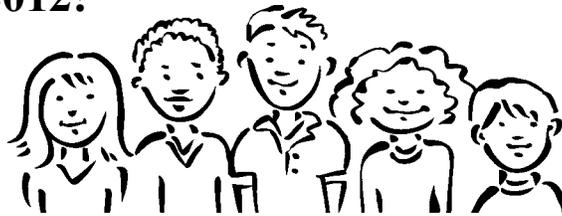
New Kindergarten Program

SPECIAL K

Watch the bulletin after Christmas for news of an upcoming program for kids of Kindergarten age. Plans are in the works for a special afternoon program – Friday at about 4:30 PM in the Church. We hope to provide some fun ideas for families to work on with young children to help them celebrate holy days and other events on a level that they can understand. More to come — we're under construction!

Are You Ready...Get set... in 2012!

Look at those 7th Graders... these kids are THE BEST



The 7th Graders in our parish family know how to love and serve...
and feel that sense of belonging.

As part of their Service Projects they help and learn more about our Ministries at OLL...

- Hosted refreshments for the Mass of Remembrance with Ministry of Consolation
- Packaged and gave Bread out on Thanksgiving Day with our Liturgy Committee
- Organized our missalettes/Music Issues for our Parish Family
- Helped put Advent Tags on our Parish Giving Tree and helped organize the presents for Parish Outreach
- Hosted refreshments for our St. Nicholas Night and Christmas Pageant
- Helped Art and Environment Ministry decorate our Church, All-Purpose Room and cafeteria



Grade 8... they're great

All Grade 8 Confirmation Candidates will meet with their Sponsors... for...
RESCUE... "*Religious Education Sponsor Candidate United Effort*"...with a kick-off some Sunday afternoons in January .

This night of prayer and reflection will provide them with an opportunity to learn about their new roles as sponsors and candidates, hear personal reflections about what it means to be a sponsor and commit to take a more active role in this process. Each evening will conclude with Sunday's 6 PM Mass. Look for them Sunday, January 8, 22, and 29. Sponsors and candidates plan to meet together three times on their own... including doing some service together. Sponsors and candidates work together at a soup kitchen or cook a meal for a soup kitchen, help an elder adult, help with Parish Outreach, etc., etc. Let's continue to pray for our parish's Confirmation Candidates.

GRADES 6/7/8... Hang Out Nites

Don't miss it...

Fridays...January 20, February 17, May 18, June 8

- We have CONNECT !
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- And more

PLUS PRIZES and RAFFLES

They continue to serve those in need... they care...every month Grade 6/7/8 bring food/paper goods/and or \$1.00 for our Parish Food Pantry... wreaths decorated by our Hang Out Kids were given to our families who received "Giving Tree Gifts"... They're GREAT, too!!

Adult Faith Formation



Fit for the King

“Walking in Divine Health”

presented by Dr. Rick Hess

**Tuesdays - January 10, 17, 24, 31, and
February 7, 2012**

7:30 PM

Parish Center

A health and wellness program that asks the questions:

How can you be the best steward of the healthy body God intended for you?

Topics to include: *Walking in Divine Health, Foods that Empower, Foods that Devour, Great Health is about Great Healing, Cancer-proof Your Life, Ruling and Reigning Over Stress.*

There is a \$5 fee for each session. No fee is required for those who have paid the Religious Education Family Fee or Our Lady of Lourdes School tuition.

Registration is necessary and helpful. This will enable us to have enough reading material and refreshments for all those attending. To register, please call the Religious Education Office at 661.5440, option 3 or email to religioused@ollchurch.org.

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!

If you are interested or you have any questions, please contact Cathy Danowski at danowhouse@aol.com or call the Parish Office at 661.3224.

Our Lady of Lourdes School

Our Doors are Always Open



**Visit our classes in session-
Have your child team up with a buddy for a day!**

What Makes Us Different?

NEW Fully Stocked Science Lab & Media Center, SmartBoard, Piano/Guitar/
Violin/Dance Lessons Included in Curriculum, Italian and Spanish Language,
Enrichment Clubs, Student Government, Classroom Laptops, Sports Program,
Student run TV Studio, Before and After Care, 8th Grade Academy of Inquiry
in partnership with Stony Brook Medical School, Distance Learning with
NASA, and Virtual Field Trips from Nursery through 8th Grade

Early Childhood Programs beginning at 2 years old!

**2012 -2013 Rolling Registration
Stop in or call to make an appointment**

Testimonial: *“My daughter is in the fifth grade and is in her first year at OLL. I am so very pleased with the challenges that fifth grade has given her so far. This has been such a positive change for my daughter. All her teachers have challenged her to do her very best and to not settle for less. I know she has only been here for a few months, but if this is any indication of what she is to expect in the coming years, we are in for a wonderful ride!”*

- B. Molina

Phone: 631.587.7200 ext.100

Fax: 631.587.4531

Please visit our Website: www.ollschool.org



Welcome

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

Kevin and Stefani Nolde

Wagner and Gaelle Phebe

Stephen and Jessica Barry & family

Antonio and Tonia Lopes & family

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



Rest In Peace

Elena M. Privitera died on December 7 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was December 12. We extend our prayers to her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and entire family.

John Thomas Gaffney died on December 11 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was December 15. We extend our prayers to his parents, Kevin and Teri, sister Emma, brother Ryan, and entire family.

John Aliberti died on December 11 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was December 16. We extend our prayers to his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and entire family.

Agnes Broglio died on December 14 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was December 17. We extend our prayers to her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and entire family.

Donald G. Eck died on December 15 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was December 19. We extend our prayers to his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and entire family.

Remembering...

Monday, January 2

Saint Basil the Great, bishop and doctor of the Church

8:00 AM Gene Langan

Tuesday, January 3

The Most Holy Name of Jesus

8:00 AM Anthony DeVivo

Wednesday, January 4

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, religious

8:00 AM LaRocca & Sweeney Families

Thursday, January 5

Saint John Neumann, bishop

8:00 AM Salvatore Graziano

Friday, January 6

Saint André Bessette, religious

8:00 AM Peter Mirabella

Saturday, January 7

8:00 AM Monica Williams, Stephen Coyne, Harold Murphy,
Special Intention, Mildred Potenzo, Charles Stephen

5:00 PM Tony Squeo

Sunday, January 8

8:00 AM In Honor of the Marriage of Rusty and Dona McKenna

9:30 AM Saloman Acosta

11:00 AM Dec'd mbrs of Sweeney & Primrose Family

12:30 PM Patrick & Donald Manning

6:00 PM People of the Parish, Alfred Waters, Carl Hotton,
Marie Sanchez, Josephine Whiting, Barbara Woods

SAGE

The SAGE Group (Senior Advocates for Growth and Enrichment) will meet on **Tuesday, January 3**, in the **Parish Center at 9 AM**.

Rosary Christian Mothers

The Rosary Christian Mothers meet on the first Monday evening of each month.

The next meeting will be **Monday, January 9**. We will begin with **Rosary at 7:45 PM in the Church** followed by **meeting at 8 PM in the Parish Center**.



Nocturnal Adoration

Nocturnal Adoration will follow the 5 PM Mass on **Saturday, January 7**, concluding with Benediction at 9:50 PM. Please come and pray with us. All are invited and welcome! Bring a friend.

Holy Name Society

The Holy Name Society invites the men of our parish, young and old, to join us. We can use the wisdom of the older men and the energy and fresh ideas of our younger men.

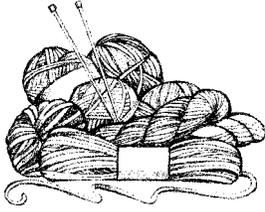
The Holy Name Society meets on the second Sunday of each month. The next meeting will be on **Sunday, January 8**. We will begin with the **Rosary at 7:40 AM in the Church** and the **meeting will follow the 8 AM Mass at 9 AM in Room 16**.

Stop by, ALL ARE WELCOME!

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 Shawl Ministry

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

Join us ...

Wednesday, January 11 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.

Daytime Eucharistic Devotion

The afternoon adoration for the month of January will be on **Wednesday, January 11 from 1-3 PM.** All are invited and welcome! We will be praying for our children, our country, our men and women in the military and our clergy.



Men's Prayer Group-evening

An *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, January 17.** 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.

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, January 19, 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.

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.



Mary, the Holy Mother of God

January 1 is the oldest celebration of Mary in the Catholic Church. The custom of honoring the Virgin on the first day of the New Year originates in the sixth century, when her celebration was tied to the octave day of Christmas, the eighth day after December 25. In doing so, ancient preachers would remind their congregations about the role that Mary played in the history of salvation. Jesus was born of a woman, and so, as Eucharistic Prayer 4 states, "Made incarnate by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, he shared our human nature in all things but sin." The human nature of Christ is rooted in his being born like us. As we round out the Christmas celebration with its Octave Day on January 1, we venerate the woman who gave birth to him.

There is a dual action in today's Gospel that is sometimes overlooked. The shepherds find the infant in the manger as has been told to them by the angel. And then they go out to tell others about the child. In the meantime, Mary reflects on all these things in her heart. These are the two complementary stances of the Christian: action and reflection. Both are needed for a balanced spiritual life. It is, in effect, putting into practice the two great commandments: love God and love your neighbor.

As we begin the New Year, it is customary to make resolutions: to diet, to exercise, to change something in one's life. Like Mary, who reflected on the events surrounding the birth of her child, we take some time to reflect on our own lives: where we have been, and where we are going. The Gospel gives us the opportunity to situate that reflection in a spiritual context. What does the birth of Jesus mean for me spiritually (reflection), and what do I intend to do about that in my daily life (action)?

2011 Liturgical Publications Inc

Readings for the Week of January 1, 2012

Sunday:	Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
Monday:	1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28
Tuesday:	1 Jn 2:29--3:6/Jn 1:29-34
Wednesday:	1 Jn 3:7-10/Jn 1:35-42
Thursday:	1 Jn 3:11-21/Jn 1:43-51
Friday:	1 Jn 5:5-13/Mk 1:7-11 <i>or</i> Lk 3:23-38 <i>or</i> 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38
Saturday:	1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 2:1-11
Next Sunday:	Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Altar Society

Altar linens this week will be cared for by *Nancy Trujillo*.
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 ...

Joseph Badala, Jr., Frank Castellano, Nicole Cerny, Mildred Collado, Peggy Cook, Eddie Cronin, Jeanne Marie DellaRagione, Frank Edwards, William Farley, Jake Feldman, Elizabeth Fredriksen, Kenneth Garretson, Baby Gavin Gradiska, Florence Grigonis, James Grillo, Sr., Baby Peter Horyczun, Marie Impellizeri, Peter Joseph, Robyn Kerrigan, Baby Jonathan J. Lavin, 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, Frances Parine, Peter Porzio, Joe Radosti, Teresa Saraceno, Ann Marie Schiraldi, Baby Isabella Shaw, Angelo Tedesco, Nancy Turano, Joseph Yezek, Glen Zachary, Louie Zaino

Books That Have Crossed my Path in 2010

by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

There's some rhyme and reason to how I select my reading material. I check reviews, I try to be alert to what gets mentioned when friends and colleagues talk literature, and I deliberately set myself a diet that balances spiritual books, novels, intellectual essays, and select biographies. Nonetheless, invariably, some of the best books I read each year are stumbled upon by accident. I ascribe to the theory that the book you're supposed to be reading at a given time finds you. What books found me this year? Here are some that stood out:

Among the novels I've read:

- Sebastian Barry's, *The Secret Scripture*, is a brilliant piece of writing. It takes time for the tension to build, but it's worth the wait and the language is art.
 - Barbara Kingsolver's, *The Lacuna*, is in the mode of several of Kingsolver's other books, fictionalized history, with Kingsolver's genius as a story teller everywhere evident.
 - Toni Morrison, *A Mercy*. Morrison has already won the Nobel Prize for literature and this book, like her others, shows why. Not always an easy read, she never is, but many of her paragraphs are constructed like paintings to be looked at again and again.
 - A.S. Byatt, *The Children's Book*. Byatt is perhaps the foremost novelist in the English language today and will, no doubt, one day win the Nobel Prize for literature. The *Children's Book*, like all her novels, is dense and not easy to read, not just because it is over 600 pages long, but because it mixes history, art, architecture, politics, economics, oppression, ideology, mythology, love, sex, abuse, and family life in a way that unsettles a settled mind. Life, as she lays it out, doesn't move along clear, easily defined moral lines. Any easy concept of history, morality, family, or sex, will unravel as you read her.
 - Don DeLillo, *Point Omega*. If you want a textbook on postmodernism, this is your book.
 - Colm Toibin, *Brooklyn*. A story of a young woman emigrating from Ireland to New York a generation ago. This story has been told before, but not always as warmly as Toibin tells it.
 - Jane Urquhart, *Sanctuary Line*. I've never read a Jane Urquhart book that's disappointed me and this one doesn't either, though it did for awhile. A slow, plodding diary of young woman, it saves its major tension and revelations until the end and, then, Urquhart's gift as a story-teller breaks through.
- Among the books of essays:
- Mary Gordon, *Circling My Mother*. A brilliant series of essays about her mother from one of America's best novelists.

Perhaps my favorite read this whole year.

- Donald Miller, *A Million Miles in a Thousand Years*. A wonderful apologetics for faith and for a desire for something beyond the simple sweetening of life. Recommended to parents to give you your college-age kids.
- Sue Monk Kidd, *The Dance of the Dissident Daughter; A Woman's Journey from Christian Tradition to the Sacred Feminine*. A very, very challenging account of why a woman of deep faith and Christian commitment, and a gifted writer, has left the church.

Among the spiritual books I've read this year, two stand out:

- W.H. Vanstone, *The Structure of Waiting*. A truly brilliant, deep study of the Passion of Jesus and what it can teach us about waiting. This book deeply influenced Henri Nouwen.
- Bill Plotkin, *Soulcraft, Crossing into the Mysteries of Nature and Psyche*. Written from a naturalist rather than a faith perspective, this book might be disturbing to some, but contains many psychological insights (and testimonies about inner transformation) that can, I believe, be very helpful in understanding how the soul journeys.

Finally, a couple of biographies and autobiographies:

- Doris Lessing *Under My Skin, Volume One of my Autobiography, to 1949, and, Walking in the Shade, 1949-1962, Volume Two of my Autobiography*. The first two volumes of Lessing's autobiography are written as befits a Nobel Prize winner. They not only tell Lessing's story, they also give the reader a feel for English and African culture and politics during nearly half a century. An adult "Diary-of-Anne-Frank".
 - Don Brophy, *Catherine of Sienna, A Passionate Life*. If you know next to nothing about Catherine of Sienna, and I didn't when I purchased this book, this is a good place to start. It's the most recent biography of a truly exceptional woman.
 - Lorna Crozier, *Small Beneath the Sky*. I may be biased because the author is from Saskatchewan (my roots as well) and sets her story there, but this is a good piece of writing which, among other things, shows how the prairies help shape a soul.
 - Nora Ephron, *I Remember Nothing and Other Reflections*. The author of *When Harry Met Sally* is approaching seventy and offers a very witty account of growing older. Beyond the wit and the fine writing, this book is a wonderful challenge to our innate grandiosity that likes to mask itself as seriousness.
- De gustibus non est disputandum.*

Used with permission of the author, Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser. Currently Father Rolheiser is serving as President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, TX. He can be contacted through his website- www.ronrolheiser.com.

Financial Summary

December 18, 2011

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

Christmas-December 25, 2011

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

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

Due to the change in the bulletin deadline, the collection amounts will be published in subsequent bulletins.

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*
Mark Harvey-*US Coast Guard*
Cari Kelly- *US Air Force*
Anthony Mannino-*US Marines*

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

Someone Has a Birthday!

The Kindergarten students at Our Lady of Lourdes School were celebrating the Christmas season. The children in Ms. Gina Fasano and Mrs. Monica Scali's classes starred in a Christmas pageant "Someone Has a Birthday!" The pageant told the story of the birth of baby Jesus. Family and friends enjoyed this special Kindergarten production.



Christmas Flower Offerings

Walter P. Sokol, Sr.

Robert D. Colin

Colin Family

Yankel Family

Anthony M. Rao, Sr.

M/M Carmen Mandracchia

M/M Michael Sepe

Florence McLoughlin

Thomas B. Triggs, Sr.

Maureen Ferro

Henry & Josephine Busching

Lewis & O'Riordan Families

M/M Neil Weingarten

Lynn Jouannet

Philip, Sr. & Philip, Jr. Berthold

Dad, brother, and baby Berthold

M/M John Seylar

M/M Angelo Telesmanic

Joseph Marrone

Margaret & Joseph Colasuonno

Helen & Rocco Marrone

Dec'd mbrs of Sullivan &

Callahan Families

Jennifer Gordon

Alan Doran

Angelo & Angela D'Ambrosio

Baby Christopher Flynn

Dec'd mbrs of Herrera &

DeLeon Families

Dec'd mbrs of Carola &

Franzone Families

Jean Stoltenborg

Lodespoto Family

Angelone Family

M/M Michael Montesanto

Dick & Stephanie Garcia

Giovanni Andriola

Grace & Walter Okuska

M/M Kevin Cusack

George Prygocki

Charles F. Mai

William F. Adams

Joseph Macaluso

M/M Noel MacDermott

M/M G. Pjura

Ferruggiari & Gustina Families

Thomas & James Dillon

Kolkmeier & Kirwan Families

Rachel & James Williamson

Matilda Large

Irene & Hans Gries

M/M Richar Kreuzburg

Mom & Dad

Parish Outreach

Office telephone:

661-9262, option 4

Office hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:

9:30 AM - 3 PM

Pantry Needs

canned pasta
mac and cheese
pasta/sauce
rice
instant potatoes

Donations to Outreach

Parish Outreach has received many donations.

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



Elizabeth Ann Seton-January 4

Mother Seton is one of the keystones of the American Catholic Church. She founded the first American religious community for women, the Sisters of Charity. Here at Our Lady of Lourdes, we have our Sisters of Charity - Halifax, *Sr. Margaret Bickar, Sr. Barbara Lynch and Sr. Betty Toohig.*

Elizabeth Ann Seton opened the first American parish school and established the first American Catholic orphanage. All this she did in the span of 46 years while raising her five children.

Women of Hope

You are Invited to Attend our Champagne Luncheon

St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School will be celebrating the Sixth Annual Women of Hope Champagne Luncheon on **Sunday, February 5, 2012 at 11 AM** at the Timber Point Country Club in Great River. Tickets are \$75 per person and there are journal opportunities as well.

Please contact the Development Office at 587.8000 x 177 to receive a formal invitation. RSVP by February 1 as seating is limited and by reservation only.

Congratulations to the 2012 Women of Hope Honorees

Lisa Dicarlo Yancigay '81, *Alumna and Parent*, **Kathy Lehmann Holland**, *Alumna and Parent*, **Loyda Goodbody**, *World Language Faculty Member*, and **Ann Munkwitz**, *Parent*.

Contemplative Outreach of Long Island/Queens

Presents An Enrichment Day With Darlene Eason

A unique biblical presentation of the Parable of the Potter & the Clay. As the message unfolds, God's Love for us comes into focus.

When: January 21, 2012

Where: Parish Center - 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Donation: \$25

Please bring a bag lunch. For further information, please call: Diane Garretson 587.0966

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.

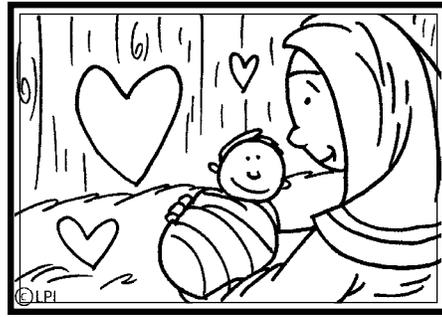
Religion & Rock

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 "**Fresh Start.**" 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

Mothers think their babies are pretty special, and Mary was no different. She probably kissed his nose, snuggled his little cheeks, and sang songs to him. But a lot of people thought her baby was special. Mary had more than just curious relatives showing up to visit. Angels praised God, and shepherds came running to see the baby, too. When it was time to name him Jesus, Mary knew he was the Savior.



Mission for the Week

Ask your parents what they enjoyed about you as a little baby. You might also want to look at some baby pictures together.

Word Search

Circle these words from today's Gospel in the puzzle:

MARY
JOSEPH
BABY

SHEPHERDS
JESUS
ANGEL

LISTENED
WONDERFUL
NAMED

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

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Prayer



Dear God,
thank you for
letting everyone
know that Jesus
was more than a
special baby.
He was the Savior.
In Jesus' name,
Amen.

Something to Draw



Draw a picture of
Mary giving baby
Jesus snuggles.