# Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

455 Hunter Avenue, West Islip, NY 11795

Msgr. Brian McNamara, Pastor Rev. Andrew Garnett, Associate Pastor

### Deacon John De Guardi, Deacon Tom Lucie, Deacon Jack Meehan, Deacon John Teufel

Sr. Nancy Campkin CSJ, Director of Religious Ed Trish Frodell, Director of Parish Social Ministry

Louise Jane Krol, School Principal

**Sr. Diane Liona CSJ,** Director of Religious Ed

Debbie Meyer, Business Manager

Robin Reynolds Brennan, Coordinator of

Worship and Choir Director

Vita Scorcia, Ministry Spiritual Director

### **Parish Office**

Phone: 661.3224, press 1

Monday-Thursday: 9:00am-7:30pm

Friday: 9:00am-5:00pm Saturday: 9:00am-3:00pm Sunday: 9:00am-2:00pm

E-mail: ParishOffice@ollchurch.org

Fax: 661.7143

Website: www.ollchurch.org

### **Our Lady of Lourdes School**

Phone: 587.7200, press 2

Monday-Friday: 9:00am-3:00pm E-mail: lkrol@ollschool.org

### **Religious Education Office**

Phone: 661.5440, press 3

Monday-Friday: 9:00am-Noon, 1:00pm-5:00pm, 7:00pm-9:00pm E-mail: ReligiousEd@ollchurch.org

### **Parish Outreach Office**

Phone: 661.9262, press 4

Monday-Friday: 9:30am-3:30pm

**SAGE** (Senior Advocates for Growth and Enrichment)

Phone: 661.3224, Ext. 122 E-mail: Sage@ollchurch.org



### **Liturgical Schedule**

### **Daily Mass**

8:30am

### **Weekend Masses**

Saturday: 5:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am, 12:30pm

and 6:00pm

#### **Reconciliation/Confession**

Saturday: 4:00pm-4:45pm or by appointment

#### **Rosary**

Daily at 8:00am

### Miraculous Medal Novena

Monday at 8:00am

#### **Sacraments**

### **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.

# Remember: Together, we can do something beautiful for God!

- Mother Teresa

### Pastoral Council

Msgr. Brian McNamara

Eileen Rega

Mary Borgs

Lisa Cantalino

Sonia DaSilva

Nilo DeLeon

Jerry Esposito

Trish Frodell

Pam Gagliano

Deborah Lamb

Rosalie Mangels

Deacon Jack Meehan

John Muldoon

Dottie Perdue

Vita Scorcia

# Parish Staff

#### **Patti Anderson**

Parish Office

#### AnnMarie Buonaspina

Director of Youth Choirs

#### Michael Buonaspina

Parish Organist

Anne Gregg

School Office

#### **Mary Anne Lettieri**

Parish Office

Rita Spera

Religious Education Office

Lori Walsh

Bulletin Editor/Website

Pat Young

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.

# Readings for the Week of March 13

**Sunday:** Is 43:16-21/ Phil 3:8-14/ Jn 8:1-11

**Monday:** Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62/ Jn 8:12-20

**Tuesday:** Nm 21:4-9/ Jn 8:21-30

**Wednesday:** Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/ Jn 8:31-42

**Thursday:** Gn 17:3-9/ Jn 8:51-59 **Friday:** Jer 20:10-13/ Jn 10:31-42

**Saturday:** 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/ Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/ Mt 1:16,

18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

**Next Sunday:** Is 50:4-7/ Phil 2:6-11/ Lk 22:14-23:56 or 23:1-49

# Financial Summary

### March 6, 2016

 Weekly Collection
 \$ 21,246.00

 Weekly Budget
 - \$ 17,800.00

 +/- for the week
 \$ 3,446.00

**Catholic Relief Services** \$ 5,053.00

The estimated weekly collection needed to maintain and operate our parish buildings, ministries, programs and salaries is \$17,800.

#### Dear Parishioners:

We are in the home stretch in the Lenten season; next Sunday is Palm Sunday already. If you have had a good Lent so far, keep it up! If not, don't despair and don't give up. Start today to make the rest of Lent a time of spiritual growth. I especially would like to encourage everyone to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation and go to confession before Easter.

I would also like to thank the school community for hosting the annual International Buffet dinner. We have a diverse school community and that was reflected in the various foods: American, Italian, Spanish, German, Polish, African, Chinese and Caribbean. A great time was had by all, and I hope everyone comes next year!

As you know, each year the Diocese has the Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA). It is an opportunity for all of us to assist in the wonderful work that the Diocese does. I encourage you to make a pledge to the CMA. Your contribution will help the Diocese to continue its great work here on Long Island (Catholic Charities, seminary formation, Catholic Education, etc.). I, myself, make a pledge every year because I believe that it is a most worthy cause. Lent is a time for "almsgiving", giving to the needy. I ask that you consider the CMA in your almsgiving this Lent.

As you know, many of us like watching television. I want to remind everyone of the two "Catholic" TV channels: TELECARE and EWTN. On Cablevision, they are on Channel 29 (TELECARE) and Channel 135 (EWTN). On FIOS TV, TELECARE is on Channel 296. You can also go to their websites: <a href="www.telecaretv.org">www.telecaretv.org</a> or <a href="www.ewtn.com">www.ewtn.com</a>. Besides the Mass, there are a number of other very fine shows. Give it a try! Check out their schedules. Between television, and the internet, you really can stay very connected to the Church.

Remember: Together, we can do something beautiful for God.

In Christ,

Fr. Brian

FAST FROM...
discontent
anger
bitterness
self-concern
despair
guilt
suspicion
laziness

FEAST ON ...
gratitude
forgiveness
compassion
hope
commitment
truth
patience
the mercy of God

### **Altar Society**

Altar linens this week will be cared for by *Joyce Petersen*. If you would like to help care for our altar needs, please call the Parish Office at 661.3224.

## **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.

Michael Fantauzzi-US Air Force Christopher Florca-US Marines Christopher Jensen-US Air Force Edward A. Kelly IV-US Air Force Anthony Mannino-US Marines James Rooney III-US Marines Michael Wilkinson-US Army

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



### **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/or a local nursing home and would like to be visited by a member of our Pastoral Care Ministry.
- Would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick.

### **Parish Spiritual Care Companions**

Do you know a parishioner who is homebound and would welcome a visit from one of our trained Parish Spiritual Care Companions? Please call Rick Danowski at 586.2192, Vita Scorcia at 669.4717 or Charlie Zeiss at 669.7189.

# **Pray for Our Sick**

Please remember to keep in your thoughts and prayers ...

Salvatore Albanese, Carol Alma, Joan Ansman, Mario Baibel, Richard Bombardieri, Thomas J. Calogero III, Patricia Carlson, Lisa Charron, Joan Clark, Kathy Corcoran, Margaret De Luca, Cynthia De Vivo, Joan Demsheck Preston, Amanda DiTingo, Roseann Dorohow, Frank Edwards, Paula Edwards, Jake Feldman, William Fuchs, Mary Gagliardo, Robert Garretson, Jeanette Giordano, Ralph Giordano, Jr., Beau Hamilton, Tommy Haughney, Josephine Heffron, Patrick Anthony Heffron, Charlene Hervey, Thomas Hicks, Jr., Betty Infurno, Msgr. Wm. Jablonski, Hank Kahn, Shena Kahn, Anne Kerrigan, George Koehler, Rita LaPiana, Patrick Lillis, Sean Lillis, Ellen McGee, Una McGrade, Vinny Meade, Debbie Mees, Dotty Meloni, Marie Miranda, Peter Murray, Ruth Murray, Nora Neshta, Nicholas Piotrowski, Nicky Polini, Dorothy Proctor, Jimmy Reilly, William Reilly, John Rickey, Rose Rickey, Joseph J. Schiavoni, Ann Marie Schiraldi, John Shaddock, Derek Stahl, Lindsey Stahl, Andrew Velten, Linda Ward, Charles Zeiss

Names of the sick are listed for **five weeks** for short-term requests and **five months** for long-term.



### Rest In Peace

Richard W. Gallagher

We extend our prayerful sympathy to the families and loved ones of those recently deceased.



# Baptism

Noah Patrick Fiorentino
John & Stephanie

Samantha Emme Hernandez
Jaime & Patricia

Harper Lyn Labita-Mahoney Christopher & Kelly

### Mass Intentions

Monday, March 14

8:30am Salvatore & Vincenza Ricciardi 12:10pm LaRocca & Sweeney Family

Tuesday, March 15

**8:30am** Gail Carbonaro **12:10pm** Cheryl Walker

Wednesday, March 16

**8:30am** Kevin Patrick Clyde **12:10pm** Edward Jockers

Thursday, March 17

St. Patrick

**8:30am** Marian McNamara **12:10pm** Bruce Luckscheiter

Friday, March 18

St. Cyril of Jerusalem

8:30am Marjorie Best 12:10pm Marian McNamara

Saturday, March 19

St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**8:30am** Josephine Sabella, Mary Wernikowski,

Marian McNamara

**5:00pm** Patricia Heartt

Sunday, March 20

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord8:00am All Souls of Bruno Family

**9:30am** Thomas Dowling & Pat McCarthy

**11:00am** Patrick & Pauline Williams

**12:30pm** Living and Deceased Members of the

Sniadowski & Edwards Family

**6:00pm** People of the Parish, Gail Solomonik,

Frank Taplin, Debra Andrino, Donna Troisi, Katherine Teresa Lodie, Kenneth Garretson



### **Easter Candles**

Once again, we are offering a *Loving Candle* which will be placed in the Tabernacle area and lit on Holy Saturday. This symbolic light will remain in the Tabernacle area for the life of the candle (approximately a week). This is a beautiful way to remember our living and deceased loved ones. The *Loving Candles* will be available after all Masses this weekend and next weekend and at the Parish Office (Rectory) during the week for a donation of \$10. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 661.3224, ext. 121.

## **Jubilee Year of Mercy**

Continuing with our reflection on the psalms of mercy, we will be praying Psalm 51 throughout the month of March. The psalms are not just the voice of Christ but the voice of the total Christ. We can hear Jesus' voice in David's voice - the writer of the psalms. In Luke 24:44-45, Jesus, the risen Christ says: "these are my words which I spoke to you, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled." He pointed to the psalms as the place to recognize that he is alive and at work in the Church. As we pray Psalm 51 this month, let us appeal to the merciful love of God to change us and create in us a new heart!

### Psalm 51: Be Merciful, O Lord

Refrain: Be merciful, O Lord; be merciful, O Lord. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offense.
O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin.

My offenses truly I know them: my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone have I sinned, what is evil in your sight I have done.

A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help; with a steadfast spirit within me. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise.



The **Life Centers of Deer Park and Massapequa** wish to thank *Our Lady of Lourdes Prayer Shawl Ministry* for the baby blankets recently donated. We appreciate all you do for these babies. God bless you!

Any gently uses baby clothes from birth to 3 years old are always needed. Stage two baby foods, baby wipes, baby bath products are always needed and greatly appreciated. Please, if you bring items to church, put **Jo Ann D'Angelo**'s name on it so it will get to the Life Centers in a timely manner. You may call the rectory if you have any questions and request Jo Ann's phone number.

# Jubilee Year of Mercy



... You are the visible face of the invisible Father

Of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy

Our Parish Corporal Work of Mercy

for this month is

**Clothe The Naked / Shelter The Homeless** 

Please bring donations for our Parish Clothing Drive
to benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Society
to the Parish Center
after all Masses this weekend

All gently used clothing is thankfully accepted, especially items for teens and young adults

### LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

Tuesday, March 15:

7:30pm in the PARISH CENTER

Movie: Passion of the Christ

Watch the very moving depiction of the Passion

of Jesus as depicted by Mel Gibson.

Friday, March 18:

1:00pm & 7:00pm in the CHURCH

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Meditate upon the Passion and Death of Jesus.

# "LENT comes providentially to re-awaken us, to shake us from our lethargy."

**Pope Francis** 











# **Additional Daily Mass**

During Lent, we celebrate an **additional** daily Mass during the week. From Monday to Friday, in addition to the normal 8:30am Mass, we will also have a **12:10pm Mass**.

### **Donations to Outreach**

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



Cookies Crackers Juice

Peanut butter / jelly

### **Easter Flower Offering**

The deadline for Easter Flower Offerings is THIS Sunday. Easter Flower Offerings received by this Sunday will appear in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Flower Offerings received after this date will appear in a subsequent bulletin. It would be helpful if you could **clearly PRINT** the name of your loved one and drop the envelope, along with your donation, in the collection basket.

# Religious Education

**LENT 2016** 

Come and pray this Lent

Sunday, 6:00pm Mass

All 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders and their families Please join the 6:00pm Mass with your grade ...

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent Mar. 13 Grade 7 "Serve" to live God's mercy Palm Sunday Mar. 20 Grade 8 "Pray" as Holy Week begins

### RCIA – The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

On Sunday, February 14, Alyson Ruane participated in the Rite of Election at St. Joseph's R.C. Church in Ronkonkoma with Bishop Murphy.

On Sunday, February 21, we celebrated the Call to Continuing Conversion for our baptized candidates – Timothy Bulmer, Christina Casale, Michelle Edgley, Christina Gonzalez, Michael Gonzalez and Daniel Henery also at St. Joseph's R.C. Church in Ronkonkoma. These were important steps in the journey of the RCIA. It's a clear sign to the community that they are coming closer to receiving the Sacraments of Initiation and Full Communion with the Church at our Easter Vigil, Saturday, March 26.

On Sunday, March 13, the Fifth Sunday of Lent, at the 11:00am Mass, we will celebrate the "Scrutinies" – times for our Elect to continue to remain "united with Christ and make progress in their efforts to love God more deeply."

The Church gives us this public and life-giving process DURING LENT so that these good and holy people can be nourished and supported by our parish family. At the same time, we know that when we initiate others, we confront and renew our own identity as members of the Catholic Christian community.

Please continue to pray for these women and men of our RCIA and our RCIA team.

# Special Keys ... Religious Education Kindergarten Program!

We started this program a few years ago and have expanded it so that we have a session each month:

**April 15 • May 13 • June 3** 

We meet in the Church at 4:30pm on Fridays and the program lasts about 40 minutes. Come and see what wonderful opportunities there are for your Kindergarten children to learn about their faith! E-mail to register: <a href="mailto:sdiane@ollchurch.org">sdiane@ollchurch.org</a>

# **Rosary Christian Mothers**

The Rosary Christian Mothers (*usually*) meet on the first Monday evening of each month. The next meeting will be on **Monday**, **March 14**. We will begin with Rosary at 7:45pm in the **Parish Center** followed by our business meeting at 8:00pm, also in the Parish Center.

### 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 7:30pm until 8:30pm. The next meeting will be on Tuesday night, March 15 in the Spiritual Life Center. Come with your ideas. We'll read and discuss the Liturgy for the following Sunday Mass. For more information, call Charles Zeiss at 669.7189 or Clifford Proctor at 669.3198.

### Men's Prayer Group-morning

We invite all men of the parish to meet for prayer and reflection after the 8:30am 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. Call Jack Fitzgerald at 587.5548 for more information.

### **Always Our Children**

We are gay and lesbian Catholics, their family members and friends who meet once a month to pray, support each other, and discuss how God is present in our lives. We look forward to meeting this month on **Thursday, March 17 at 7:30pm in the Spiritual Life Center**. Each month, a relevant different topic is discussed and reflected upon. Come join us; all are welcome.

### **Help Wanted**

Administrative Assistant to the Principal, Our Lady of Lourdes School, West Islip - Immediate opening.

**Skills**: Microsoft Word, Excel and Publisher, Computer Skills, Problem Solving, Writing and Communication Skills, Customer Service Skills.

**Duties include**: Enrollment, Marketing/Publicity, Record Keeping, Phones, Website, Billing/Collecting Tuition, General Office Duties.

This position calls for discretion and sensitivity. Must be able to maintain the confidentiality of sensitive information.

Experience managing a Website, PowerSchool or FACTS Programs a plus.

Volunteer or paid experience in a Catholic school also a plus.

Contact: Email resume to Louise Krol, Principal (lkrol@ollschool.org)

### **Church Census Information**

The process of updating our Parish Data System information is an ongoing process. We ask that you please submit any changes -- address, family members, phone numbers, etc. With your help, our parish data information will be more accurate, and receipt of Parish Offering Envelopes and other church information can be distributed more efficiently. Please mail the information to the Parish Office or email to parishoffice@ollchurch.org.

Grandmothers ~ Mothers ~ Daughters ~ Friends

# Victorian Tea

Sunday, April 17, 2016
2:00pm to 5:00pm
Our Lady of Lourdes
All Purpose Room



Chinese auction - great local restaurant gift cards, Mets tickets, designer watch, Fire Island basket

Prizes for the Best Hat and Best Decorated Table Please bring your Favorite Teacup!

Tickets \$20 per person

Tickets will go on sale on Wednesday, March 16 in the Outreach Office First 75 tickets sold will receive five free raffle tickets!



## **Adult Bowling Night!**

Join with the parents and faculty of Our Lady of Lourdes School for an "Adult Bowling Night" on Friday, March 18 from 8:00pm to 11:00pm at Babylon Lanes! The cost is \$35.00 per person, which includes 2 hours of bowling and shoes. There is a limit of 6 players per lane, and parties of 12 can request side-by-side lanes.

Come support this faculty-run fundraiser which will allow us to purchase additional instructional materials for our classrooms!

The reservation form can be found "In the Backpack" on the homepage of the OLL School website (<a href="www.ollschool.org">www.ollschool.org</a>) -- simply fill it out and send it with payment (checks payable to: OLL School) to the OLL School Office at 44 Toomey Road, West Islip, NY 11795.

Questions? Email Krista Harris at kharris@ollschool.org.



In addition to our parish website (<u>ollchurch.org</u>), 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.

### **Ministry of Praise**

Members pray at home for the intentions of the Church and Parish; designed for the homebound, senior citizens, etc. Monthly calendar is available in the Narthex. Prayer requests can be left in the Ministry of Praise box along with the name and address of any homebound person who might want a copy of the calendar mailed to them (please print).

## 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 8:00pm until 10:00pm. All are welcome to experience singing, praying and fellowship.

# **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 1:30pm** before the Blessed Sacrament for about one half hour. For more information, call Charles Argento at 586.8528.



### **Boy Scout Troop 179**

For more than 42 years, Our Lady of Lourdes has been sponsoring Boy Scout Troop 179 of West Islip. We meet every **Thursday** in the School Cafeteria from **7:30pm to 9:00pm**. If you are interested in joining Boy Scouts, check out our website and stop by a meeting!

Website: http://witroop179.wix.com/bsatroop179#

Email: WIBSATroop179@outlook.com

**Support Groups** (all meetings are in **Lourdes Hall** - lower level of Convent) **Alcoholics Anonymous:** Monday and Tuesday at 8pm and Saturday at 11am and 7pm. **ALANON:** Wednesday at 10am. Beginner's meeting at 9:30am. Free babysitting available. **AA Day-by-Day/Girls Night Out:** Thursday at 7:30pm.

# **2015-2016 Missalette Memorial Opportunity**

Each year, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish purchases new missalettes which include the order of Mass texts, readings for Sundays and Holy Days, daily Mass propers and all the music we sing throughout the year.

This year, and for the years to come, we are asking you to consider making a donation to help offset the cost of the missalettes. We are asking for \$20 per missalette. For each donation, there will be a book plate inscription on the inside front cover of a missalette.

We hope to offset the cost each year by having parishioners:

- Make a donation as a gift
- Memorialize a missalette in memory of a deceased friend or relative
- Dedicate a missalette in honor of a friend or relative (living)

We thank you for your consideration of this request. Your generosity and commitment to Our Lady of Lourdes is vital and your participation is greatly appreciated. Your gift will certainly enable us, as a Parish, to continue to lift our hearts and voices to God and at the same time, remember your intention.

# 2015-2016 Missalette Memorial

Yes, I would like to help defray the cost of our yearly missalette.

I am enclosing \$20 per book, checks made payable to Our Lady of Lourdes.

\*\*\*Please return form to the Parish Office or mail back to the Parish

Name		
Address_		
Phone_	-	
Email	_	Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
The bookplate will have the following inscription: Please choose only one per book. You may memorialize more than one book. Please print very clearly.		In memory of John Doe Given by Jane Doe & Family
(For a Deceased Person) In memory of		
Given by (Your name	s)	
(For a Living Person) Please Pray for		
Given by (Your name	s)	
(Given as a gift) Gift from		

### THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY: EXAMINING YOUR CONSCIENCE

The spiritual exercise of examining our conscience is something that every Christian should do on a regular basis. The habit of reviewing our actions or behaviors each day to see how our life is, or is not, in accord with the way God asks us to live can be a wonderful opportunity for spiritual discernment and growth.

Of course, as the Rite of Penance reminds us, 
"the inner examination of heart and the 
outward accusation must be made in the light 
of God's mercy." (6) In other words, the way for 
us to begin to examine our conscience and to 
uncover the areas of sin in our life that need to 
be healed by God's forgiveness is to start with 
God's love. God has created each and every one 
of us, redeemed us through the death and 
resurrection of His Son Jesus, and has given us 
all that we need to live a good and moral life. In 
the light of God's goodness and mercy, we 
should never be afraid to be brutally honest 
with ourselves about what our sins are.

When going to the Sacrament of Penance, it is important to spend time examining our conscience before we go to Confession. It's not helpful to think about our sins for the first time only while we are waiting on line, for example.

If examining our conscience is a regular part of our prayer life, this preparation for the sacrament will come easy.

In examining our conscience, we should look at our relationships both with God and with other people. We should ask ourselves if we are really growing to be a better, more loving, and less selfcentered person, and if we are growing closer to God. We should pray to the Holy Spirit for the Spirit's guidance to see those areas of our life where sin has damaged our relationship with God and with others.

Sometimes we will discover that our sins are quite specific and have to do with concrete actions: other times we will discover that our sinfulness is related to a general pattern of behavior or attitude. To help us in discerning what our sins are, the Ten Commandments are a great place to start, as are the Beatitudes, as found in Matthew 5:1-12, for example. There are also many guides to examining one's conscience that can be found in spiritual reading and in other Catholic resources. For example, the Bishops of the United States have provided some guides for the examination of conscience their website: http://www.usccb.org/prayer-andworship/sacraments-andsacramentals/penance/examinations-ofconscience.cfm

Remember that not all sin is equally serious. Sin might be serious enough such that I have broken off my relationship with God (mortal sin), or it might be less serious and only damage

> my relationship with God (venial sin). Whichever it is, we should never hesitate to confess all our sins openly.

Our celebration of the Sacrament of Penance will be all the more fruitful and beneficial to the degree we have done the work ahead of time in examining our conscience. •



### McGann Council - Knights of Columbus

The Bay Shore Knights of Columbus, 1341 Fifth Avenue, Bay Shore, will be holding a **Comed Beef and Cabbage Dinner** on **Thursday, March 17 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm**. Complete dinner with beer, wine and soda - \$16. Children's platters (under 10) of chicken, fries and mac & cheese - \$5. For tickets or information, call 665.9075 (leave message) or Jack at 666.4939.

# Our Lady of Consolation Nursing & Rehabilitative Care Center

Our Lady of Consolation in West Islip is in need of volunteers to assist bringing our residents to both daily and Sunday Mass. Mass is celebrated Sunday through Thursday at 10:30am. Volunteers usually come in at 10:00am, bring the residents to the Auditorium, stay for Mass, and return the residents after Mass to their rooms. This could be an opportunity for High School students to assist on Sundays. Volunteers are encouraged to stay for a complimentary lunch in the staff cafeteria before returning home.

Many of our residents are former parishioners and would be grateful to see a friendly face, and, of course, the opportunity to be able to participate at Mass. If you are an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist, you could bring the Eucharist to those residents who are unable to attend Mass.

Please prayerfully consider this request. If you have a free hour once a week, this would be such a blessing for our residents. For more information, contact Peggy Nixdorf, Director of Pastoral Care, at 631.587.1600, Ext. 8297.

# **Good Samaritan Hospital Medical Center**

If you have already received the A & B training by the Diocese for distribution of Holy Communion in a hospital and would like to volunteer as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, please contact the Pastoral Care Office for a letter of recommendation to be signed by your pastor. The Pastoral Care Department can be reached at 631. 376.4103.

If you do not have training and wish to distribute Holy Communion in the hospital, please visit the Diocesan website for information: <a href="http://drvc.org/office-of-worship/worship.html">http://drvc.org/office-of-worship/worship.html</a>.

# Vendors Wanted for a Fiesta de Mayo Spring Craft Fair

Westminster United Presbyterian Church, 109 Udall Road, West Islip, NY 11795

Saturday, May 7 (Rain Date: May 14) - Hours: 9:00am to 4:00pm

Vendor Donation Fees: Up until March 31 \$40 per spot (payable by cash or check)

April 1 to April 20 \$45 per spot (payable by cash or check) April 21 to May 7 (14) \$50 per spot (payable by CASH ONLY)

Vendors: Please respond before April 20

Please call the church office for more information: Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday between the hours of 9:30am and 1:30pm - 631.661.6740.

### **Golden Wedding Jubilee**

This spring, couples that have been married fifty years or more will be honored at liturgies on **Sunday, April 10 at the Church of St. Lawrence the Martyr in Sayville** and on **Sunday, April 24 at the Church of Maria Regina in Seaford**. Both liturgies will begin at 2:30pm. *Couples may register for ONE liturgy*.

Registration forms and complete instructions can be obtained at the Rectory. Registration must be received by the Office of Worship by March 25 for the April 10 liturgy and by April 8 for the April 24 liturgy. If you have any questions, you may call 516.678.5800, ext. 207.

# **Congratulations!**

Congratulations to the following students who have achieved Honor Roll status at *St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School*:

### Summa Cum Laude Honors (100+ weighted average)

Daniel DiPietrantonio, Stephanie Vizzini

### Magna Cum Laude Honors (95 weighted average)

Madison D'Antona, Angelina Diamante, Alessandra Ponzio, Andrew Shapiro, Madison Hoffman, Jacqueline Pappas, Vincent Piazza, Jack Scheid, Frank Anastasio, Kathryn Antonawich, John (Jack) Natale, Samantha Viola, Emily Brierly, Alicia Flareau, Jessica Herbert, Zachary Krulder, Cameron Kuhn, James Sanchez, Joseph Vizzini

### **Cum Laude Honors (90 weighted average)**

Matthew Anastasio, Megan Doherty, MacKenzie Hoffman, Christian Miller, Gia Piazza, Kailey Umpleby, Thomas Roulette, Diana Wooley, Daniel Bonge, Stephanie Hahn, Vincent Lospinuso, Gina Mattera, Christopher Merandi, John Messina, Nicholas Ponzio, Niko Rowland, Melissa Smith, Cole Amdur, John Piazza

Great job - keep up the good work!

# **Lenten Evening Talk**

St. James Parish | 429 Route 25A | Setauket, NY | 631.941.4141

... invites you to a Lenten Evening Talk with Kelly Nieto, Creator, Producer and Director of "The Cross and the Light" on Monday, March 14 at 7:30pm.

Kelly, a former Miss America Runner-up, comedienne and opening act for Garth Brooks, will give an inspiring talk entitled: The Story Behind the Show. Her talk covers her dramatic conversion from a non-believer to Christianity. You will hear her powerful story of a vision from God that changed her life and set her on an incredible journey of Catholic faith in action. For more information, contact Helen McCarthy at htmccarthy@optonline.net. Admission: Good-will offering.

# **Religion and Rock**

Tune into "Religion and Rock" with Msgr. Jim Vlaun on Sunday from 7am to 8am on WBAB 102.3 FM or 95.3 on the East End of Long Island. Listen on Saturdays at 11pm on Sirius Radio, Channel 159, the Catholic Channel and at 11pm on XM Satellite, Channel 117. Next Sunday's theme is "Commitment."

# **Sharing the Gospel**

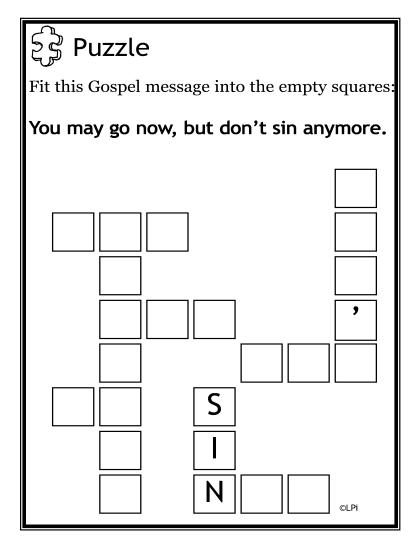
When we do something wrong, God does not want to punish us. God just wants us to stop, learn from our mistake, and make better choices next time. Try to remember that the next time you catch a friend sinning. Instead of tattling, talk to your friend, and gently help your friend do what is right.



### **Mission for the Week**



Name one thing you have done wrong. Jesus can forgive you for your mistakes. Try to forgive other people, too.



# **Prayer**

Dear God, help me to be kind to my friends when they make mistakes. Help me remember that sometimes I make bad choices, too.

# Something to Draw

Draw a picture of Jesus right next to you, helping you after you have done something wrong.

