

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Our Lady of Lourdes • March 9, 2008

“Lazarus,



come out.”

John 11:43



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: info@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

Dominic Armano

Youth Ministry

Sr. Margaret Bickar

Senior Ministry-SAGE

Sr. Nancy Campkin

Director of Religious Education

Jennifer Gallagher

Children's Choir/Women's Chorale

Summer Program Director

Carol M. Goetz

Parish Music Director

Louise Jane Krol

School Principal

Sr. Diane Liona

Director of Religious Education

Mary McMahon

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

Salomon Acosta

Stacie Baltrusitis

Jane Desthers

Stephen Frodell

William Hurley

Anne Kerrigan

Maria Lucie (*co-chair*)

Deacon Jack Meehan

Vita Scorcia

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

"The Six"

LENT 2008 – Getting Healed

Sunday nights are for healing at OLL! Our Sunday night Mass is focused on putting forth and acknowledging the areas of healing that we all need to face in our lives. Since the beginning of Lent, we have examined our consciences and histories, looked at prejudice and discrimination while watching "The Freedom Writers" and continue to acknowledge the brokenness in our own lives. Moreover – we are beginning to see what we can do to discover God's healing in our lives.

Tonight - March 9 – Members of our parish's Ministry of Consolation will share with us their experiences of reaching out to the grieving and bereaved in our parish community.

Sunday, March 16 – Palm Sunday – "The Six" through powerful music and reflections – presents the Passion of Jesus in a way that invites deep reflection.

You have never been to "The Six?" – think about giving Sunday nights over to God as we continue in this Lenten season.

Special Reconciliation - LENT 2008

Please make some time to join us for Reconciliation during Lent this year. We will have Reconciliation from **3 PM until 9 PM on Monday, March 17.**

There will also be an opportunity for Reconciliation on Holy Saturday, **March 22 from 9:30 AM until 11 AM.**

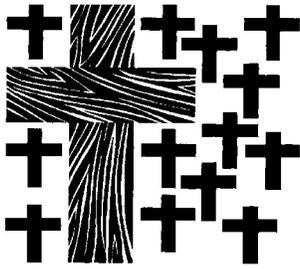
Lent 2008 at *"The Six"*

Getting Fixed Up – Finding Healing!

The liturgies at "The Six" this Lent will call on each of us to look for healing in different areas of our lives. From special rituals and experience, to powerful homilies, to activities that call us to bring healing to our world – make The Six a part of your Lenten journey. *Come and Pray this Lent...*

All 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th Graders and their families, come and pray this Lent at "The Six" Sunday Mass at 6 PM.

5th Sunday of Lent	March 9	Gr. 7	"SERVE"... SERVICE PROJECT SUNDAY
Palm Sunday	March 16	Gr. 8	"PRAY"... AS HOLY WEEK BEGINS



Stations of the Cross

We remember the road to Jesus' death and link his journey to our own as our parish's deacons, and soon to be deacon, Tom Lucie, lead us through this beautiful devotion.

Come and pray with us...

Each Friday during Lent – 1 PM and 7 PM

Save the date...

Living Stations of the Cross

Good Friday, March 21 at 7:30 PM in the Church

This is a must for your Lenten and Holy Week journey! Our parish community comes together – led by our young people, our Music Ministries and members of our parish community – who share their own personal experiences on this most holy and solemn night. The celebration includes the Veneration of the Cross.



RCIA – The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

As we celebrate this holy season of Lent, our work with the catechumen and candidates of the RCIA continues. From last Sunday through next Sunday, we celebrate the Scrutinies. During these weeks, we pray for those who have participated in this process that they can discover the areas of weakness and strengthen their relationship with God and the Church.

The Intercessions

During each of the Scrutinies, the Intercessions are different than those we use at other Masses as we pray specifically for the catechumen and candidates. While we mention the overall needs of the community – peace in the world, a stronger Church, for the sick and the dying – our focus is on the catechumen and candidates and for their growth and development.

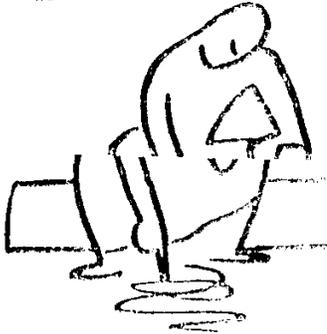
Let's continue to pray for all involved in the RCIA process – particularly our parish's Elect – *Kristopher Hardy and Bronwen Sessa* and our Candidates – *Patricia Clarke, Fernando DeLeon, Michael Flynn, and Bridget Ray*.

Are you interested?

During these final weeks of Lent and throughout the Easter season we invite all in our parish family to join with the women and men of the RCIA as they share faith and learn about the prayer and faith life of this parish community. You can meet in the Parish Center at 11:30 (during the next two weeks and after Easter) or come to the Liturgy of the Word at the 11 and process out with the members of the RCIA team. We also gather on Monday night at 6:15 PM in the cafeteria. Your presence, experience and prayers can make a great difference!

Scribbling in the Sand

In John's Gospel, after writing in the sand, Jesus forgave the woman that the Pharisees had condemned. Come, let us discover how we can live a freer more abundant life through forgiveness of self, others and God.



Who do we need to forgive?

What do we need to forgive?

Where do we need to forgive?

Why do we need to forgive?

Please join us for an evening of prayer and reflection given by the ministry of Family Healing on **Wednesday, March 12 at 7:30 PM in the Parish Center**. Please call the Religious Education Office at 661.5440 to register. Food and fellowship to follow. Bring a friend.

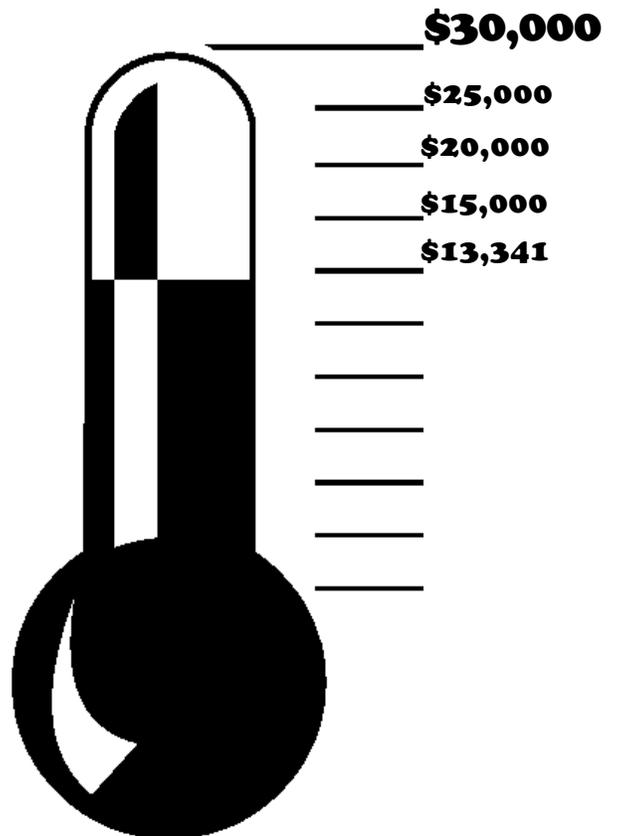
There is still time...

We have received over \$13,000 towards our goal of \$30,000 for our Sisters of St. Joseph and their convent.

There is still time for you to help reach our goal and provide the Sisters with a new roof!

Please take a moment and fill out the donation/entry form on the following page and return it with your donation to the Parish Office.

You will be entered into the drawing for the 37" wide screen LCD HDTV to be held on March 19-St. Joseph's Day.



Our Lady of Lourdes Talks!

Our Convent and Sisters Need Your Help



Our Convent and Sisters need your help this spring! Home to Sisters Nancy and Diane and five other members of the Sisters of St. Joseph, our Convent is desperately in need of roof repairs. The roof over their Chapel and first floor living area must be replaced to eliminate the many leaks and flooding that have occurred this year.

Our Convent has not only been a home to our Sisters for more than 40 years, it also serves the many ministries and members of our community.

We would like to make improvements to our Convent Chapel so that it can be a more welcoming

and private place for parish support groups, such as our bereavement ministries. We would also like to renovate Lourdes Hall, our convent basement, which is a home to many of our AA and other 12 step support groups. Our Convent serves both our Sisters and us—and now it needs your help.

HELP US RAISE \$30,000 THIS SPRING BY TAKING THE “CHAPEY CHALLENGE.”

Our Friends at Chapey and Sons Funeral Home have donated a 37” wide screen LCD HDTV to be raffled off in appreciation for all those who help our Convent Project. Our prize winning drawing will be held on March 19, St. Joseph’s Day.

Here is how it works: For each \$25 donation to the project, your name will be entered into the drawing for the HDTV. For each \$100 donated, you will receive 5 entries in the “Chapey Challenge.”

CHAPEY CHALLENGE/CONVENT PROJECT

Yes, I want to help our Convent Project.

Here is my donation of \$_____ to support our Sisters and our Convent at Our Lady of Lourdes. Drawing will be held on March 19, St. Joseph’s Day.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

The blue donation/entry envelopes for the Chapey Challenge/Convent Project will be located in the pews this weekend and the weekends of March 2 and March 9. You may drop off your donation/entry at the Parish Office, drop your donation/entry in the collection basket or you can mail your entry to: **Convent Project**, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 455 Hunter Avenue, West Islip, NY 11795. You may make copies of this form, but...there is no need to make multiple copies—we will enter you in the contest the correct number of times according to your donation.

Support Groups

Alcoholics Anonymous:

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

ALANON:

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



Daily Mass

8 AM

Weekend Masses

Saturday: 5 PM

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

Reconciliation

Saturday: 4 PM - 4:45 PM

Rosary/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.

Altar Bread and Wine

In Loving Memory of *Olympia Castorino*

Baptisms

Ashleigh Lynn Aziz

Thomas and Susan

Christopher Joseph Bosco

Joseph and Kelly

McCabe Joseph Keane

Michael and Michele

Fiona Rose Mauro

Joseph and Ruth

James Joseph Rogler

Timothy and Raimee

Upcoming Marriages

Christine Carriere, St. Rose of Lima, Massapequa
and *Michael Caton*, OLL



Rest In Peace

Thomas P. Smith died on February 21 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was February 26. We extend our prayers to his wife, Eileen and their children.

Mamie Brody died on February 25 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was February 29. We extend our prayers to her daughters, grandchildren and entire family.

Mass Schedule

Monday, March 10

8:00 AM Steven Perone

Tuesday, March 11

8:00 AM Carmela Stumpo

Wednesday, March 12

8:00 AM Nancy Bencivinni

Thursday, March 13

8:00 AM Steven Perone

Friday, March 14

8:00 AM William Hayes

Saturday, March 15

8:00 AM Cecilia Zere, Frank Barba, Joseph Buccola, Robert Herr, Marie Clancy, In Honor of Blessed Mother, Jerry Kugler, Vita, Lawrence & Robert Kelly, Paul Reilly, Joseph Huraneck

5:00 PM John Lovari

Fr. Mike Vetrano

Sunday, March 16

8:00 AM Kevin Clyde

Fr. Stan Chukwube

9:30 AM Scott Peterson

Fr. Mike Vetrano

11:00 AM Gabrielle Azzarelli

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

12:30 PM Scott Peterson

Fr. John Asomugha

6:00 PM People of the Parish, Robert Herr, Nivia Roggio, James D'Angelo, Joan Maietta, William Bohatyritz, Thomas Smith, Joseph Bonifazio, John Kluko, John Sullivan, Rick Munkwitz, Ginny Munkwitz, Paul Reilly

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Pilgrimage

Rome, Florence, Assisi and Milan

October 16 - 25, 2008

Our next information meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 15 at 7:30 PM**
in the Parish Center.

If you have any questions, or would like additional information, please call
Deacon John at 661.3224, extension 132.

Adult Faith Formation

upcoming courses...

The Jubilee Year of St. Paul

Reading Paul's Letters in the Church of Today

Pope Benedict XVI announced a special Jubilee Year dedicated to St. Paul, saying the church needs modern Christians who will imitate the apostles' missionary energy and spirit of sacrifice. As the Church celebrates the missionary zeal and witness of St. Paul...come, let us gather to explore a modern understanding of Christ's missionary mandate and renew our dedication to carrying it out.

Tuesdays, April 22, 29 and May 6

7:30 PM - 9 PM Parish Center

Presenter is Pat Leonard, Instructor- Pastoral Formation Institute

Introduction to Computers and the Internet

Come and join us as we learn and also have some "hands on" experience. Computers will be available. We will cover basic introduction to computers and the internet, basics of word processing, email, useful links and so much more!

Tuesdays, April 1, 8, 22

7:30 PM - 9 PM Room 16

Presenter is Anthony Buonaspina, Consultant, GRQ Innovations, Inc.

Pre-Registration is necessary and helpful. This will enable us to have enough reading material and refreshments for all those attending. Please call the Religious Education Office, Monday-Friday, between 9AM - 5 PM at 661.5440 x3, or e-mail to: religioused@ollchurch.org.

Family Liturgy

LENT 2008: Change is good.

Each Sunday of Lent, our parish's children are looking at the power of change and how that change can be good and positive. Each Sunday throughout this season, we have been called to look at the change that knowing Jesus can bring to each of our lives.

save the dates...

Holy Week 2008

Children's Holy Thursday Services – Thursday, March 20 – 4 PM

Children's Good Friday Services – Friday, March 21 – 12 Noon

Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, March 22 – 11 AM

If you're interested in being part of our Children's Ministry, contact Joanne Maher at 661.5478 for more information. We are always looking for new members and ideas! All are welcome.

Living Liturgy

Going Green

Our Liturgy Committee has made a clear effort to "Go Green" beginning in this new liturgical cycle. Each week our Sacristans, ushers and volunteers work hard to clean our Church. Our bulletins and extra worship aids are then saved instead of being thrown out in the trash.

How can you help?

We are always looking for volunteers to take our excess bulletins and papers and place them in their beige WRAP cans! If you are able to help us, contact John Sureau at 661.3224, x. 135 or e-mail to jsureau@ollchurch.org

School News

On February 15th, 2008 Dominic Armano, Social Studies teacher for our school, donated his time to help those in need in New Orleans. Upon his return, Armano spent time in his Social Studies classes discussing Katrina, its effects, and the current state of the New Orleans area to raise awareness among students. Along with 35 members from Dowling College, Armano and his former classmates joined with New Orleans local Habitat for Humanity to help in the construction of three East New Orleans houses that were destroyed during Hurricane Katrina in



2005. This was Armano's third consecutive year contributing to the cause. "Though it has been three years since Hurricane Katrina's devastating effects, the area appears as though no time has gone by." Thanks to Armano's efforts things are slowly improving but there is still work to be done. For information on how you can get involved and contribute to the cause, visit www.habitat-nola.org.

We would like to extend a special thank you to Towers Flowers. Towers Flowers stepped in to provide our "daughters" with very special corsages for their Father/Daughter Dance held at our school recently. Thank-you Towers Flowers-you made alot of little girls very happy!



Fifth Sunday of Lent

Have you ever come up with what you thought was a great plan or idea, and decided to share it with friends or loved ones? Isn't it almost a sure bet that someone will think of all the reasons your idea won't work, and almost take delight in telling you so? In such instances, you set yourself apart from the rest when you keep going. Remember, everyone told Wilbur and Orville Wright that they didn't stand a chance in getting that thing off the ground!

How frustrating it must have been for Jesus to announce to his disciples that he was going to Bethany to "awaken Lazarus from his sleep," only to have his closest friends tell him it was too dangerous. Despite their protestations, he calmly explained that his mission was of a grander importance. And even with this explanation, our friend Thomas replied that if Jesus was going to die, they might as well all go die with him!

One of the cornerstones of our faith is the belief in the resurrection. Jesus himself proclaims that he is the resurrection and the life; in order to display this more clearly, he restores his friend Lazarus to life (CCC 994). On this fifth Sunday of Lent, we are called to look once and for all to Jesus' death and resurrection and his ultimate promise to us that if we believe, we too shall be brought from the darkness into new life with Christ.

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Readings for the Week of March 9, 2008

Sunday:	Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 <i>or</i> 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45
Monday:	Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 <i>or</i> 13:41c-62/Jn 8:1-11
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 <i>or</i> Lk 2:41-51a
Next Sunday:	Mt 21:1-11/Is 50:4-7/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14-27:66 <i>or</i> 27:11-54

Easter Flowers

If you would like to remember a loved one in a special way, please return one of the Easter Flower Offering envelopes found at the doors of the Church or that you have received in your envelope mailing. Easter Flower offerings received by **Sunday, March 9** will be published in the Easter Sunday bulletin. What a wonderful way to remember our loved ones during the season of hope and resurrection!



Altar Society

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



Pastoral Care of Our Sick

Please call the Parish Office at 661.3224 to leave the names of parishioners who:

- are homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist
- are in Good Samaritan Hospital and would like to be visited by a member of our Pastoral Care Ministry.
- would like to receive the sacred anointing.

Pray for Our Sick

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

Stacie Baltrusitis, Deacon Dick Barry, Pat Bonavita, Joseph Bott, Thomas Brennan, Baby Drew Brust, Howard Campkin, Louis Castellano, Lynn Castellano, Morgan Courtney, Regina Cranor, Joseph Cristallo, Karen DellaVecchia, TJ Devlin, Josephine DiBenedetto, Kim Ecker, Jason Fisher, Susan Gigante, Samantha Hil, Vincent Iacopelli, Wade Kromhout, Richard Lang, Nancy Letsch, Anthony Lombardo, Diego Marino, Michele McCann, Peter McCann, Sr., David McCarthy, Bryan Monahan, Jimmy Murphy, Joseph Ortiz, Arthur Petrino, Joanne Popper, Joe Radosti, Patricia Salimbene, Dorothy Schiavone, Carolann Sokol, Derek Stahl, Diana Marie Taveras, Frances Ventura, Jean Virgilio, Loretta Vitale

2008 Catholic Ministries Appeal

Hands of Christ-Supporting the Community Around Us

Thank you to all those who have responded!

The Diocese of Rockville Centre would like to thank all those who have made a sacrifice by making a gift to the *2008 Catholic Ministries Appeal*. 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.

Can you help those in need?

One of our goals is to have every family participate in this Appeal by responding with a YES. We are hopeful that every family in our parish and diocese has responded to this call for sacrifice. Our goal has been based on every family making an equal sacrifice, not an equal gift. Look at what God has given to you and your family and consider the gift you can give to help those in need here on Long Island, Only you can decide what that gift will be. If you have not yet responded, please consider what you can do to the best of your ability to help our parish reach those in need.

<i>Gift Plans to Consider</i>		
CAN YOU SACRIFICE?	TOTAL PLEDGE	10 MONTHLY PAYMENTS
\$10.00/day	\$3,000	\$300
\$8.33/day	\$2,500	\$250
\$5.00/day	\$1,500	\$150
\$3.33/day	\$1,000	\$100
\$2.50/day	\$750	\$75
\$1.60/day	\$500	\$50
\$1.33/day	\$400	\$40
\$1.20/day	\$360	\$36
\$.83/day	\$250	\$25
\$.67/day	\$200	\$20
\$.50/day	\$150	\$15

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL • DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
 PO BOX 4000 • ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NEW YORK 11571-4000 • www.drvc.org/cma.html



2008 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

Supporting the Community Around Us

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

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

If you would like to charge your contribution to your credit card, please check here and see reverse side of this form.

SIGNATURE OF DONOR _____

PARISH OF DONOR _____

A GUIDE TO GIVING

PLEDGE	10 PAYMENTS
\$ 1,000	\$ 100
\$ 500	\$ 50
\$ 350	\$ 35
\$ 250	\$ 25
Other \$ _____	

EVERY GIFT COUNTS!

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

FOR GIFTS OF SECURITIES, PLEASE CALL THE APPEAL OFFICE FOR INSTRUCTIONS. 516.379.5210, EXT. 2
MATCHING GIFTS: IF YOU QUALIFY FOR A MATCHING GIFT FROM YOUR EMPLOYER, PLEASE FORWARD TO THE CMA OFFICE.

Financial Summary

March 2, 2007

Weekly Collection	\$ 20,653.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 21,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ (347.00)

Catholic Relief Services	\$ 3,119.00
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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:



Lorenzo Bacchi-*US Marines*
Bryan R. Dempsey-*US Marines*
Jeremy deRoxas-*US Air Force*
James J. Ferrara-*US Marines*
Thomas W. Ferrara - *US Air Force*
John Finn-*US Army*
Christopher Florca-*US Marines*
Donnie Frank-*US Marines*
Armand J. LeComte-*US Marines*
Anthony Mannino-*US Marines*
Peter Provenzano-*US Army*

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

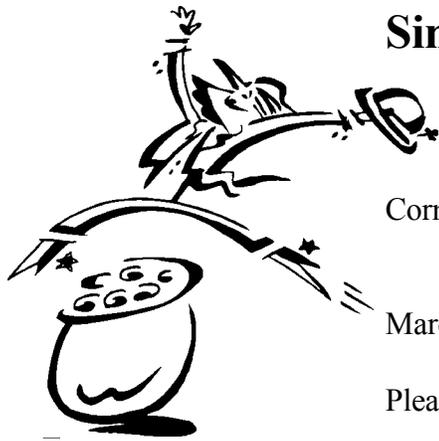


Parish Outreach

Outreach Office Hours

Monday from 9:30 AM until 7:30 PM and
Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 AM until 3:30 PM.
For information/assistance call 661.9262.

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



Single Senior Social

St. Patrick's Day Party

Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner
Irish Step Lessons

March 29 after the 5PM Mass in the Parish Center

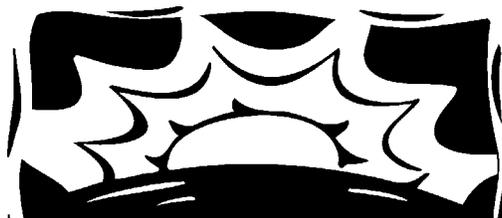
Please call Pat Wallace for more details at 587.4342.

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.**



Sunrise Mass

Sunday, March 23 – 6:30 AM

Captree State Park

approximate departure from

OLL at 6 AM

This is a great way to celebrate Easter – welcome the new life of Jesus at Sunrise! Look for more information in upcoming bulletins!

We are in need of some help getting some things together for our Sunrise Liturgy. If you're interested - e-mail to John Sureau at jsureau@ollchurch.org or call at 661.3224, x. 135.

save the dates...

Holy Week 2008

Palm Sunday

Saturday- March 15

vigil-5 PM

Palm Sunday – March 16

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

(Regular Sunday Mass Schedule)

Monday of Holy Week – March 17

Diocesan Day of Reconciliation

Confessions from 3 PM to 9 PM

Holy Thursday – March 20

8 AM - Morning Prayer

4 PM – Children's Service

7:30 PM – Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

-followed by visits to the Repository until

midnight in the Parish Center

12 Midnight – Night Prayer

Good Friday – March 21

8 AM– Morning Prayer

12 PM – Children's Service

3 PM – Solemn Liturgy

7:30 PM – Stations of the Cross –

presented by the young people of our parish

Holy Saturday – March 22

8 AM – Morning Prayer

9:30 AM - 11 AM - Reconciliation

11 AM- Holy Saturday Easter Egg Hunt

12 Noon – Blessing of Easter Foods

7:30 PM – The Great Vigil

-lighting of the fire will take place at 7:15

outside of the main doors of the Church.

Easter Sunday – March 23

6:30 AM Sunrise Service

(Captree State Park)

We'll meet at OLL at 6 AM and caravan to

Captree.

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

Please note - there is no "SIX" on Easter

Sunday night

The Agony in the Garden – The Place to Ready Ourselves for Ordeals by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

Luke's account of Gethsemane says this of Jesus: "And being in a certain agony (AGONIA), he prayed more earnestly." This word, AGONIA, doesn't just describe the intensity of Jesus' suffering, but also his readying of himself for the painful task that awaits. How?

An athlete doesn't enter the arena of competition without first properly warming up and, at the time this text was written, a serious athlete would warm up for a competition by first working himself or herself into a certain intense sweat, a lather, an AGONIA, so that he or she wouldn't enter the competition with cold muscles.

Gethsemane teaches that to enter the spiritual arena, one too must first be properly warmed up. Cold muscles are a hazard here as well: We cannot walk from self-pampering to self-sacrifice, from living in fear to acting in courage, and from cringing before the unknown to taking the leap of faith, without first, like Jesus in Gethsemane, readying ourselves through a certain AGONIA, that is, without undergoing a painful sweat that comes from facing what will be asked of us if we continue to live the truth.

Mary Jo Leddy once commented that in order to live in real courage we must die before we die. In any situation that is dominated by fear, she asserts, we need to be living the resurrection already before we die. This means that choosing not to die is not always the same thing as choosing to live. Rather we need to choose truth, integrity, and duty even if it means pain and death, otherwise the deep instinct for self-preservation will forever cause us to be more concerned about our own safety and comfort than about anything else and fear will always dominate our lives.

In the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus dies before he dies and in that way readies himself for what awaits him. The next day, when Pilate threatens him with death, Jesus stands in a freedom and courage that can only be understood if we understand what happened to him in the Garden. When Pilate says to him: "Don't you know that I have power over you, power to take your life or to save it." Jesus answers: "You have no power over me whatsoever. Nobody takes my life, I give it over freely." In essence, Pilate is threatening a man already dead. No big threat. Jesus had already undergone the AGONIA. In great anguish he had given his life over freely the night before and so he is ready for whatever awaits him.

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We see something similar in Oscar Romero, martyred in 1980. When Romero was first named an Archbishop, he was a good, sincere man, but also someone who lived in timidity and fear. However as he met with the poor and let them baptize him with the truth he began to experience a certain AGONIA, namely, it became clearer and clearer to him that he was on a collision-course which would eventually force him to choose between backing away from the truth so as to save his own life or speaking the truth and being killed for it. Understandably, he began to sweat a certain blood, a certain spiritual and emotional lather began to warm his spiritual muscles. At a point, he had to speak the truth and, in doing so, assured his own death. But he had readied himself. He had already suffered his AGONIA in Gethsemane and could now act with courage because he had already given his life away and thus no longer lived in the paralysing fear that someone might take it from him.

Martin Luther King, in his memorable speech, I HAVE A DREAM, says the same thing: Choosing self-preservation is not necessarily choosing life. Sometimes we need to accept opposition to choose community; sometimes we need to accept bitter pain to choose health; sometimes we need to accept a fearful free-fall to choose safety; and sometimes we need to accept death in order to choose life. If we let fear stop us from doing that, our lives will never be whole again.

We have nothing to fear but fear itself; easily said, but mostly our lives are dominated by it. We may be sincere and good, but we're also fearful. Fearful of pain, of losing loved ones, of misunderstanding, of opposition, of sickness, of shame, of discomfort of all kinds, and ultimately of death. Deep inside us is a powerful pressure to do whatever it takes to ensure our own lives, safety, and security.

And so it's not on the basis of nature that we give our lives away or move towards real courage. Like an athlete preparing for a tough contest, we must train for this. Like Jesus in the Gethsemane, we must die before we die, we must experience a courage-inducing AGONIA, so that, already having given it all away, we no longer live in the paralysing fear that someone might take it from 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.

Girl Scout Silver Award

Save the date: March 14

Our Lady of Lourdes Church

8 PM

Are you interested in helping to feed those less fortunate than you are, right here in our own neighborhood? Please come and help two independent West Islip Girl Scouts, Marissa DeMarzo and Caitlin Dolan, earn their Silver Award by attending a concert right here at Our Lady of Lourdes Church that the girls will be hosting. The cost of admission is either a monetary donation or a non-perishable item, all of which will benefit the OLL food pantry.

“Super Basket Bonanza”

Our Lady of Grace Columbiettes will have a different kind of Chinese Auction on Saturday, March 29. “Super Basket Bonanza” will be held from 1 PM until 4 PM at Father Shanahan Hall. Ticket price is \$5 per person and includes 25 free tickets, coffee, tea and desserts. Tickets will be sold at the door only. For ticket information please call Pat at 631.888.7938.

Seton Hall Legacy Event

Tickets are now on sale for the 3rd Annual Seton Hall Legacy Event being held Saturday, April 19 at 6 PM at the Timber Point Country Club in Great River. This year’s Legacy Award Recipients are Sister Mary Louise Brink SC former principal of Seton Hall and John Schmitt Jr., All Pro Center of the Super Bowl Champion New York Jets. Tickets for the event are available for \$75 per person. For further information and reservations, please call Adam at 718.424.1813 or email to aszczepanski@schalifax.org.

Healing Mass

Charismatic Prayer Groups will sponsor a Healing Mass on Monday, March 10 at 8 PM in the St. Barnabas Holy Family Chapel, Bellmore. Everyone present will have the opportunity to be prayed with. For further information call 516.785.0054.

Religion & Rock

Tune into “Religion & Rock” with Msgr. Jim Vlaun on Sunday from 7 AM to 8 AM on WBAB 102.3 FM or 95.3 on the East End of Long Island. Listen on Saturdays at 11 PM on *Sirius Satellite Radio, Channel 159, or the Catholic Channel*.

This week’s theme is: **“Commitment.”**

You can visit us anytime to listen or download a show at www.religionandrock.com.

For more information about our television shows go to www.TelecareTV.org.

HUNGRY LONG ISLANDERS... HOW CAN THIS BE?***Social Benefits for the Rich vs. the Poor******MICAH*: A Campaign to End LI Poverty***

To learn more about the MICAH campaign, contact Dr. Richard Koubek at Catholic Charities (Koubek.richard@catholiccharities.cc) or Rev. Thomas Goodhue at the LI Council of Churches (LICCHemp@aol.com)

Since there is a wide perception that poor people cause their own poverty, Americans deeply resent and resist government programs, funded by taxpayers, to help the poor. Such programs are believed to create dependency and seem to run against the American tradition of self-reliance and hard work. Thus the United States is the only industrialized nation without universal health insurance. Except for the elderly (who are insured by Medicare) and the very poor (who are insured by Medicaid), most Americans are expected to secure their health insurance through their employer or on their own.

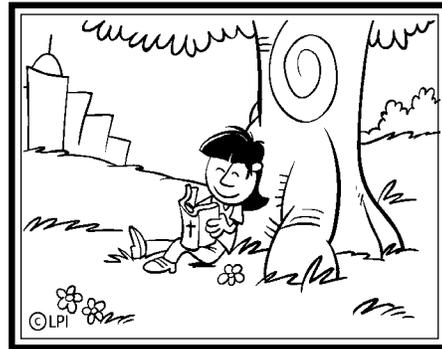
During the Great Depression of the 1930s, President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal overcame this traditional American resistance to government social spending by enacting many programs like Social Security to help poor and struggling people. These programs came under attack during the Reagan Administration of the 1980s, with deep cuts made that have never been restored. Between 1981 and 1983, for example, the Federal Food Stamp program was cut from \$17.2 billion to \$14.4 billion – a 16% reduction. **Today, at the Federal, State and county levels of government, social programs to help the poor are constantly debated and often the first cut in order to close a budget deficit. Or, these programs are flat funded, with no increases in spending to account for inflation.** For example, Catholic Charities' Meals on Wheels program received no increase in funding between 2002 and 2003, despite a 10% increase in the number of persons served and a 5% increase in the cost of the food served. This flat funding occurred over a four year period and finally ended with slight increases in 2005.

In New York State, many social programs have been flat funded or under funded for years. For example, **New York has not increased its \$405 weekly maximum Unemployment Insurance benefit since September, 2000**, even though weekly wages increased by 44% during this period. **The non-shelter portion of New York's basic public assistance grant has not increased since 1990**, so that, adjusted for inflation, the \$291 basic monthly grant for a family of three is only worth \$183 today. And, despite a recent increase to \$7.15 an hour, **the State's minimum wage would have to be raised to \$9.63 an hour to match the purchasing power it had in 1970**. Meanwhile, as many social programs have been frozen or cut, since the 1970s, **New York State has cut its top personal income tax rate from 15.4% to 6.8% and corporate income taxes as a percent of personal income from 1.40% to 0.07%**. So, wealthy New Yorkers are paying much less in taxes while poor New Yorkers are receiving much less in government help.

Sources: Richard Koubek, Public Policy Education Network, Catholic Charities; *New York State's Economic and Budget Outlook for 2008-2009*, Fiscal Policy institute, January, 2008. Pp 31, 37, 59, 63.

Sharing the Gospel

If your sister is very sick, pray for her. Ask God to send his healing power to make your sister feel better. Decorate a card to make her feel better. Fix her a bowl of chicken noodle soup on a tray with a few crackers. Put a cool damp cloth on her forehead to keep her fever down. Put a colorful blanket on her to keep her warm. Your loving care will help her feel better.



Mission for the Week

I will ask God in the morning and at night to make my family healthy and wise.

Puzzle

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

GOD'S-SON
SICKNESS
RISE

LAZARUS
MARY
MARTHA

BELIEVES
WEEPING
WRAPPED

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

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Prayer



Jesus, please heal the sick in our church community.

Something to Draw



Draw a colorful quilt with 16 squares to cover someone who is sick.