

OUR LADY OF LOURDES • PENTECOST SUNDAY • MAY 27, 2007

**THEY
SAW
WHAT
SEEMED
TO BE
TONGUES
OF FIRE**



**THAT
SEPARATED
CAME TO
& REST
ON EACH
OF THEM.**

ACTS 2:3



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 our Parish Office.

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

Parish Outreach Office

661-9262

Monday-Friday: 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

S.A.G.E.

661-3224

(Senior Advocates for Growth
and Enrichment)

email: Sage@ollchurch.org

Rev. Stanislaus Chukwube

Associate Pastor

Rev. Robert Scheckenback

Associate Pastor

Deacon John DeGuardi

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

Mary McMahan

Director of Parish Social Ministry

Vita Scorcia

Ministry Spiritual Director

John Sureau

Coordinator of Worship

Sr. Betty Toohig

Senior Ministry-SAGE

Anthony Trombino

Business Manager

Pastoral Council

Michael Abbruscato

Salomon Acosta

Regina Ann Cioffi

Jane Desthers

Stephen Frodell

Jen Gallagher

Anne Kerrigan

Maria Lucie (*co-chair*)

Mary McMahan

Doreen Spiller

Mary Steck

Fr. Mike Vetrano

Marie Yuliano (*co-chair*)

Parish Staff

Barbara Catusco

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

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.*

*Our Lady
of Lourdes*

455 Hunter Avenue
West Islip, New York 11795

Parish Pilgrimage 2007



Travel this summer to Montreal and Quebec. Experience a pilgrimage that brings a wonderful fellowship among us. Travel dates are scheduled for July 9 - July 16, 2007.

In Montreal: enjoy Montreal Harbor, the Basilica of Notre Dame, Botanical Gardens, the famous Oratory of St. Joseph.

In Quebec: experience the largest French speaking city in North America. Visit the Basilica of St. Anne de Beaupre, stroll down world known St. Catherine Street and experience the Chateau Frontenac. As we travel, we will have occasions to celebrate Mass with our own Father Bob presiding and Deacon John assisting and our fellow travelers will have the opportunity to serve as Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors.



OLL's Ongoing Concert Series

Sweet Plantain

...an evolution in the string quartet

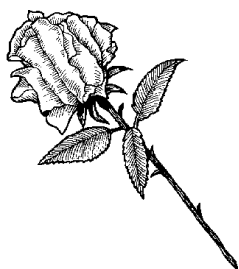
If you've loved listening to our violinist, Mr. Eddie Venegas, play at our special Holy Week services, here's your chance to enjoy his playing in a concert setting.

Mr. Venegas is the violinist for the *Sweet Plantain String Quartet*. They will be performing at OLL at a special concert to be given on **June 1 at 7:30PM in the Church.**

Sweet Plantain is a string quartet with a contemporary voice. Its repertoire is diverse and includes all genres of music. Musical innovation is the hallmark of this group. Its unique sound is a fusion of classical, jazz, Latin, funk and pop.

Join us on June 1 and enjoy an evening of musical diversity and creativity. Tickets are only \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Sponsorships are available for \$200. You may purchase your tickets in the Parish Office.

Remember to keep June 1 open for a wonderful musical experience! For more information and insight into the "Sweet Plantain String Quartet," be sure to visit their website at www.sweetplantain.com.



**Next
Weekend!**

Mother's Day / Father's Day Mass for parents who have lost a child

We would like to invite any parent who has lost a child to a special **Mass on Saturday, June 2 at 10 AM.**

Mother's Day and Father's Day can be difficult times for parents who have lost a child. Whether you have lost a child in childhood or adulthood, to stillbirth or miscarriage, this Mass will be celebrated to bring you God's peace and consolation.

Mass will be followed by hospitality in our Parish Center. Please feel free to invite family or friends with you. *For more information, or to let us know you will be able to attend, please call the Parish Office at 661.3224.*

Religious Retirement Fund

The weekend of June 2/3 is the annual collection for the Religious Retirement Fund

Religious Sisters and Brothers who have been involved in education, health care and social ministry in the Diocese of Rockville Centre need help. The stipends being earned by young members of Religious Communities are no longer enough to support the needs of the elderly members of their Communities. The number of elderly Religious in assisted living or nursing facilities continues to rise and health care costs are rising, too.

For this reason, the Diocese of Rockville Centre, for the past twenty-two years has committed to return to our Religious Communities a portion of our gifts of treasure, in appreciation for the many years of service to the people of our Diocese of these dedicated servants of Our Lord.

Please come prepared next weekend to assist the elderly Religious with a once a year gift, as generous as your means will allow. These gifts will be distributed among the thirty communities who serve our diocese.

Your gift may be placed in the mail or dropped in the collection basket on the weekend of June 2/3. Brochures describing this appeal are available in the church or you may have received one at home.

*On behalf of the Religious who serve in our parishes and hospitals,
thank you for your generosity.*

School News

Big Bucks Raffle!

We will be having a **Big Bucks Raffle on June 9**. First prize will be \$5,000 and each raffle will cost \$100. **Raffle tickets will be on sale after Masses next weekend, June 2/3**, or they can be picked up at the OLL school office.

Summer Evening Prayer

Save the Dates...

Summer Evening Prayer

Mondays of Summer beginning July 9 at 7:30 PM on the Great Lawn (In case of rain or extreme heat on any Monday night, we will gather in the All Purpose Room) Come and be part of it all!

Pastoral Council-New Leader Search

The **Pastoral Council** of Our Lady of Lourdes Church will have two vacancies this year. We are opening up nominations at this time to replace those whose terms are up. Those nominated for the Council must be active, believing parishioners, who support the church through their time, talent and treasure.

The nominees should have the desire to be an active participant and supporter of all Council activities and be willing to speak on behalf of the needs and hopes of all parishioners. The Council term would be for three years and a member is eligible to serve no more than two consecutive terms. Anyone interested in being considered please notify Fr. Mike in writing by June 5.

Experiencing the Eucharist More Powerfully

Liturgist Gabe Huck recently wrote about the power of the Eucharist – and how our celebration of the Eucharist at Mass can help us recognize Jesus' presence more fully.

How then can all of us come to do this Eucharist more fully?

Most of the answer is surprisingly down to earth, about the body as well as the spirit because that's our Catholic way.



Here are some beginnings:

1. Each Sunday, after the table is prepared, we are told to lift up our hearts and to give God thanks and praise. This is more or less an order. It means that this whole assembly must be doing what is now to be done at the table. And what is to be done is the eucharistic prayer, the very heart of our liturgy. Every bit of this prayer is vital to us. Full attention is needed, shown in alert posture and in singing the acclamations from the Holy Holy to the Great Amen.

2. When we pray the Our Father together, do it with all your strength, in your voice and in your extended hands. When we reach our hands in peace to those around us, mean it and put your body and eyes into it. When we see the breaking of the bread and join in the litany Lamb of God, let your voice tell what your heart needs to know: mercy and peace are God's gifts and ours to this broken world. With these three deeds — the Our Father, the peace greeting, the breaking of the bread — we come at last to the Holy Communion.

Religious Education

Grade 6/7/8 Hang Out Nites continue...

Friday June 22 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM Parish Center

Don't forget...there's something for everyone!

All 6th / 7th / 8th graders of our Parish Family... come play volleyball, basketball.

We have Guitar Hero 2, Dance Revolution, music and more... DON'T MISS IT!

also...

Grades 9/10/11/12

ALL ARE WELCOME! High School Chaperones help with set-up, participate in activities, refreshments, clean-up, etc., and assist the Adult Chaperones.

A Big Thank You!

On behalf of all of our First Communion Families, I wish to thank all of you for the prayerful support of all of our youngsters who received the Eucharist this Spring. We were overwhelmed by the number of cards and greetings that were sent!



A special thank you to Father Mike and Father Bob, who celebrated the liturgies in such a welcoming and prayerful way, to all our catechists and Eucharistic ministers, to Carol Goetz and Rex Muro-who provided such lovely music, and to all the behind-the-scenes people who saw that no detail was overlooked!

The children are very aware of how blessed they are to belong to such a warm and welcoming place –

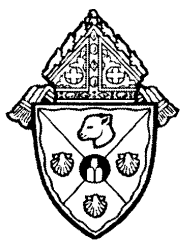
In answering the question, “*What do you like best about our parish family?*”, they wrote:

- ~ *They are really nice. They make me feel welcome.*
- ~*The priests are always nice to us.*
- ~*The music.*
- ~*The friends we see.*
- ~ *We are all a happy family.*
- ~ *It is very generous, supportive and involved in the parish's matters.*
- ~*That everybody in the parish family is very nice.*
- ~ *Seeing the community come together on Sunday mornings.*
- ~ *God is in it.*
- ~ *There's lots of kids.*
- ~ *The 9:30 Mass ...more to come!*

Thanks again for all you are and all you do!

Lovingly,

Sister Diane and Pep 2 & OLL School Grade 2



2007 Catholic Ministries Appeal

The Hands of Christ-Supporting the Community Around Us

The key ingredient to the success of our appeal is participation. In order to reach our goal, we need to have every family participate in the appeal to the best of their ability. If you have not had an opportunity to make a gift to the appeal or have been waiting to make a pledge, please complete the pledge card below and place it in the collection basket.

Commonly Asked Questions & Answers

What is the Catholic Ministries Appeal?

The *Catholic Ministries Appeal* is the Diocese of Rockville Centre's annual drive to help fund a variety of programs and services found throughout our communities. It provides the means necessary to continue to carry out the mission Christ has entrusted to us and to ensure the quality of Catholic life in the future.

Will this appeal fund only the programs in the brochure?

Yes. All the money raised will meet the basic funding needed to support the ministries explained in the brochure.

How will parishioners be contacted during the Appeal?

It is intended that each and every Catholic household within the diocese be presented with the needs of the appeal and learn how their gifts benefit our communities. This will be achieved through a series of presentation talks by the Pastor and lay people from the pulpit along with pulpit announcements, newsletters, and mailings.

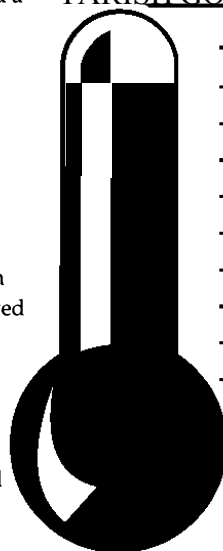
How much should I give to the Appeal?

Each family is asked to consider a sacrificial gift to the appeal in the spirit of Christian Stewardship. Pledges can be paid in either monthly installments or on a schedule most suited for your family. All gifts are greatly appreciated and accepted to the appeal.

Why are pledges encouraged, instead of one-time donations?

While one-time donations are greatly appreciated, pledges provide parishioners with the opportunity to make a more sacrificial gift to the mission of the Church by spreading their intentions over a ten-month period that will help raise the necessary funds.

PARISH GOAL \$103,000



____ \$103,000
 ____ \$80,135
 ____ Pledged
 ____ to Date

367 Pledges
 \$220 Avg. Pledge

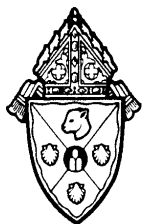
CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL • DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
 PO Box 4000 • ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NEW YORK 11571-4000 • 516-379-5210 EXT 2 • www.drvc.org/cma.html

2007 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

Supporting the Community Around Us

TO PROVIDE FUNDS I/WE AGREE TO MAKE A GIFT OF:

PLEDGE \$ _____ INITIAL PAYMENT \$ _____ BALANCE \$ _____



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PARISH OF DONOR _____

SIGNATURE OF DONOR _____

A GUIDE TO GIVING	
PLEDGE	10 PAYMENTS
\$5,000	\$500
2,500	250
1,500	150
1,000	100
500	50
300	30
150	15
OTHER \$ _____	
EVERY GIFT COUNTS!	

Please make checks payable to:
 Catholic Ministries Appeal
Thank you for your support

For more information, please call 516.379.5210, extension 2 or email to www.drvc.org/cma.html.

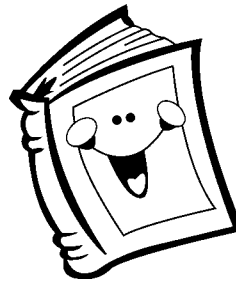
5th Annual El Salvador Mission Trip

June 30-July 5, 2007:

Join us for a week-long retreat among the poor! This experience, which is especially geared for teens ages 12-18, will enable you to share your faith, culture, and hospitality with the people of our Sister Parish of Tacuba, El Salvador.

We will spend a week walking with the people, learning about their lives, and running a mini-vacation Bible camp for the children there!

The cost of the trip will be approximately \$850. For more information, email jengallagher@ollchurch.org.



Project READ

OLL Mission Awareness Trip

El Salvador 2007

Do you have a favorite children's book from when you were growing up? For so many children in our sister parish of Tacuba, El Salvador, they do not have access to the books we all loved to read growing up. This year, our group of missionaries would like to go down to Tacuba with suitcases full of books for the children in the town. We would like to ask your help in doing this.

We will be collecting donations of Spanish children's books (new or very gently used!), gift certificates to local book stores or monetary donations so that we can purchase as many children's book as we can hold to donate to our sister parish. Our goal is to bring down 327 books.

Members of this year's mission trip will be at each of the masses the weekends of **June 10** and **June 17** to collect your donations.

Thank you so much for helping to bring the joy of reading to the children in our sister parish!

Sixth Annual OLL Vacation Bible Camp

Save the dates: July 23-27.

This year's theme is FLIGHT Camp!! (**F**un-**L**earning-**I**n-**G**od's-**H**oly-**T**ime) and rumor has it that OLL will be visited by all kinds of FLYING things that week!

Vacation Bible Camp is for students in nursery - grade 5 and runs daily from 9 AM-12:30 PM. Campers learn through interactive Bible stories, arts and crafts, games, super science center, and lots of those crazy camp songs! Students in sixth grade or older can serve as volunteer counselors.

Camp registration forms will run in the bulletin beginning the first week in June. Be sure to save the dates and plan to join us for a fun week. Up, up, and away!

Daily Mass

8 AM

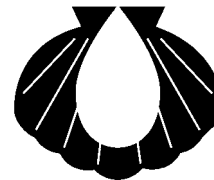
Weekend Masses

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

Bianca Marie DeRosa

Nicholas and Connie

Nicholas Christopher DeRosa, Jr.

Nicholas and Connie

Madison Sloane Jacobs

Jeff and Denise

Ryan Andrew Jacobs

Jeff and Denise

Jared Brian Lynch

David and Jennifer

Sarah Marie Mallimo

Robert and Laurie

James Robert Mattel

Robert and Toni

Olivia Renee Randazzo

Agostino and Jessica

Upcoming Marriages

Kristine Sokolowski, OLL and

1Lt. Christopher Buscaglia,

St. Peter & Paul, Williamsville, NY

Rosary/Novena

Rosary:

Daily after 8 AM Mass

Miraculous Medal Novena:

Monday after 8 AM Mass

Anointing of the Sick

Throughout the liturgical year.

If needed sooner, please call the Parish Office.

Baptism

Please contact the Parish Office to schedule an appointment.

Marriage

Arranged at least six months in advance, please call the Parish Office.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults(RCIA):

A process to be embraced by the Catholic Church. For non-Catholics and for Catholics who have never received formal religious education. If interested, please call the Parish Office.

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, May 28

8:00 AM Ethel Dixon Isola & Antoinetta Isola

Tuesday, May 29

8:00 AM Aniello Bianco

Wednesday, May 30

8:00 AM Dominic Carrano

Thursday, May 31

Visitation of the Virgin Mary

8:00 AM Patrick Manning



Rest In Peace

Thomas DiCristo

Friday, June 1

St. Justin, martyr

8:00 AM Frank Barba

Saturday, June 2

8:00 AM George F. Bukowski, Lily Turano, Vincent McCarthy,
Sacred Heart of Jesus, Virginia Fischetti, Mary O'Keefe

5:00 PM Alfredo Isola

Fr. Stan Chukwube

Sunday, June 3

8:00 AM Gertrude Hauxhurst

Fr. John Asomugha

9:30 AM Madeline Hopper

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

11:00 AM Joseph DiMola III

Fr. Mike Vetrano

12:30 PM Marie Conforti

Fr. Ed Dowling

6:00 PM People of the Parish, Brian Bogart, Angelo Artuso,
Virginia Adamo, Helen Giammelle, Robert Pellicano,
Pasqualine Zaino, Peter M. Gomez, Theresa Portela,
Rose Lucio(L)

Fr. Stan Chukwube

SAGE

The SAGE Group (Senior Advocates for Growth and Enrichment) will meet on **Tuesday, May 29** in the **Parish Center at 9 AM**.

Spring Cleaning

Please remember The Rosary Christian Mothers-we are sponsoring a **“White Elephant Sale”** on **Saturday, June 9 from 10:30 AM until 6 PM**. Any gently used or new items would be greatly appreciated. Please call 669.3178 for donations.



Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration will **follow the 5 PM Mass on Saturday, June 2** with Benediction at 9:50 PM. Please come and pray with us-our prayers will be for fathers, grandfathers, and all men who have helped us on our life’s journey, especially for priests who are our *“Spiritual Fathers.”* All are invited and welcome! Bring a friend.

Wedding Ministry

How do you feel when you get to share in the most special days of a couple’s life? Excited? Joyful? Blessed? Nostalgic? These are words we use to describe our feelings about being a part of the Wedding Ministry. We are there for the couple on the day of their wedding rehearsal to go through the steps of the ceremony and answer any last minute questions they may have. More importantly, we are there to calm, reassure, and offer our support. On the “big day” we are at the Church early to prepare and welcome the couple and their guests to OLL. In the wedding ministry it is all about the little things. We hope to help make their day as beautiful as they dreamed it would be!

-Theresa Moy

Our Wedding Ministry is growing and changing and looking for some new members. If you are interested in finding out how this ministry works and “shadowing” a present wedding ministry member, please contact Linda Kucala at 277-5324 or email lkuchem@optonline.net or Ann Munkwitz at 666.4756 for more information. All 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 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.

Signing at Mass for Hearing Impaired

We have contracted with a sign language interpreter to provide our deaf parishioners with an opportunity for deeper participation in our Sunday liturgies. She will be signing at the 11AM Mass on Sundays. Parishioners who will be using this service are asked to use the first few rows near the Baptismal font. Please feel free to contact anyone who may benefit from this service.



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.

Pray for Our Sick

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

*John Aspromanti, Christopher Bartley, Kassidy Belcher, Pat Bonavita,
Thomas Brennan, Baby Drew Brust, Christian Bullock, Lynn Castellano,
Dawn Coughlin, Regina Cranor, Joseph Cristallo, Anthony Ferrante, Jason Fisher,
William Fortcher, Cathy Gries, Kevin Hahn, Samantha Hil, Adam Ippolito,
Brigid Kinney, Anthony Lombardo, Mike Lorento, Diego Marino, Michele McCann,
Peter McCann, Sr., Adam McFarland, Dot McNamee, Bryan Monahan,
Jimmy Murphy, Frieda Perry, Gene Perry, Joe Radosti, Delphine Reynolds,
Felix Rivera, Carol Scheid, Dorothy Schiavone, Dorothy Sullivan,
Marie "Amy" Turano, Loretta Vitale, Betty Walsh, Terry Whalley*



Pentecost Sunday

At 16, he had already fathered a child. By the age of 20, he was divorced and hooked on drugs and alcohol. At 40, he had lost track of the number of times he had enrolled in a detoxification or rehab program. And he had a brand new daughter. Today, she sits next to him at Mass, proud of the dad who has been sober for seven years. He will say she is a breath of life; she will say he is better through the Holy Spirit.

On this Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the breath of new life in Jesus Christ. When Jesus appeared to his disciples soon after the Resurrection, he first offered them peace, and then breathed on each of them, saying "Receive the Holy Spirit," and empowered them to forgive sins. No matter the sins of our lives, the darkness we may have lived in, the purifying Holy Spirit allows us to ask for and receive forgiveness.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that when God sends his Word, Jesus Christ, he also sends his breath, the Holy Spirit (CCC 689). As stated, the two are separate but inseparable. The reality of Jesus' life on earth as God is shown in his body, but it is the Holy Spirit that allows us to understand the redemptive love of God. Today, breathe in the love of God; allow the Holy Spirit to clean your wounds and give you new life!

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Readings for the Week of May 27, 2007

Sunday:	<i>Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39 Day: Acts 2:1-11/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Rom 8:8-17/Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26</i>
Monday:	Sir 17:20-24/Mk 10:17-27
Tuesday:	Sir 35:1-12/Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday:	Sir 36:1, 4-5a, 10-17/Mk 10:32-45
Thursday:	Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16/Lk 1:39-56
Friday:	Sir 44:1, 9-13/Mk 11:11-26
Saturday:	Sir 51:12cd-20/Mk 11:27-33
Next Sunday:	Prv 8:22-31/Rom 5:1-5/Jn 16:12-15

Financial Summary

May 20, 2007

Weekly Collection	\$ 16,527.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 21,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ (4,423.00)

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

Members in the Military

We ask that you pray especially for those in our parish that are on active duty in the Middle East conflict.

They are:



Brian Barthel-US Air Force
Bryan R. Dempsey-US Marines
Frederick Wm. Ellis-US Army
John Finn-US Army
Armand J. LeComte-US Marines
Michael Mallimo-US Army
Peter Provenzano-US Army

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

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:

"Memorial Day Special."

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.

Here Politics and Faith Meet: Long Islanders Seeking Justice

How Catholic citizens “work for a just ordering of society” as called for in Pope Benedict XVI’s encyclical, *Deus Caritas Est* (God is Love)

Doing Charity and Justice in One Town

Source: Stations of the Cross in Solidarity with the Poor on Long Island, by Richard Koubek, published by Catholic Charities, Diocese of Rockville Centre, 2006.

The lay faithful cannot relinquish their participation “in many different economic, social, legislative, administrative and cultural areas, which are intended to promote ...the common good.”

Pope Benedict XVI, *Deus Caritas Est*.

The Town of Huntington, like most of Long Island, is racially segregated and has a severe shortage of affordable housing. Both the segregation and housing problems are fueled by racial and class prejudices. And yet, there are signs of God’s love – caritas - in Huntington.

Hundreds of volunteers from more than two dozen Huntington religious congregations, through the Huntington Interfaith Homeless Initiative (HIHI), are sheltering homeless people who were living along the railroad tracks. Other Huntington congregations, through the Interfaith Coalition for Affordable Housing Now (ICAHN) are examining the Town’s housing shortage as a moral issue. They are also sponsoring an “examination of conscience” about racial and class prejudices in Huntington, again using the moral lens of their religions to challenge segregation in their own neighborhoods.

On January 14, 2007, ICAHN sponsored a Martin Luther King interfaith prayer service, attended by 450 people, that focused on the needs of the working poor. And, over 25 civic and religious groups have formed the Huntington Township Housing Coalition to advocate for more affordable housing in their Town. Each of these groups illustrates Pope Benedict’s call for the lay faithful to participate in civic life to promote “the common good.”

Do you want to work for justice? Contact Dr. Richard Koubek at Catholic Charities’ Public Policy Education Network, 516.733.7077 or by e-mail: Koubek.richard@catholiccharities.cc



The Parish Office will be **closed** on
Monday, May 28 in observance
of **Memorial Day**.



Food
Pantry
Needs

- baked beans
- boxed potatoes
- boxed rice
- canned meat
- cookies
- crackers
- hot chocolate
- mayonnaise

Pentecost

While walking my dogs one morning this past week, I found myself thinking about Pentecost. I don't often think about Pentecost, but this one morning I was thinking about Pentecost because my children don't have red shirts and they are supposed to wear red to Church this Sunday.

I started to think about the disciples and the whole Pentecost event. Imagine locking yourself in a room because you are so afraid-and suddenly Jesus is there, right in front of you... Imagine that! Not only is Jesus there, but he offers you a tremendous gift-and after you receive this gift, nothing in your life will be the same...ever again! I think that is how it was for the disciples.

I also think that is how it is for us.

I've had many Pentecosts in my lifetime, and so have you. Those events infused with the Holy Spirit and after which we are not the same. I call these the 'before and after events' because life will never be the same after the event: Births, adoptions, marriage, divorce, death, illness, job changes-people who have a profound impact on our lives.

The question is "How am I different?"

In Outreach, clients come to our office and offer us their stories-their particular Pentecost. Most times, it is difficult to stay present to these stories, as they are punctuated with vulnerability and suffering-physical, emotional. Let's face it-vulnerability and suffering is as difficult to witness as it is to embrace.

The question for all of us in the Outreach Office is; "How are we different witnessing to another's Pentecost?" In Outreach we offer food, and support, I hope we can offer peace-certainly we can always offer prayer. The question again: How does witnessing this client's Pentecost change me?

So, wear red on Sunday-and ask yourself and the members of your family what Pentecost events have happened to you? And, how has your life changed as a result?

Peace!

-Mary McMahon
Director of Parish Social Ministry

Bereavement Group

Consolation Nursing Facility is offering a Bereavement Group.

This is an 8 week group which will meet every Monday, from 7:30-9 PM starting on June 4.

If you are interested, please phone Peggy Nixdorf at 587.1600, extension 8297.

Marriage Encounter

Spring has sprung...

So why not put the spring back in your marriage. Don't you and your spouse deserve a beautiful, romantic weekend away together? If you agree, then you'll want to attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next weekend is scheduled for June 1-3. Registration is limited. For more information or to register, call 1.866.499.6354. Please visit our local website at www.wmeli.org.

Summer Sports Camps

St. John the Baptist is pleased to announce that they will once again offer summer sports camps. Weekly camps run from June 25 through August 3 and include lunch and an athletic trainer.

For Summer Sports Camp brochure, please email athletics@sjbdhs.org or call 587.8000, ext. 164.

School Reunions

The graduates of **Queen of the Rosary Academy, Class of '57**, will celebrate their **50th Anniversary Reunion in September 2007**. For more information, contact Debbie at 516.764.4331.

Maria Regina Residence

Maria Regina Residence is a skilled long term care facility located on the property of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Brentwood. It provides Adult Day Health Services offering a wonderful day program including transportation and meals, as well as a loving atmosphere provided by an inclusive staff. If interested, or for further information, please contact Veronica Anderson, Director at 631.299.3045.

Retrouvaille

YOU can help your marriage now! Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue? Have you just stopped talking to each other? Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped thousands of couples experiencing all types of marital difficulties. For confidential information about the Retrouvaille program, or to register for the upcoming weekend beginning on Friday, June 2 please call 1.800.470.2230.

Mother-Daughter Tea

The Diocesan Respect for Life Office is sponsoring a Mother-Daughter Tea on Saturday, June 30 from 11:30 – 2:30 at St. Agnes Cathedral, 29 Quealy Place, Rockville Centre. Topics to be discussed are: The Virtue of Chastity, Physical and Emotional Development, God’s Gift of Fertility and The Importance of the Mother-Daughter Relationship. Tickets are \$15 for each family. If interested, please call the Respect for Life Office: 516.379.8292: ext. 915 or respectlife@drvc.org

Centering Prayer Retreat Weekend

Sponsored by Contemplative Outreach of LI/Queens, our next Centering Prayer Retreat Weekend will be held Friday, June 22 through Sunday, June 24 at the St. Ignatius Retreat House in Manhasset. For further information please call Diane Garretson at 587-0966.

Bereavement Workshops

Bereavement workshops for those working with the bereaved sponsored by Catholic Cemeteries, Diocese of Rockville Centre will be held on Friday, June 8 at St. Matthew Parish Center, Dix Hills. Nurturing self-care tips with Jane Malone, Ph.D., LCSW from 9:30 AM until noon with a fee of \$10. Call Diane to register at 516.334.7990, extension 119.

Diocesan Liturgy

A Diocesan Liturgy celebrating the gifts of persons with special needs will be celebrated with Msgr. Robert Brennan on Sunday, June 10 at 3 PM at St. Frances de Chantal Church, Wantagh. Family and friends are welcome! Light refreshments to follow in the parish center. For more information, call Mary Anne Russo at 516.678.5800, extension 540. Come celebrate with us!

Be a Part of Divine Intervention

You are invited to be a part of our new season of “Divine Intervention”, Telecare’s hit game show. We are looking for people to be a contestant or a member of the studio audience. Tapings will take place during the first two weeks in June. Contestants will have the opportunity to win fabulous prizes! Audience members will be asked to stay for the taping of three shows, from 9 AM until 1 PM. Snacks will be provided. To be a contestant or to make a booking to be in the audience, call the Divine Intervention hotline at 516.538.8704, extension 159 for contestants or extension 104 for audience.

Coping with the Divine Fire Within

Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI

"Our life is a short time in expectation, a time in which sadness and joy kiss each other at every moment. There is a quality of sadness that pervades all the moments of our life. It seems that there is no such a thing as a clear-cut pure joy, but that even in the most happy moments of our existence we sense a tinge of sadness. In every satisfaction, there is an awareness of limitations. In every success, there is the fear of jealousy. Behind every smile, there is a tear. In every embrace, there is loneliness. In every friendship, distance. And in all forms of light, there is the knowledge of surrounding darkness. ... But this intimate experience in which every bit of life is touched by a bit of death can point us beyond the limits of our existence. It can do so by making us look forward in expectation to the day when our hearts will be filled with perfect joy, a joy that no one shall take away from us."

Henri Nouwen wrote that and the older we get the more we experience its truth. In this life, there's no such a thing as a "clear-cut pure" joy. But that doesn't make our lives less-worth living, it simply changes our perspective. Karl Rahner said a similar thing: "In the torment of the insufficiency of everything attainable, we learn that here, in this life, all symphonies remain unfinished."

What this means is that we aren't restless creatures who occasionally get restless, fulfilled people who occasionally are dissatisfied, serene people who occasionally experience disquiet. Rather we are restless people who occasionally find rest, dissatisfied people who occasionally find fulfillment, and disquieted people who occasionally find serenity. We don't naturally default into rest, satisfaction, and quiet, but into their opposite.

Why?

We too easily assume that we must be doing something wrong to trigger all this restlessness and disquiet. Sometimes that's the case, but our deepest emotional aches and pains have their real root in what's best in us rather than in what's worst in us. Ultimately, our profoundest dissatisfactions take their root in what's deepest inside us, the image and likeness of God.

As Christians, we believe that we bear the image and likeness of God inside of us and that this is our deepest reality. We are made in God's image. However we tend to picture this in a naive, romantic,

and pious way. We imagine that somewhere inside us there is a beautiful icon of God stamped into our souls. That may well be, but God, as scripture assures us, is more than an icon. God is fire-wild, infinite, ineffable, non-containable.

If that same fire is inside us, and it is, then there are divine appetites inside of us too, appetites that are not ever satiable in this life. There's a divine restlessness written right in our DNA.

And that divine fire is at the root of most of what is problematic in our lives: grandiosity, jealousy, rage, egotism, our incapacity to be satisfied, our constant longing for more, our restless ambitions, our pathological complexities, our greed, and our propensity for addiction. It's difficult to live in this world and be satisfied, humble, chaste, and not jealous of others. It's difficult too to have to share this world with six billion others who are just as special as we are. Something in our very make-up wants always to stand out, to be recognized as unique, to own the world, and to be acknowledged as godly. No wonder there are so many jealousies and wars on this planet.

But this divine fire is also the root of all that's good in us. When we have divine fire inside of us, it's also impossible to be satisfied with mediocrity, with sin, with lack of meaning, with only this world, with what's second best, and with anything less than a full surrender in love to all that's good - others, the world, God. When we're in the image of God it's impossible not to go through life and be relentlessly driven to search for love and to search for God.

Being in the image of God is our greatest blessing and our greatest struggle. Because of it, we search for meaning, give our lives for each other, create magnificent works of art, and bow in worship to God. But because of it we also spend too many sleepless nights, are often furiously jealous of each other, and too often see others as rivals, give in to rage, and murder each other. It's not a simple thing to carry infinity in a finite body and a finite world.

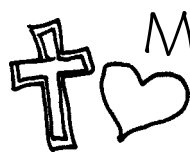
St. Augustine summarized it all in one line:

"You have made us for yourself Lord and our hearts are restless until they rest in you." Given the way we're made, it's hard to live in this world and settle for second-best - and, in that, lie the roots for both greatness and self-destruction.

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.

Sharing the Gospel

The disciples must have missed spending time with Jesus after he went back to heaven. But they knew that the Holy Spirit would always be with them, helping them remember what Jesus taught them. The disciples kept learning about God and kept growing closer to him. The Holy Spirit will help you remember Jesus, too.



Mission for the Week

Pray to the Holy Spirit.

Ask him to help you learn more about Jesus.



Puzzle

How many spirits can you count?



©LPi

THE ANSWER IS FOURTEEN

Prayer



Dear God,
thank you for
sending the Holy
Spirit.

Something to Draw



Draw a picture of
Jesus washing his
friends' feet.