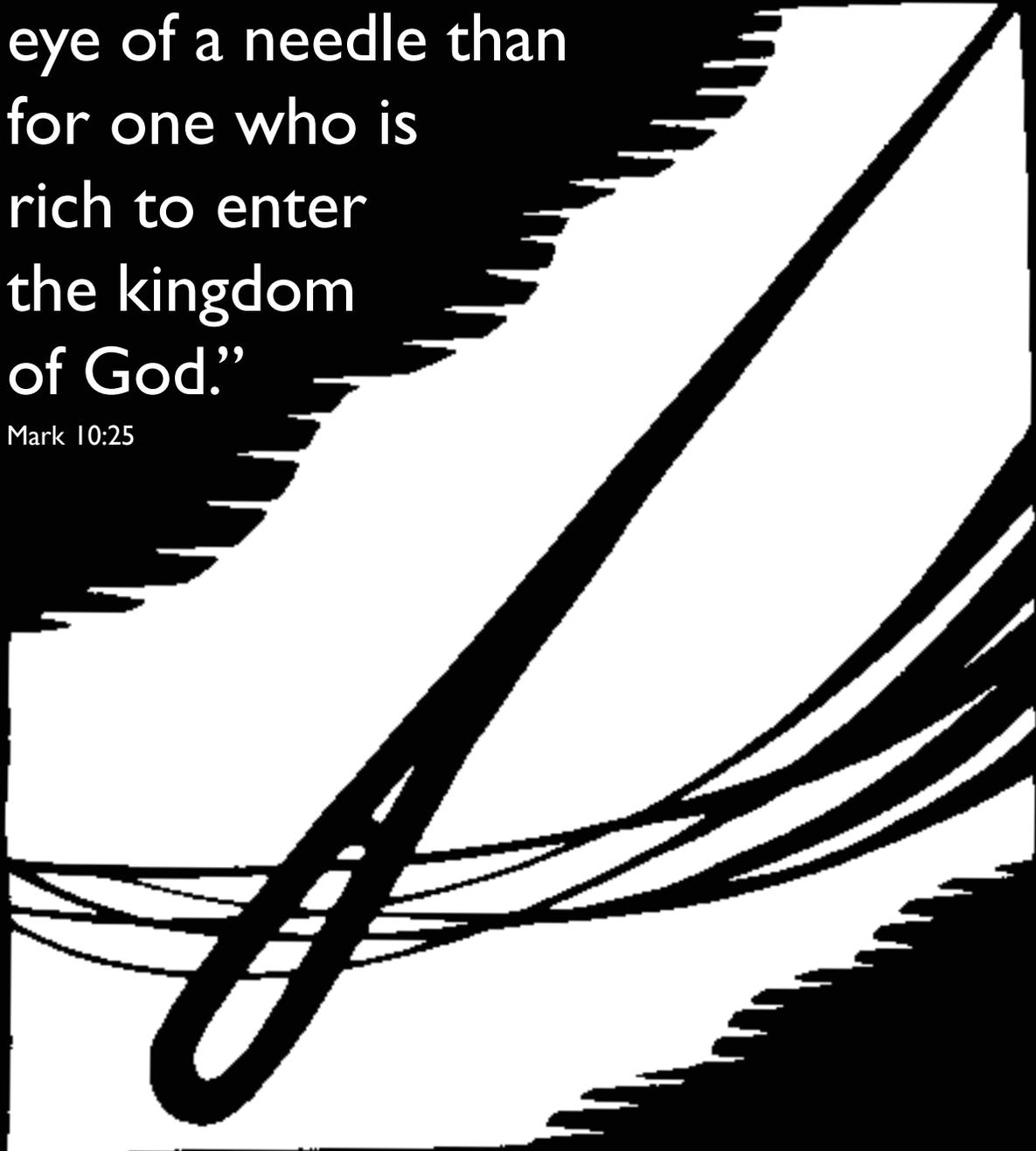


“It is easier for a camel
to pass through the
eye of a needle than
for one who is
rich to enter
the kingdom
of God.”

Mark 10:25



Our Lady of Lourdes
Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 15, 2006

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.

Parish Office

661-3224

Monday-Friday: 9 AM - 7:30 PM

Saturday: 9 AM - 3 PM

Sunday: 9 AM - 2 PM

email: ParishOffice@ollchurch.org

fax: 661-7143

website: www.ollchurch.org

Our Lady of Lourdes School

587-7200

Monday-Friday: 9 AM - 3 PM

email: rcioffi@ollschool.org

Religious Education Office

661-5440

Monday-Friday: 9 AM - Noon

1 PM - 5 PM

7 PM - 9 PM

email: ReligiousEd@ollchurch.org

S.A.G.E.

661-3224

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

email: Sage@ollchurch.org

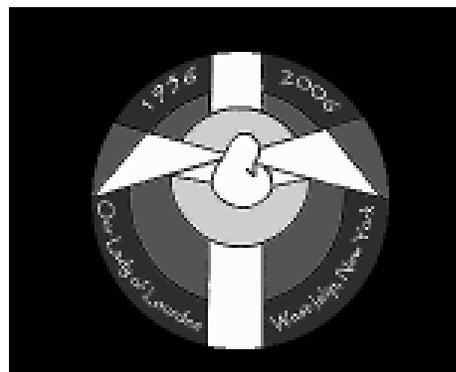
Vision...

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



Welcome to our Parish Family! New Parishioners are cordially invited to register as members of our parish family. Please call or visit the Parish Office.

Pastoral Council

Michael Abbruscato
Salomon Acosta
Regina Ann Cioffi
Jane Desthers
Stephen Frodell
Anne Kerrigan
Maria Lucie (*co-chair*)
Mary McMahan
Doreen Spiller
Mary Steck
John Sureau
Fr. Mike Vetrano
Marie Yuliano (*co-chair*)

Parish Staff

Barbara Catuosco
Religious Education Office
Mary Anne Lettieri
Parish Office
Debbie Meyer
Bulletin /Parish Office
Rosemary Multer
School Office
Rex Muro
Organist
Rita Spera
Religious Education Office
Lori Walsh
Parish Office

Rev. Stanislaus Chukwube
Associate Pastor

Rev. Robert Scheckenback
Associate Pastor

Deacon John DeGuardi
Deacon Jules O. A. Gagnon
Parish Outreach

Deacon Jack Meehan
Coordinator of Stewardship

Deacon John Teufel

Sr. Margaret Bickar
Senior Ministry-SAGE
Sr. Nancy Campkin
Director of Religious Education

Regina Ann Cioffi
School Principal

Jennifer Gallagher
Director of Youth Services

Carol M. Goetz
Parish Music Director

Sr. Diane Liona
Director of Religious Education

Vita Scorgia
Ministry Spiritual Director

John Sureau
Coordinator of Worship

Sr. Betty Toohig
Senior Ministry-SAGE

Anthony Trombino
Business Manager

*Our Lady
of Lourdes*

455 Hunter Avenue
West Islip, New York 11795

Celebrating Our Parish Life



Parish 50th Anniversary Mass

12:30 PM

November 19, 2006

Celebrant Bishop William Murphy

Empowering Our Minds and Spirits

Our Lady of Lourdes 50th Anniversary “Golden Jubilee Journal”

The *Golden Jubilee Journal* will portray Our Lady of Lourdes illustrious parish history of the past fifty wonderful years! We offer all parishioners and friends an opportunity to express their best wishes, congratulations, or to memorialize loved ones with a journal message.

If you are interested in placing an ad in our *Golden Jubilee Journal*, stop by the Parish Office or call 661.3224. Fill out the form on page 6 with your journal message and return it with payment to OLL Church no later than October 31.

(The deadline has been extended until the end of this month, October 31.)

If you have any questions or would like more information, please call Lori Walsh at 661.3224.



*Come Celebrate
as a Parish Family
50th Anniversary Jubilee Dinner*

*Friday, November 17, 2006
7:00 PM-Midnight
Southward Ho Country Club*

*Price \$100 per person
Tickets are on sale now in the Parish Office
Seating arrangements will be accommodated*

*Jubilee Dinner tickets will also be on sale after Masses in the
All-Purpose Room beginning next weekend,
the weekend of October 21/22.*

*Raffle tickets will also be available for sale -
Golden Raffle tickets and Silver Raffle tickets.*

50th Anniversary “Golden Jubilee Journal”



The *Golden Jubilee Journal* will become a lasting memory of our anniversary year.

The journal, which will be available to all our parishioners, will contain pictures and history of our first 50 years, as well as messages and greetings from friends of OLL.

Please consider becoming a part of our anniversary journal.

You can reserve a page or part of a page in memory of a loved one, to send your own message of gratitude to our community, or simply to acknowledge your presence and support of our community.

Signed (Name): _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Journal Size 8 1/2" x 11"

Inside Cover (2)* \$1,500.00

**call for availability*

2 Page Spread \$1,000.00

Gold Full Page \$ 750.00

Silver Full Page \$ 500.00

Full Page \$ 300.00

Half Page \$ 175.00

Quarter Page \$ 125.00

Eighth Page \$ 75.00

Sponsor's Name

Listing \$ 25.00

Print your message below or attach a copy of your message to this page and send to the Parish Office.

Please mail this page along with your check to: Our Lady of Lourdes Church
Journal Committee
455 Hunter Avenue
West Islip, NY 11795

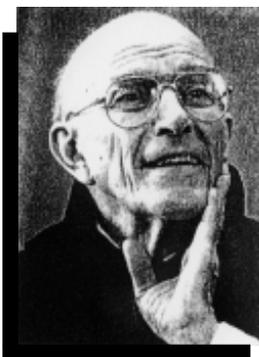
We ask that you submit your message as early as possible. The deadline for our anniversary journal is October 30, 2006. Any questions, please call the Parish Office at 661.3224.



20th Anniversary Contemplative Outreach on Long Island

You are invited to an afternoon with Fr. Thomas Keating,
founder and chairman of Contemplative Outreach.

We will celebrate the
20th Anniversary of Contemplative Outreach on Long Island.



Join us for a Sunday afternoon presentation and book signing reception
with Fr. Thomas Keating and Fr. Carl Arico.

The program will include Centering Prayer and a brief video
presentation about Contemplative Outreach, Ltd.

The celebration will be at **Our Lady of Lourdes Church**
on **Sunday, October 22**
from **2:30 PM until 5:30 PM.**

This will be a perfect opportunity for those
who do not know what Centering Prayer is all about - come learn.

There is no charge for the afternoon.

For further information, please contact Diane at 587.0966,
Betty at 586.6608, or Gloria at 265.8021.

Daily Mass

8 AM

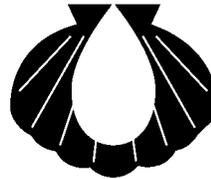
Weekend Masses

Saturday: 5 PM

Sunday: 8 AM, 9:30 AM,
11 AM, 12:30 PM and 6 PM

Reconciliation

Saturday: 4 PM - 4:45 PM



Baptisms

*Logan Ryan Christensen
William and Lynn*

Save the Date...

All Saint’s Day – Eve

Tuesday, October 31- Halloween

A special 5 PM Mass for our young people – and we invite them to come incostume. All will receive a special gift for their trick or treat bags too!

All Saints’ Day

Wednesday, November 1

Masses 8 AM aand 7:30 PM

Upcoming Marriages

Janice Keith and

Thomas Young, OLL

Rosary/Novena

Rosary:

Daily after 8 AM Mass

Miraculous Medal Novena:

Monday after 8 AM Mass

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.

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.

Support Groups

Alcoholics Anonymous

Monday and Tuesday at
8 PM and Saturday at
7 PM in Lourdes Hall-
convent lower level.

ALANON

Each Wednesday at
10 AM in Lourdes Hall-
convent lower level.

Remembering...

Monday, October 16

St. Hedwig, religious

8:00 AM Harold Little

Tuesday, October 17

St. Ignatius of Antioch, bishop, martyr

8:00 AM Delia Albano

Wednesday, October 18

St. Luke, evangelist

8:00 AM Lawrence F. Kelly, Sr. , Raymond T. Kelly, and
Robert J. Kelly

Thursday, October 19

St. John de Brebeuf, martyr

8:00 AM Angelo and Felicia DeLeo

Friday, October 20

St. Paul of the Cross

8:00 AM Vita J. Kelly

Saturday, October 21

8:00 AM Vincent McCarthy, Mary D. Walsh, Irene Bleichner,
William Donovan, Margaret & Leon Cunningham,
Dorothy Bergamini, Margaret E. Fuge

5:00 PM Edward Cameron

Fr. Ed Dowling

Sunday, October 22

8:00 AM Placido Raffa

Fr. Stan Chukwube

9:30 AM Frances Amodeo

Fr. Mike Vetrano

11:00 AM Patrick and Donald Manning

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

12:30 PM Marie Phillips

Fr. Mike Vetrano

6:00 PM People of the Parish, Al Velten, Catherine Muldowney,
Placido Raffa, Lawrence Zurlo, Frank Riley, Jeanne McLaughlin,
Elinor Anzalone, Thomas J. Mangan, Katherine McGrath,
Eleanor Kuchler, Dr. Joseph Kennedy

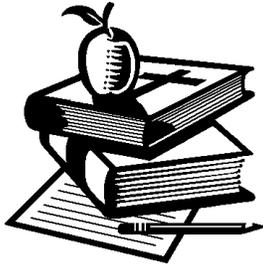
Fr. Bob Scheckenback



Rest In Peace

*Walter Naja
Susanne Carlson
Rose Fabozzi*

OLL School News



The Fashion Show Committee Needs You!

Our Lady of Lourdes School will be hosting a Fashion Show on Thursday evening, March 29, 2007. This event will be held at La Grange Inn and includes dinner, dancing and of course many prizes and raffles – this is an event not to be missed!

Tickets will go on sale in January 2007 and will be open to the school and parish on a first come, first served basis. Remember, this affair sells out quickly so be sure to watch for information regarding ticket sales in our weekly church bulletin.

Our Lady of Lourdes School is reaching out to all our school parents and parishioners for donations of any kind to help support this important event. All donations can be dropped off in the school office labeled “Fashion Show”. Make sure you include your name, address and phone number so we can properly thank you for your donation.

Anyone interested in helping with the Fashion Show, your assistance is greatly appreciated. Whether you prefer to be out in the crowds or behind the scenes, we have an opportunity for you! The show can’t go on without your help! Please contact Kate Newman with any questions regarding our Fashion Show 2007 at 587-6948 or e-mail at bounceusa@aol.com.

Adult Faith Formation

Doctor’s Visit 101 -

How can I make the most of my doctor’s visit

Tuesday, October 24 from 7:30 PM until 9:30 PM in the Parish Center
presented by Dr. Peter Calves, M.D.

This presentation will help you become an “expert” on how to make those few precious minutes in the doctor’s office *yours* to help you manage your health...or to help you as “caretaker” manage the health of your loved one.

Ministry of Family Healing

Nights of Prayer and Reflection

beginning Thursday, October 26 at 7:30 PM in the Parish Center

led by Marcy Chapuisat and Marge Valenti

The gospels describe Mary as being “full of Grace” a grace and friendship with God that would carry her through moments of joy and sadness in her life.

On this evening, we will reflect on how we can be open to God and become full of grace ourselves. Can we discover a strength that will carry us through the joyful and sorrowful events in our lives and especially in our families?

We will begin with a story of losing and finding, the day that Joseph and Mary lost Jesus only to discover him teaching in the temple. There are so many stories of losing and finding in every part of our lives and we will explore them as opportunities to become full of grace.

Blessing for Couples Hoping to Begin a Family

Sunday, October 22

12:30 PM Mass

Looking forward to beginning a family can be a joyful time in a couple's life. It can also be a difficult time for couples who are waiting to conceive or to adopt. We invite all hopeful parents to this Mass to receive blessing and encouragement in their longing to become parents. We understand how important this hope is and we want you to be welcome and uplifted by the prayers of our community. Please feel free to invite anyone who is hoping for children, whether they are parishioners or not, to come to this Mass.



Did you know?

St. Gerard Majella, whose feast day is celebrated on October 16, is the patron saint of expectant parents. After praying for a woman who feared the loss of her child St. Gerard became the saint of expectant mothers.

*O good St. Gerard, powerful intercessor
before the throne of God,
wonder-worker of our day,
We call upon you and seek your help.
While on earth,
you always fulfilled God's designs;
help us, too, always do God's holy will.
Beseech the master of life,
from whom all parenthood proceeds,
to bless us with children,
that we may raise up children to God in this life
and heirs to the kingdom of God's glory in the life to come.*

Our Journey Continues...

Our journey continues into 2007 when we move into the fifty-first year of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish with a **Family Pilgrimage to Catholic Canada**. Come with Father Bob and Deacon John on July 9 to July 16, 2007 to the shrines and churches in Montreal and Quebec. Come to our first information meeting on **Thursday, October 16 at 7:30 PM in the school library**.

“The Six”

Our Six Committee is always looking for people and ideas to make our Sunday night even better! We are in need of not only ministers (lectors, servers, Extraordinary Ministers and ushers) but people who can come up with great ideas! Our next meeting s **Sunday, October 29 at 5 PM**. (before “The Six”). Please come and join us-All Are Welcome!



28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Do you play the lottery? Perhaps when you are buying that ticket, you imagine to yourself what you would do with the money if you won; retire, buy a new home and a car or two, take an extended trip around the world. Maybe you even say a prayer. Deep inside, you know that you are attempting to quickly change your life through instant wealth. If only I had the winning ticket, I wouldn't have to worry about bills. If only...

A wealthy young man approaches Jesus, wanting assurance that because he has led a good life he will be welcomed into the kingdom of heaven. When he is advised to sell his possessions and follow Jesus, he becomes dejected and walks away. What was important to Jesus then was the man's reaction. This is important today, as well. We must be willing to sacrifice all of our worldly possessions if it is God's will.

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, we are all given the right of economic initiative. (CCC 2429) What this means is that we are to use our talents to the best of our abilities, and should those talents be rewarded, we are to share these rewards with as many as we can. Just as a farmer does not keep his entire crop to himself but works to feed others, so, too, can we benefit the human condition through a generous spirit.

(c) 2006 Liturgical Publications Inc

Readings for the Week of October 15, 2006

Sunday:	Wis 7:7-11/ Heb 4:12-13/ Mk 10:17-30 <i>or</i> 10:17-27
Monday:	Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31-5:1/ Lk 11:29-32
Tuesday:	Gal 5:1-6/ Lk 11:37-41
Wednesday:	2 Tm 4:10-17b/ Lk 10:1-9
Thursday:	Eph 1:1-10/ Lk 11:47-54
Friday:	Eph 1:11-14/ Lk 12:1-7
Saturday:	Eph 1:15-23/ Lk 12:8-12
Next Sunday:	Is 53:10-11/ Heb 4:14-16/ Mk 10:35-45 <i>or</i> 10:42-45

Altar Society

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

Communion Calls

Communion brought to those who are homebound.
Contact the Parish Office at 661.3224.



Pastoral Care of the 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.

Pray for Our Sick

Please remember in your thoughts and prayers ...

*Pat Bonavita, Patrick Bowers, Thomas Brennan, Jo Brogan, Christian Bullock,
Regina Cranor, Joseph Cristallo, Richard Cullen, Jason Fisher, Cathy Gallagher,
Marie Ippolito, Kathleen Kerrigan, Anthony Lombardo, Mike Lorento,
Benjy Margulies, Michele McCann, Peter McCann, Sr., Brian Monahan,
Dorothy O'Grady, Joseph Parro, Rudolph Parson, Susan Percoco,
Freda Perry, Gene Perry, Joe Radosti, Fred Ruggio, Rose Serragano,
Dorothy Sullivan, Janet Taino, Loretta Vitale*

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:

Daniel D'Arienzo-US Army

John Finn-US Army

Paul McEvoy-US Army

Michael Mallimo-US Army

Peter Provenzano-US Army

James Stultz- US Army

John Thompson-US Marines

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

Parish Outreach

Outreach Office Hours

Monday through Friday from 9:30 AM until 3:30 PM.
For information/assistance call 661.9262.

Our Lady of Lourdes Bereavement Our parish support group for those who have lost a loved one—
If interested, please call the Parish Outreach Office at 661.9262.

Our pantry is running low on the following items...
cereal, coffee, soup, and tea.



detergent
kleenex
paper towels
shampoo
soap
toilet tissue
toothbrush
toothpaste

Respect Life Month 2006

Young people are leading the way through their enthusiastic involvement in pro-life education and activism. Equally impressive is the growing number of youth committed to living chastely until marriage, a trend that has contributed substantially to the continuing decline in abortions. Public sentiment overall is changing as well. Today only a small minority of Americans favors the policy of virtually unlimited abortion imposed on our nation by the U.S. Supreme Court's abortion decisions. Even laws to prevent the killing of children who are already four-fifths delivered have been ruled unconstitutional. The public debate on partial-birth abortion has awakened many Americans to the violence of abortion, and the Supreme Court itself will soon take another look at the issue when it reviews a federal ban on this horrendous practice. Also encouraging for a culture of life is an increased opposition, particularly among committed Catholics, to the use of the death penalty.

*Cardinal William H. Keeler
Chairman, Committee for Pro-Life Activities
U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops*

Social Action Alerts

NYSCATHOLIC.ORG

We would like everyone in our parish to visit the New York State Catholic Conference's website at www.nyscatholic.org and register today. By doing this, you'll receive regular e-mail updates about important issues and learn ways you can make a real difference in the life of the Church and the world.

Confirmation 2006

The young women and men from our parish have been actively preparing to be confirmed on Monday, October 23. For the past two weeks, they have participated in “Spirit Nights.” As part of these “Spirit Nights,” candidates and parents listened together to some interesting presentations and challenges from Sister Peggy McVetty, OP, Ms. Nan Doherty, Matthew Rogan from OLL and Connor Syrewicz a junior at St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School. Each of these presenters challenged the candidates to look deep within to discover how God is calling them – maybe in some very surprising ways. Each of the Spirit Nights concluded with “The Six,” where our entire community prayed for the candidates.



Last Tuesday, the candidates for Confirmation and their sponsors attended a special Reconciliation Prayer Service. Fr. Bob presided and preached about the power of God’s love to allow us to receive forgiveness – to know that we have a “do-over” in God’s eyes. Let’s continue to pray for these young people as they prepare for Confirmation next week.

SAGE

The SAGE Group (Senior Advocates for Growth and Enrichment) will meet on **Tuesday, October 17** in the **Parish Center at 9 AM**. All older parishioners are welcome.

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.

Jesus, King of All Nations Prayer Group

The Jesus, King of All Nations Prayer Group meets each **Thursday afternoon** in the **Church**. The meeting is from **3 PM until 4 PM in front of the Blessed Sacrament**.

Altar Servers

Serving the Lord with Gladness

This Fall, we welcome twelve new altar servers to our Altar Server ministry. They have been through training over the past month and have grown in this ministry. We are so lucky they are part of our liturgies and prayer services.

Please pray for and remember: *Daniel Antonawich, Matthew Cairo, Jeremy Cirulnick, Caitlin Cosentino, Francesca Dediderio, Sean Gordon, Rory Hannigan, Rachel Hunter, Dan Hurley, Christina Natale, Shane Newman, and Sean Rafferty.*

Special thanks to Mrs. Kate Newman and Patrick Gordon who helped to train our newest altar servers.

Bereavement Support

The Compassionate Friends of Babylon (TCF)

A monthly support group for parents who have lost a child. The group meets on the **first Friday** of each month at **Cross of Christ Lutheran Church on Deer Park Avenue in Babylon**. Facilitated by Barbara and Mike Redmond. For information please call TCF Hotline at 800.626.3905.

General Bereavement

Eight week support group for adults grieving the loss of a loved one. Support group to be held at **Our Lady of Victory Parish, Floral Park from 7 until 9:30 PM**.

Please call for more information or to register at 516.437.1315.

Coping with the Holidays

A program for handling the holidays at **St. Sylvester Church basement, Medford on Sunday, October 22**, facilitated by Pat Jones from 2 - 4 PM.

For more information call Parish Social Ministry at 631.475.3871 during daytime business hours.

Financial Summary

October 8, 2006

Weekly Collection	\$ 18,894.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 21,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ (2,106.00)

The estimated weekly collection needed to maintain and operate our parish buildings, ministries, programs and salaries is \$21,000.

Eucharistic Etiquette



“Etiquette at the Eucharistic Table— To Help Us Give Thanks and Remember”

Msgr. Christopher Heller, Pastor of St. Joseph’s Parish in Babylon, recently published an article in Summit and Source, our diocesan liturgical newsletter. We’re going to reprint excerpts of it in the upcoming weeks. Take some time to reflect on his words and the questions/suggestions that follow:

7. Let’s remember that receiving the Eucharist is NOT only about our private communion (it’s public worship in a public place!), but also about being a member of the Body of Christ and the faith community. Let’s say the universal response “AMEN” after the minister offers us the Body or Blood of Christ, and let’s say it at least as loud as we would in a normal speaking voice. Let’s not be afraid to say AMEN, which seals our commitment to live Christ not only in the Sacred Species of the Eucharist, but all week long. And let’s avoid saying other things like “Thanks!” or “Okay!” or “and also with you” or nothing at all.

Questions/Suggestion for Reflection

- How do you respond when you receive the Eucharist?
- Does this week’s reflection force you to re-consider what you say or how you say it?

2006 Catholic Ministries Appeal

“Touching the lives of many through Diocesan and Parish Ministries and services.”

Parish Status as of September 12, 2006

Parish Goal	\$118,600
Pledged Amount	\$ 93,837
# of Pledges	406
Average Pledge	\$ 231



Your participation provides support to the many programs and services that help further the mission of Jesus Christ here on Long Island. Please consider supporting this important initiative, as it will help us continue to do the work of the Lord here on Long Island. To show your support for our parish and Diocese, please contact our Parish Office at 661.3224.

Gospel Challenge

Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI

The gospels point out that, before his conversion, Zacchaeus was a short man, someone lacking in height, but that, after his conversion, the tall man gave back what the small man had stolen. Meeting Jesus, it seems, made Zacchaeus grow bigger in stature.

That's what goodness does to us, it makes us grow taller. For example, a friend of mine shares this story: He has a neighbour who frequently drops round to drink coffee and chat. The neighbour is a good man from a wonderful family and has been blessed with lots of love and good example in his life. But, like the rest of us, he has his weaknesses; in his case, gossip and occasional pettiness. One day, as he was sitting with my friend, he made a very racist remark. My friend, instead of accusing him of being a racist or shaming him with the inappropriateness of his remark, called him instead to his own essential goodness: "That comment surprises me," he said, "coming from you. I've always considered you and your family big-hearted people, with class, never petty. I've always envied your family for its goodness and understanding. That remark simply doesn't sound like you!"

The man's reaction was instant, positive. Immediately he apologized: "You're right," he said, "I don't know why I sometimes say stupid things like that!" Like Zacchaeus the taller man gave back what the smaller man had taken.

It's interesting to note that the word "Gospel" means "good news", not "good advice". The gospels are not so much a spiritual and moral theology book that tell us what we should be doing, but are more an account of what God has already done for us, is still doing for us, and the wonderful dignity that this bestows on us. Of course the idea is that since we are gifted in this way our actions should reflect that dignity rather than what's less lofty and more petty inside us. Morality is not a command, it's an invitation; not a threat, but a reminder of who we truly are. We become taller and less petty when we remember what kind of family we ultimately come from.

In essence, we all have two souls, two hearts, and two minds. Inside of each of us there's a soul, heart, and mind that's petty, that's been hurt, that wants vengeance, that wants to protect itself, that's frightened of what's different, that's prone to gossip, that's racist, that perennially feels cheated. Seen in a certain light, all of us are as small in stature as the pre-converted Zacchaeus. But there's also a tall, big-hearted person inside each of

us, someone who wants to warmly embrace the whole world, beyond personal hurt, selfishness, race, creed, and politics.

We are always both, grand and petty. The world isn't divided up between big-hearted and small-minded people. Rather our days are divided up between those moments when we are big-hearted, generous, warm, hospitable, unafraid, wanting to embrace everyone and those moments when we are petty, selfish, over-aware of the unfairness of life, frightened, and seeking only to protect ourselves and our own safety and interests. We are both tall and short at the same time and either of these can manifest itself from minute to minute.

But, as we all know, we are most truly ourselves when what's tall in us takes over and gives back to the world what the short, petty person wrongly takes. John of the Cross, the great mystic, made this insight the center-piece of his theology of healing. For him, this is the way we heal:

We heal not by confronting all of our wounds and selfishness head-on, which would overwhelm us and drown us in discouragement, but by growing to what he calls "our deepest centre". For him, this centre is not first of all some deep place of solitude inside the soul, but rather the furthest place of growth that we can attain, the optimum of our potential. To grow to what our deepest DNA has destined us for is what makes us whole, makes us tall - humanly, spiritually, and morally.

Thus, if John of the Cross were your spiritual director and you went to him with some moral flaw or character deficiency, his first counsel would be: What are you good at? What have you been blessed with? Where, in your life and work, does God's goodness and beauty most shine through? If you can grow more and more towards that goodness, it will fan into an ever larger flame which eventually will become a fire that cauterizes your faults. When you walk tall there will be less and less room for what's small and petty to manifest itself.

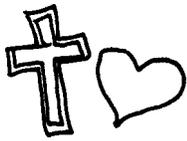
But to walk tall means to walk within our God-given dignity. Nothing else, ultimately, gives us as large an identity. That's useful too to remember when we challenge each other: Gospel-challenge doesn't shame us with our pettiness, it invites us to what's already best inside us.

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.

The man in today's Gospel reading thought he was pretty good. He had been careful to obey most of God's rules. But he forgot the most important rule of all - love God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength. When Jesus asked the man to give away all he owned, the man went away sad. He loved money more than he loved God.



Mission for the Week

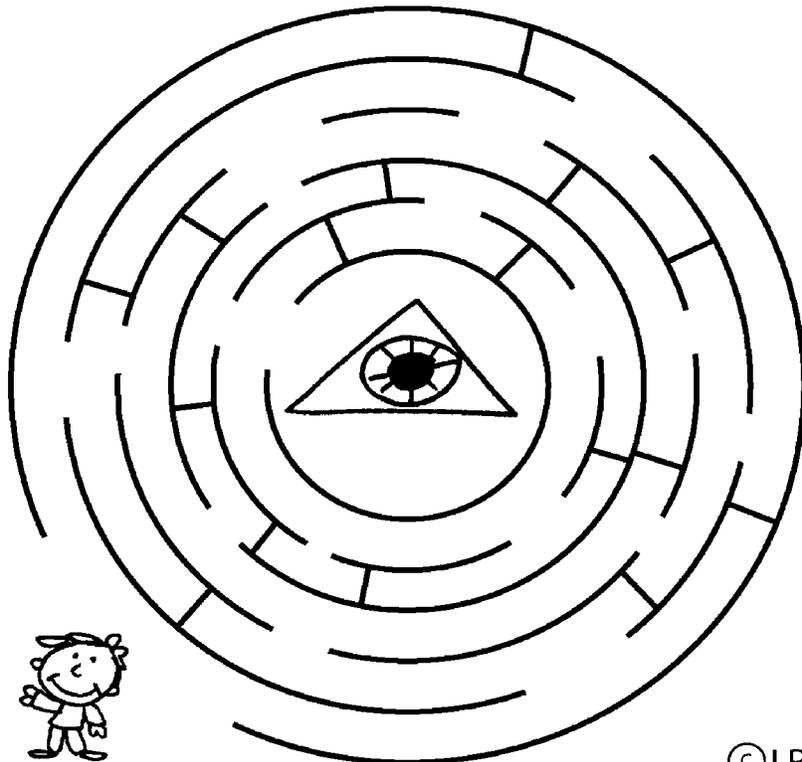


Make a list of things that are special to you. If God asked you to give away your favorite toy or game to someone who's poor, could you do it? Be honest with God, and ask him to help you love him more than anything.



Puzzle

Help this child find God.



Prayer

Dear God,

help me to love you more than all the gifts you have given to me.

CSJ 150th Anniversary Celebrations

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Brentwood, NY invite everyone to join us at the following event as we conclude our year of celebration marking 150 years of service in the Dioceses of Brooklyn and Rockville Centre. On **Thursday, October 26** we will have our **Gala Dinner Dance** at the **Garden City Hotel**. For further information, contact S. Mary Ann Crimmins at 631.273.1187, ext. 25 or email to mcrimminscsj@aol.com.

Closing Liturgy for Jubilee Year

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Brentwood, NY invite everyone to join us as we conclude our year of celebration marking the 150 years of service in the Dioceses of Brooklyn and Rockville Centre. The closing Liturgy of the Jubilee Year will be Sunday, October 29 at **Our Lady of Perpetual Help Lower Church, 59th Street, Brooklyn at 3 PM**. A reception will follow. No tickets or reservations are needed.

A Little Bit of Ireland

The Rosary Altar Society of **Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, Copiague**, is presenting "An Irish Variety Show" on **Sunday, October 29 at 7 PM in the auditorium**. For only \$20 you will be able to delight in comedy, dance and song. For more information and ticket purchase please call Linda at 631.789.4537.

2006 Dominican Gala

Dominican Sisters of Amityville celebrate 153 years of service. Many of you know the Dominican Sisters of Amityville through their ministry in schools, health facilities, parish affiliations, etc. This year they celebrate 153 years of service. **The 2006 Dominican Gala** commemorates their years of service and will be held on **Friday evening, October 27** at the **Garden City Hotel**. All proceeds benefit the many ministries of the Dominican Sisters of Amityville. For further information about raffles, commemorative program and more, contact Sr. Eileen Nolan, OP at 631.842.6000 ext. 238.

Married Couples

Fall is a beautiful season full of color and crisp fresh air. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is like autumn because it's a weekend full of fresh crisp air, new beginnings and a time to rejoice in the beauty of your marriage and family. The next weekend is scheduled for **November 3-5 at the Melville Marriott**. Registration is limited. For more information or to register call 1.866.499.6354.

Religion & Rock

Tune into "Religion & Rock" with Fr. 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.

Next Sunday's theme is: "**Autumn Changes.**" Don't forget to tune in!

Visit "Religion & Rock" on the web, www.religionandrock.com. Also watch "Good News with Father Jim" on TELECARE, channel 29, on Mondays and Fridays at 9:45 AM; Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 7:45 PM; Sundays at 8 PM.

St. Edward School Reunion

St. Edward the Confessor School, Syosset is hosting a **reunion and celebration** in honor of the school's **45 Anniversary** on **Saturday, November 4**. For further information call Allison Murray Morris at 516.921.8030, extension 135.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS		
OPEN HOUSES		
You are invited to explore the benefits of a Catholic High School Education		
Please feel free to visit our schools during the times and dates listed below.		
DATE:	TIME:	SCHOOL:
OCTOBER 2006		
SATURDAY 21	12:00 PM – 2:00 PM	ACADEMY OF ST. JOSEPH
SUNDAY 22	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM	McGANN-MERCY DIOC. H.S.
Applications available in the Religious Education office and OLL School office.		

Golden Wedding Jubilee

On **Sunday, November 19**, couples married 50 years or more are invited to a special Mass to be celebrated by Bishop Paul Walsh at **Christ the King, Commack at 3 PM**. Please pick up your registration card at the OLL Parish Office before October 31. If you have any questions, please call 516.678.5800, extension 242.

Military Bridge

The Columbiettes of Our Lady of Grace Church is hosting a Military Bridge card game on **Friday, October 20** in **Fr. Shanahan Hall, Our Lady of Grace, West Babylon**. **Doors open at 6:45 PM**. Military Bridge will be from 7:30 PM until 10 PM. There will be door prizes, raffles, refreshments and more. For information call Ann at 422.6235.

Model Train and Toy Show

St. Vincent de Paul Model Train and Toy Show, Elmont will be held on **Sunday, October 29** **between the hours of 10 AM and 3 PM**. Featured at Lionel, LGB, and American Flyer trains and accessories. \$5 at the door for adults, children under 12 free when accompanied by adult., seniors are \$4. Breakfast and lunch are available. For more information please call 516.352.2127.