



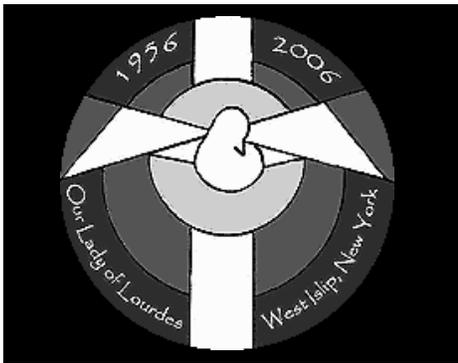
***“Whoever
eats my
flesh and
drinks my
blood***

***remains
in me
and I in
him.”***

John 6:56



***Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
Our Lady of Lourdes
May 25, 2008***



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: lkrol@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: 9:30 AM - 7:30 PM

Tuesday -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 Thomas Lucie

Deacon Jack Meehan

Coordinator of Stewardship

Deacon John Teufel

Sr. Margaret Bickar

Senior Ministry-SAGE

Sr. Nancy Campkin

Director of Religious Education

Jennifer Gallagher

Childrens' 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 Scorgia

Ministry Spiritual Director

John Sureau

Coordinator of Worship

Sr. Betty Toohig

Senior Ministry-SAGE

Anthony Trombino

Business Manager

Pastoral Council

Stacie Baltrusitis

Jane Desthers

Stephen Frodell

William Hurley

Anne Kerrigan

Maria Lucie (*co-chair*)

Deacon Jack Meehan

Vita Scorgia

Doreen Spiller

Mary Steck

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

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

“EMPOWERED BY

My name is Roseanne Hicks. I was away from the church for a long time. When I returned in 2006, I did not know what to expect. There was much about the Mass that I didn't know and didn't understand. But, there was one part of the Mass that I did understand and that was the music.

It was through singing that I felt a real connection to God. I decided to join the Adult Choir a few months later. It was there that I received the warmest welcome from the women and men in the choir. It wasn't long before I became a part of their family, and when my husband and I joined the RCIA to become fully initiated into the church, they encouraged and supported us. They were singing while we were both confirmed. I then became a cantor and, once again, the people of Our Lady of Lourdes welcomed and supported me, especially Carol Goetz, our music director, who is truly an inspiration. Since then, I have also joined the Contemporary Choir and the Women's Chorale. Our mission statement that "All Are Welcome" is truly lived out in this church. Now when I sing to God, I am singing with my family and that includes the entire congregation. Today is Pentecost when the Holy Spirit is sent to Earth, here at Our Lady of Lourdes the spirit can be found. The people here are my spirit wind, my breath of God.

-Roseanne Hicks



My name is Christian Prate, and I am an Altar Server here at our Lady of Lourdes Church. I am in the fifth grade at Westbrook Elementary School. My family and I come to "The Six" every week.

My older brothers and sister are involved with other ministries at "The Six" and I also wanted to be involved. I started out by helping to clean up the church after Mass and when the next Altar Server class opened, I joined my brother Ian.

Being an Altar Server has given me an opportunity to not just come to church on Sunday, but to actively participate in Mass by helping the priests and deacons during the Mass. I like being an Altar Server.

-Christian Prate

THE SPIRIT”

My name is Rosemary Feliney, and I am a Eucharistic Minister here at Our Lady of Lourdes. I've been a member of this parish since January 1982 and really became active when my daughter started Religious Education.

As life goes on (and children grow up), my circumstances changed and I was no longer able to be a Catechist. After some time had passed, I began to think about the possibility of becoming a Eucharistic Minister. I tend to procrastinate and so, I found myself being invited again!

One Sunday after Mass - a couple of years ago, I met John Sureau who mentioned that the Parish was in need of some more people to become Eucharistic Ministers and would I be interested?

After a few days, I said yes (why was I dragging my feet? - the Holy Spirit was nudging me in the direction I should be taking!).

We were commissioned and served for the first time in November 2005. It was a very proud moment for me and my family but more importantly, it has allowed me to serve the people of God in a whole new way.

Why not come, share and serve? I know you will find it spiritually enriching and satisfying.

-Rosemary Feliney

My name is Tracie Cinquemani, and I am a new catechist here at OLL. I teach, along with Gloria Riviezzo, first graders in the PEP1 Program.

I have two children, a daughter who is 12 and a son who is 7. For those of you that have children, I don't have to tell you how hectic and crazy life is trying to keep up with their schedules.

Becoming a catechist was never something I saw for myself. when my son started school, Sister Diane approached me and asked if I would consider becoming a catechist. My first thought was, how in the world am I going to be able to juggle this into the craziness of my life, but as we all know now, I can't say no to a nun, so here I am!

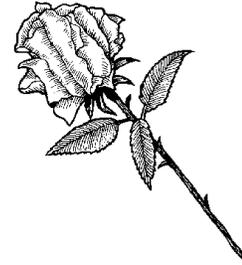
It may not have been the ideal way of becoming a catechist, but I am so glad that I did. This year has been a wonderful experience on different levels. On a personal level, my teaching partner has become my friend. I find the parent meetings and the catechist workshops very helpful. I leave each meeting feeling calmer, more centered and at peace. On a spiritual level, I feel strengthened. To witness the amazing discovery that these children make during each class has deeply touched me and seeing Jesus through their eyes truly has strengthened my own faith. I look forward to next year when they all receive their First Holy Communion.

Thank you, and remember...never say no to a nun...you may miss something wonderful!

-Tracie Cinquemani



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



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.

We would like to invite *any parent who has lost a child* to a special **Mass on Saturday, June 7 at 10 AM.**

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 ***"A Lifestyle for all Seasons"***

The weekend of May 31/June 1 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 our 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-three 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 in two weeks 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 May 31/June 1. 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.

mark your calendar...

24th Annual OLL Golf Classic

Timber Point Country Club
Thursday, June 19 at 2:30 PM



This year's honorees are
Sister Nancy and Sister Diane
Co-Directors OLL Religious Education

- Singles, twosomes and foursomes are welcome
- Sponsorships ranging from \$50 to \$1,500 are now available
- Awards and prizes throughout the day
(including a live auction with professional auctioneer)
- Includes barbeque lunch and gourmet dinner
- \$175 for golf and dinner or \$75 for dinner only
- All skill levels are welcome

Please call Joe Macina at 647.7440 or Frank Antonawich at 587.7988 or the school office at 587.7200 for further information.

Last year's event was a great success and a key fundraiser for the school.

Don't miss it...sign up today!

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

Support Groups

Alcoholics Anonymous:

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

ALANON:

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



*The Parish Office will be closed on
Monday, May 26 in observance of
Memorial Day.*

*The Parish Office will reopen on
Tuesday, May 27 at 9 AM.*

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.

Remembering...

Monday, May 26

8:00 AM Ethel Isola

Tuesday, May 27

St. Augustine of Canterbury, bishop

8:00 AM George Rehberger

Wednesday, May 28

St. Christopher Magallanes, priest, martyr

8:00 AM Ethel & Antoinetta Isola

Thursday, May 29

8:00 AM Brendan Foley

Friday, May 30

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

8:00 AM Jenna Devine

Saturday, May 31

8:00 AM Vincent McCarthy, In Honor of Blessed Mother,
Patricia DeLyra, John Minnick

5:00 PM Anne G. Magner

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

Sunday, June 1

8:00 AM Barbara McGarrity

Fr. Ambrose Cabildo

9:30 AM Annette Morata

Fr. Mike Vetrano

11:00 AM Joseph DiMola, III

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

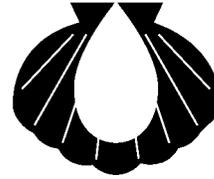
12:30 PM Aniello Bianco

Fr. John Asomugha

6:00 PM People of the Parish, Frank Barba, Jr., Joseph Bownes,
Grace Okuska, Kristin McCarthy, Nick Savene,
Mafelda Monaco, Peter Czeczil (*living*),
Lois & Robert Penney (*living*)

Fr. Stan Chukwube

Baptisms



Aidan Joseph Piediscalzo

Victor and Aimee

Quinton James Piediscalzo

Victor and Aimee

Health Fair



Last month, Our Lady of Lourdes School hosted a “Health Fair.” The students were able to gain knowledge and hands-on experience... West Islip Fire Department gave tours of the ambulance and fire trucks as well as demonstrating use of fire equipment. All-4-Sports and L.I. Ninjutsu demonstrated and allowed the students to participate in physical fitness activities. Dr. Vitagliano’s office was well prepared with toothbrushes for all students and reinforced tooth brushing and flossing techniques. Good Samaritan and the Cornell Corporation spoke about nutrition, germs, hand washing and bandaged up boo-boo’s of Nursery- 4th grades favorite stuffed animals. It was a dynamic and exciting day!

Our Twos and Technology!

At Our Lady of Lourdes School, even our youngest students are learning how to use Technology!

During a Mommy & Me class, Mrs. Harty encourages our two year olds to learn and use the Star Board.

The new technologies implemented this year allow for never-ending possibilities of learning and real-life applications.



Raising Funds for Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation

The 1st grade at Our Lady of Lourdes School recently held a lemonade sale during their lunch to benefit Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation. After reading the book “Alex’s Lemonade Stand”, the class, along with their teacher, Pamela Bissett, decided that they wanted to help. The class raised \$174 in one day during their lunch period, assisted by some older 8th graders.

The lemonade stand was an idea thought up by then 4 year old Alexandra Scott and her older brother, Patrick. It was to raise money to help “her doctors” find a cure for kids with cancer. At her passing in August 2004, she had raised over \$1 million for childhood cancer research. Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation is committed to raising money and awareness for pediatric cancer causes, primarily research into new cures and treatments and encouraging and educating others, especially children, to raise money for Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation for childhood cancer. For more information go to www.alexslimonade.org.

Living Liturgy – Summer 2008

Many times people are overwhelmed or fear they are too busy to get involved in parish life. The summer is a great time to explore some more and see if a particular ministry is for you! Each week we're including a brief description of some ministries and ways you can get involved. Think about it...and know how much we need and want you to be part of our parish's liturgies and prayer services.

Altar Servers



Have you ever wondered how Masses come together each week? How it seems that things just happen naturally! It's usually because of the Altar Servers. We need many young people in our parish to step up and serve as many of our servers have graduated and are moving on to other ministries. Altar servers help to make our Masses and prayer services so great! Also, altar servers go on trips (like Splish Splash, Islanders games, and more) and do a lot of other fun things. We are always looking for new Altar Servers and are in need of many of our parish Masses. Training will begin later this month and you will begin serving in the Summer of 2008!

What's the commitment?

There are five or six altar server training sessions before you can actually serve. Being an altar server is a lot of work, so we want to make sure you're prepared. For Sunday Masses, we try to schedule you based on the Mass you most frequently attend. Servers sign up for Masses on holidays, holy days and special occasions. Servers can volunteer to serve at weddings and funerals, too.

I want more information...

Contact Mrs. Kate Newman at bounceusa@ollchurch.org or call John Sureau at 661.3224, x. 135 or e-mail to jsureau@ollchurch.org.

Lectors

Who better to proclaim God's Word than you!? Our lectors prepare and proclaim the Scripture readings at our liturgies and services throughout the year. This is a wonderful ministry because you bring the power of God's word to all who gather in our parish community! NOW MORE THAN EVER, we need more women and men – young and not so young – to assist with this important ministry!

What's the commitment?

If you are interested, we will assign you to work a "veteran" lector. We will try to schedule you based on the Mass you most frequently attend. Lectors sign up to serve on holidays, holy days and special occasions. We also offer opportunities for reflection and prayer that all are invited to and requested to be a part of throughout the year.

I want more information....

Contact John Sureau at 661.3224, x. 135 or e-mail to jsureau@ollchurch.org.

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Pilgrimage

Rome, Florence, Assisi and Milan

October 16 - 25, 2008

An old saying has it that all roads lead to Rome, and within Rome, all roads lead to St. Peter's Square. Day after day, the Piazza San Pietro is a stage for the entire world. In every season of the year, the piazza is alive in a way encountered nowhere else. St. Peter's Square is a meeting place for all Christianity, sacred space for those who journey from all corners of the world.

Our next information meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 10 at 7:30 PM in Room 16 of OLL School**. There are forty-five parishioners who have reserved their place for our parish pilgrimage. We have reached capacity and can no longer accept new travelers. However, if you are interested, please call the Parish Office and we will place your name on a waiting list.

"When asked to join the RCIA I had known this was my calling to finish what my Father and I had always wanted for me, to join in with the Catholic religion. As I helped my daughter with her religion classes I knew that I wanted to be closer to Our Lady of Lourdes and of course Jesus.....The Monday night meetings were always productive and the good food always helped. They allowed my children to feel at home as my oldest is always asking when can we go again. I thank all that participated in helping me regain my faith in Jesus and for learning how to be a true Catholic."

-Patricia Clark, Received into the Church and confirmed at the Great Vigil, 2008

RCIA-Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

What's it all about?

IF you are an adult and

... you were never Baptized

... you were Baptized in another faith and would like to become a

baptized Catholic

... you never received Holy Communion (Eucharist)

... you never received your Confirmation

IF you are an adult AND one or all of the circumstances above apply to

you...

IF you feel you would like to become a Baptized Catholic or become more fully initiated into your Catholic faith

... Please contact John Sureau, S. Nancy, Fr. Bob or Fr. Stan at the Parish Office, 661-3224 #1, and we would be happy to help you.

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Car Raffle



Our friends at Atlantic Hyundai are donating a three year lease for a 2009 Hyundai Sonata. Raffle tickets are \$50 each - buy two and get one free. Raffle will be drawn at the 24th Annual OLL Golf Classic, June 19, 2008 at the Timber Point Golf Club in Great River. Winner need not be present. Winner is responsible for tax, title, and tags.

Tickets are available at the Parish Office, Our Lady of Lourdes School, or see Dan Toomey of Atlantic Hyundai located on the Sunrise Highway Service Road in West Islip.

**This
weekend!**

The car will be on display outside OLL Church this weekend of May 24/25 and at the 24th Annual OLL Golf Classic at Timber Point on June 19.

Come and see what can be yours!

Pastoral Council Accepting Nominees

Our Pastoral Council is currently accepting nominations for new members to fill several open seats. A person who wishes to serve on the pastoral council must be a parishioner who desires to offer their time and insight to help the pastor and pastoral team form the vision and future of the parish. Pastoral Council members must have an interest and investment in the parish. Practically, this means that a nominee for the pastoral council must be a person who:

- Worships weekly in the parish and takes full part in the spiritual life of the community
- Offers their time and talent in service or ministry to this community
- Supports the parish financially in a manner appropriate to their means

Parishioners may nominate either themselves or another parishioner for the council. Applicants will be reviewed by the pastoral council nominating committee and if willing and qualified will be asked to complete a profile.

- Parishioners are appointed to the council by the current council in consultation with the pastor and pastoral team in a process of discernment. The goal of this process is to insure that the council represents the diversity of Our Lady of Lourdes and has the gifts and interests necessary to our present goals.
- To nominate oneself, or another, for membership on the council begin by sending a letter or email to pastoralcouncil@ollchurch.org or by postal mail to Pastoral Council, c/o Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 455 Hunter Avenue, West Islip, NY 11795. All letters of nomination will be acknowledged and must include your name and return address.



Body and Blood of Christ

A dear friend had battled weight problems all of his life. He tried every diet ever concocted, each ending quickly and with no results. He lived an admittedly sedentary lifestyle, but blamed his weight on bad genes and bad luck. Finally in desperation he underwent gastric bypass surgery and lost a great deal of weight very quickly. While he is thinner, he can no longer enjoy food as he once did. He replaced one depression with another.

Throughout his earthly ministry, Jesus promised us great things, such as eternal life and the Holy Spirit to guide us. He promised us comfort and nourishment for all of our lives, and in exchange for these things, he only asked that we believe in God and love one another. Not a bad deal at all! But realizing the pressures we would be under from an unbelieving world, he asked us to remember him also with a very special meal, the Eucharist.

The Eucharist is a sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Father, a blessing by which the Church expresses her gratitude to God for all his benefits, for all that he has accomplished through creation, redemption, and sanctification. Eucharist means first of all "thanksgiving" (CCC 1360). Today, as you approach to receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ, do it as if it were the very first time, and give thanks for all that has been given to you.

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Readings for the Week of May 25, 2008

Sunday:	Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a/1 Cor 10:16-17/Jn 6:51-58
Monday:	1 Pt 1:3-9/Mk 10:17-27
Tuesday:	1 Pt 1:10-16/Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday:	1 Pt 1:18-25/Mk 10:32-45
Thursday:	1 Pt 2:2-5, 9-12/Mk 10:46-52
Friday:	Dt 7:6-11/1 Jn 4:7-16/Mt 11:25-30
Saturday:	Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16/Lk 1:39-56
Next Sunday:	Dt 11:18, 26-28, 32/Rom 3:21-25, 28/Mt 7:21-27

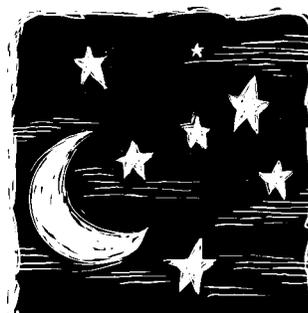
Summer Evening Prayer

OLL always celebrates summer with a great spirit of prayer and excitement...but it doesn't come without some good planning and hard work. This year, as always, we are looking for volunteers to be part of our planning committee.

Would you be interested? Would you be willing to think about it? There are about 3 or 4 meetings and then presence at Evening Prayer when you're able.

Could this be the year for you?

If so, call John Sureau at 631.661.3224, x. 135 or e-mail to jsureau@ollchurch.org.



SAGE

The SAGE Group (Senior Advocates for Growth and Enrichment) will meet on **Tuesday, May 27**, in the **Parish Center at 9 AM**.

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.**

Summer at "The Six"

Our Six Committee is busy working to make our Sunday night liturgy a relaxing, meaningful and great way to end the summer weekends.

So, this summer – sleep late, go to the beach, relax and then give thanks to God (and we'll help!) **next Sunday...**

Our Six Committee meets on Sunday, June 1 at 5 PM in the Parish Center. **on Sunday, June 8...**

"Blessing for the Stressin" - It's exam time and the pressures of the end of school are upon us. Get ready for a special Mass that will offer you God's peace for the weeks ahead.

after Mass...

We're HELPING THE HOMELESS. We'll gather in the Cafeteria after Mass and make Peanut Butter and Jelly sandwiches for local homeless shelters. A lot of time, volunteerism wanes in the summer but not here at OLL!

2008 Catholic Ministries Appeal

Hands of Christ-Supporting the Community Around Us

OLL CMA

May 14, 2008

Amount Pledged \$88,570

Number of Pledges 371

Average Pledge \$241

Thank you to all those who have responded!

Our Lady of Lourdes and 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.



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

May 18, 2008

Weekly Collection	\$ 17,823.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 21,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ (3,177.00)

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

Parish Outreach

Office telephone: 661-9262, option 4

Office hours:

Monday: 9:30 AM - 7:30 PM

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

Please Note:

In order to service our clients better, Parish Outreach now has extended hours on Mondays, until 7:30 PM.



canned fruit
canned vegetables
jelly
peanut butter
pudding/jello
soup

Donations

Outreach has received donations from:

The Sage Group in memory of Anthony Juliano

Pat Heithaus in memory of Anthony Juliano

Doris and Doug Cameron in memory of Anthony Juliano

Collection for Fr. Stan

Fr. Stan has been a faithful presence, ministering to the people of Our Lady of Lourdes for several years. In tribute to Fr. Stan, a collection bin will be located in the Church lobby for the remaining weeks of May to collect: childrens' vitamins, childrens' band aids and childrens' toothbrushes.

These, in addition to other items, will be sent to Nigeria.

If you are interested in donating, or have any questions, please contact Kelsey Herron at 243.2520.

Social Action

Reading Circle

The purest acts of Justice come from an enlightened mind and heart~!

Thursday, May 29 at 7:30 PM in the Parish Center-The Reading Circle will be viewing the DVD:

"The Diary of Immaculee."

"...the inspiring, true story of a remarkable woman's experiences in the midst of one of history's most tragic events...The Diary of Immaculee is a film that abounds with drama and compassion...and makes us all realize that heroes and heroines will always walk among us."

The Social Action Reading Circle met for the first time on May 15 to discuss the book "Left To Tell" by Immaculee Illibagiza. All who participated agreed that Immaculee's story has changed the way we accept the challenges we meet daily. We had a lively discussion about the presence of good and evil in our world, we shared our individual struggles with forgiveness and surrender to God's will in our lives.

We will continue this discussion on Thursday, May 29 at 7:30 PM in the Parish Center. If you have read Immaculee's story but couldn't join us on May 15, please come on May 29! If you haven't read this story, but would like to find out more about Immaculee-Please join us!

Please join us on Thursday, May 29th at 7:30 in the Parish Center as we view the DVD: "The Diary of Immaculee"

Eucharist as God's Physical Embrace *by Ron Rolheiser, OMI*

There's a story told of a young Jewish boy named Mortakai who refused to go to school. When he was six years old, his mother took him to school, but he cried and protested all the way and, immediately after she left, ran back home. She brought him back to school and this scenario played itself out for several days. He refused to stay in school. His parents tried to reason with him, arguing that he, like all children, must now go to school. To no avail. His parents then tried the age-old trick of applying an appropriate combination of bribes and threats. This too had no effect.

Finally, in desperation they went to their Rabbi and explained the situation to him. For his part, the Rabbi simply said: "If the boy won't listen to words, bring him to me." They brought him into the Rabbi's study. The Rabbi said not a word. He simply picked up the boy and held him to his heart for a long time. Then, still without a word, he set him down. What words couldn't accomplish, a silent embrace did. Mortakai not only began willingly to go to school, he went on to become a great scholar and a Rabbi.

What that parable wonderfully expresses is how the Eucharist works. In it, God physically embraces us. Indeed that is what all sacraments are, God's physical embrace. Words, as we know, have a relative power. In critical situations they often fail us. When this happens, we have still another language, the language of ritual. The most ancient and primal ritual of all is the ritual of physical embrace. It can say and do what words cannot.

Jesus acted on this. For most of his ministry, he used words. Through words, he tried to bring us God's consolation, challenge, and strength. His words, like all words, had a certain power. Indeed, his words stirred hearts, healed people, and affected conversions. But at a time, powerful though they were, they too became inadequate. Something more was needed. So on the night before he death, having exhausted what he could do with words, Jesus went beyond them. He gave us the Eucharist, his physical embrace, his kiss, a ritual within which he holds us to his heart.

To my mind, that is the best understanding there is of Eucharist. Within both my undergraduate and graduate theological training, I took long courses on the Eucharist. In the end, these didn't explain the Eucharist to me, not because they weren't good, but because the Eucharist, like a kiss, needs no explanation and has no explanation. If anyone were to write a four hundred page book entitled,

The Metaphysics of a Kiss, it would be not deserve a readership. Kisses just work, their inner dynamics need no metaphysical elaboration.

The Eucharist is God's kiss. Andre Dubos, the Cajun novelist, used to say: "Without the Eucharist, God becomes a monologue." He's right. A couple of years ago, Brenda Peterson, in a remarkable little essay entitled, *In Praise of Skin*, describes how she once was inflicted by a skin-rash that no medicine could effectively soothe. She tried every kind of doctor and medicine. To no avail. Finally she turned to her grandmother, remembering how, as a little girl, her grandmother used to massage her skin whenever she had rashes, bruises, or was otherwise ill. The ancient remedy worked again. Her grandmother massaged her skin, over and over again, and the rash that seemingly couldn't be eradicated disappeared. Skin needs to be touched. This is what happens in the Eucharist and that is why the Eucharist, and every other Christian sacrament, always has some very tangible physical element to it - a laying on of hands, a consuming of bread and wine, an immersion into water, an anointing with oil. An embrace needs to be physical, not only something imagined.

G.K. Chesterton once wrote: "There comes a time, usually late in the afternoon, when the little child tires of playing policeman and robbers. It's then that he begins to torment the cat!" Mothers, with young children, are only too familiar with this late afternoon hour and its particular dynamic. There comes an hour, usually just before supper, when a child's energy is low, when it is tired and whining, and when the mother has exhausted both her patience and her repertoire of warnings: "Leave that alone! Don't do that!" The child, tense and miserable, is clinging to her leg. At that point, she knows what to do. She picks up the child. Touch, not word, is what's needed. In her arms, the child grows calm and tension leaves its body.

That's an image for the Eucharist. We are that tense, over-wrought child, perennially tormenting the cat. There comes a point, even with God, when words aren't enough. God has to pick us up, like a mother her child. Physical embrace is what's needed. Skin needs to be touched. God knows that. It's why Jesus gave us the Eucharist.

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.

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.



Pastoral Care of Our Sick

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

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

Pray for Our Sick

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

*Laura Abela, Connie Altadonna, Susan Aviza, Deacon Dick Barry, Pat Bonavita,
Howard Campkin, Lynn Castellano, Regina Cranor, Joseph Cristallo,
Karen DellaVecchia, TJ Devlin, Josephine DiBenedetto, Jason Fisher, Susan Gigante,
Samantha Hil, Kathleen Kerrigan, Richard Lang, Nancy Letsch, Anthony Lombardo,
Rose Lucio, Michele McCann, Peter McCann, Sr., David McCarthy, Dorothy Meloni,
Regina Mirabella, Bryan Monahan, Jimmy Murphy, Joseph Ortiz, Arthur Petrino,
Joanne Popper, Joe Radosti, Patricia Salimbene, Dorothy Schiavone, Derek Stahl,
Diana Marie Taveras, Grace Terranova, Baby John Tramazzo, Jean Virgilio,
Pat Wallace, Flo Worysz*

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.

Pumped-up Praise Music

Free admission concert - Piano/organ/vocal concert by Terence Purtell. Terence Purtell, music director at Our Lady of Grace Church, West Babylon plays Gerschwin's Rhapsody in Blue, along with a bombastic Middle Eastern rhapsody for the organ. Also premiered will be some scripturally- based progressive hardcore pieces . The concert is on **Friday, May 30 at 7:30 PM.**

Pancake Breakfast

OLL's chartered organization Cub Scout Pack 330 will be having its pancake fundraiser on **Sunday, June 1 between the hours of 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM.** The cost is \$5 which includes a plate of pancakes & sausage along with juice and coffee. This fundraiser will help support our scouting program for the boys in our pack. We appreciate your help in making this year's fundraiser a huge success!

All Years' Reunion

Sts. Philip & James School, St. James is having an "All Years' Reunion" on **Sunday, June 8 at 12 PM.** We will begin with Mass followed by a reception in the school auditorium and tours of the school. Please call Mary (McGunnigle) Specht at 631.751.8577 or Mary Monte (retired principal) at 631.981.3155.

Dominican Village

Please join us for an **Open House on Saturday, May 31 from 1 PM until 3 PM.** Dominican Village is an independent retirement community that offers assisted living and respite care, outstanding programs, all-inclusive services and bountiful amenities. For more information, or to schedule a tour at your convenience, call 631.842.6091.

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: **"Remembering."** 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.

Sharing the Gospel

Jesus said, "He who feeds on this bread, this flesh of the Son of Man, will live forever." The Eucharist is the Body and Blood of Christ given at Communion time during Mass. We hear the words of Jesus in the Eucharistic Prayer and the bread and wine become the body and blood of Christ. When you eat this bread and drink of this cup, you will have life everlasting.



Mission for the Week

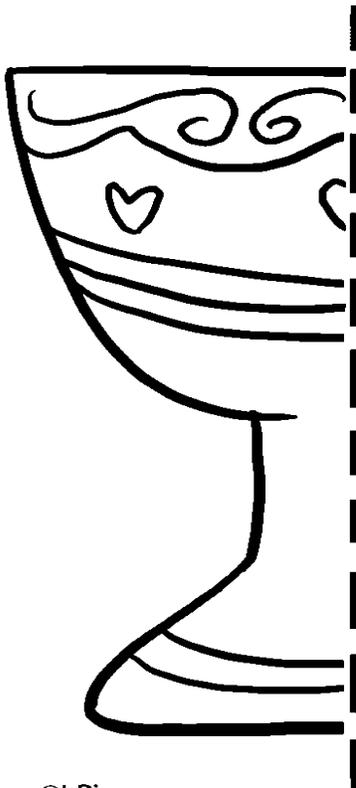


I will take crackers, pasta, cookies and rice to the food pantry.



Puzzle

Complete the picture!



©LPi

Prayer



Father,
I thank you
for sharing your
Son, Jesus Christ
with me.

Something to Draw



Draw a picture of
Jesus sharing
bread and wine
with the apostles.