

**“The Son of man must be  
lifted up so that whoever  
believes in him  
will have eternal life.”**

John 3:14-15



**Exaltation of the Holy Cross  
Our Lady of Lourdes • September 14, 2008**



## *Pastoral Team*

**Rev. Michael A. Vetrano**

Pastor

**Rev. Robert Scheckenback**

Associate Pastor

### **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](mailto:ParishOffice@ollchurch.org)

fax: 661-7143

website: [www.ollchurch.org](http://www.ollchurch.org)

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

587-7200

Monday-Friday: 9 AM - 3 PM

email: [lkrol@ollschool.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Sage@ollchurch.org)

### **Rev. John Asomugha**

In Residence

### **Rev. Ambrose Cabildo**

In Residence

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### **Deacon John DeGuardi**

**Deacon Tom Lucie**

**Deacon Jack Meehan**

Coordinator of Stewardship

**Deacon John Teufel**

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### **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 McMahan**

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*)

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## *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.*



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*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.*

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## 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

## Do You Love to Sing?

Our 9:30 AM Mass Choir needs YOU! Any students in grades K through college are invited to be part of our 9:30 AM Mass choir.

“Junior Choir”, for grades K-8 meets on Thursdays from 7:00-7:45 PM in the Church, and our new “High School/College Group” will meet once a month following the 9:30 AM Mass. Both groups sing each week at our 9:30 AM Family Mass.



Sign-up and first rehearsal for all “Junior Choir” members is Thursday, September 18, at 7 PM in the Church.

Sign-up and first rehearsal for “Senior Choir” (high school and college students) is Sunday, September 21, at 10:30 AM in the Parish Center. Bagels will be served!

Questions or more info: email [jengallagher@ollchurch.org](mailto:jengallagher@ollchurch.org)



### 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 or Fr. Bob at the Parish Office, 661.3224 #1, and we would be happy to help you.

*“As a candidate within the RCIA process, this was the first step of my journey to follow, explore and fulfill my spiritual needs toward growing closer to God..... I was able to renew my Baptismal vows and celebrate my confirmation and Eucharist with our entire church community. This gives me the strength to continue the journey I have begun.”*

-Bridget Ray, Received into the Church, First Eucharist and Confirmation at the Great Vigil, 2008

## New Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist



Extraordinary Ministers distribute communion at Sunday liturgy, weekday Masses and during holy days of obligation. Some ministers also choose to bring Communion to the sick in our parish community.

### *What's the commitment?*

There is a training offered by the Diocese of Rockville Centre in the Fall (October 4 or October 18) and a follow up training here at OLL. We try to schedule you based on the Mass you most frequently attend. Ministers 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....*

You can ask one of our Extraordinary Ministers you might see at Mass, you can the Parish Office at 661.3224, x. 135 or you can e-mail to [jsureau@ollchurch.org](mailto:jsureau@ollchurch.org)



## 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.** 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 servers at many of our parish masses. Training will begin later this month and begin serving in November of 2008.

### *What's the commitment?*

There are five or six altar server trainings 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](mailto:bounceusa@ollchurch.org) or call John Sureau at 661.3224, x. 135 or e-mail to [jsureau@ollchurch.org](mailto:jsureau@ollchurch.org).

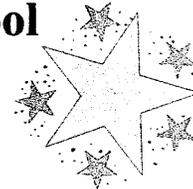
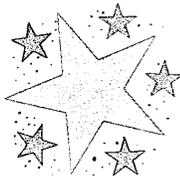


# The Two Year Old Program

At

## Our Lady of Lourdes School

44 Toomey Road  
West Islip, NY 11795  
631-587-7200  
[www.ollschool.org](http://www.ollschool.org)



Designed as a gentle introduction to our school setting,  
We offer a variety of developmentally appropriate activities  
presented to stimulate the senses through  
Arts & Crafts, Music, Dance and Exercise  
Under the guidance of a certified early childhood teacher.

**Dance**

The children learn to share, take turns and  
Follow a routine within a safe, secure and  
Child-centric environment.

**Playtime**

For toddlers learning is play & play is learning!



**Come & Join Us!**  
**Tuesdays & Thursdays**  
**9:00-11:00 AM**  
**Or**  
**12:00-2:00 PM**



*We know you'll love it here, so please call to attend a free class and meet the teacher*

**Our goal is to establish a positive self image,  
Provide the tools for separation  
&**

**Snack Time**

**Develop a Love for Learning!**

**Story Time**



# *Jesus is the Answer!*

## *What's the Question?*



New Testament\*

**Presenter: Fr. Bob Scheckenback**

Did people write down what Jesus said? Were the Christian Scriptures really only “canonized” in the 4th Century? Did the early Church “hide” certain teachings? Does the Book of Revelation predict the end of the world? Were Paul’s writings actually letters? What can we know about Jesus from the Gospels? How does God “inspire” the Scripture writers?

Learn about their creation and development. Learn how to read them, hear them, and pray them.

### **TUESDAYS**

September 30,  
October 7, 14, 21, 28  
7:30 – 9:30 PM  
Parish Center

### **Religious Education Registration**

*for children in Public School, Grade 1, September 2008*

**INFORMATION MEETING & REGISTRATION:** (meeting will take place in the Parish Center – the room opposite the playground on Hunter Ave)

*Please note: **Baptismal Certificates required for any child being registered in PEP 1, including children Baptized at Our Lady of Lourdes.***

<b>Monday, September 22</b>	<b>7:45 pm</b>
<b>Wednesday, September 24</b>	<b>1:00 pm or 7:45 pm</b>
<b>Thursday, September 25</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>
<b>Monday, September 29</b>	<b>10:00am or 7:45 pm</b>

The registration fee (Family Fee) is \$140 and texts are \$20 and the materials fee and worksheets are \$20. Details will be provided at the meeting.

## **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.  
(Babysitters available)

## **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.

## ***Baptisms***

*Gabriella Maureen Posanti*

Alan and Jennifer

*Angelino Joseph Milone*

John and Jennifer

*Aidan Robert Kilkelly*

Matthew and Michelle

*Alexander Joseph Kind*

Ronald and Ariana

*Markus Ronald Kind*

Ronald and Ariana

*Nicholas Jayden McKay*

Toni-Ann

*Alixander Matthew Roberson*

Ali and Christie

*Kaylee Rose Sender*

Scott and Karen

*Jillian Elizabeth Zinser*

Douglas and Amanda

*Matthew Ryan Daley*

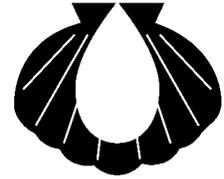
Christian and Rosemarie

*Jake Thomas Gonzalez*

Maurice and Lisa

*Jake Richard Mileski*

John and Kathleen



# Remembering...

## Monday, September 15

*Our Lady of Sorrows*

8:00 AM LaRocca & Sweeney Family

## Tuesday, September 16

*St. Cornelius, pope, martyr*

8:00 AM Richard Zocchia

## Wednesday, September 17

8:00 AM Al Minkoff

## Thursday, September 18

8:00 AM Anna Lettieri

## Friday, September 19

*St. Januarius, bishop, martyr*

8:00 AM Baby Shaddock

## Saturday, September 20

8:00 AM Paul Abbate, Caswell Ralph Snak, Tony Pastore,  
Dennis Dragos, Adam Lambert, Lucille Langone,  
Catherine Cotter, William J. Smith, Veronica Cancellara,  
John Moran, Tom & Mary Kennedy

5:00 PM Peter, Anna & Dan Mancuso

## Sunday, September 21

8:00 AM Rose Petrone

9:30 AM Iris Esquilin

11:00 AM Joseph Rizzo

12:30 PM Thomas Coletto & Joseph Lombardi

6:00 PM People of the Parish, Monica Williams, Arthur Gallagher,  
Maria Williamson, Frank Diamante, Vincent Forgione,  
Anna Klueg, Joseph Lipari, William Kuhlwilms,  
Vincent Castorii, Joanne Wolffe, Pasquale DeVivo

## Rest In Peace

*William M. Kuhlwilms* died on September 1 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was September 5. We extend our prayers to his wife, Anne, children William, Anne Marie and Janice, grandchildren and entire family.

*Thomas Venezia* died on September 6 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was September 9. We extend our prayers to his wife, Linda sister, Elizabeth and his entire family.

## Upcoming Marriages

*Adrienne Marie Kalosieh*, Sacred Heart, Little Falls, NJ and  
*Eric Paul Storjohann*, OLL  
*Megan Goodrich*, OLL and  
*Frank Santanello*, Notre Dame, New Hyde Park



## **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

## **Pantry Needs**

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canned pasta, ravioli, etc.  
chili  
macaroni & cheese  
pasta  
tomato sauce



## **Our Lady of Lourdes Senior Singles Social**

One year Anniversary Party!

Saturday, September 27 at 6 PM following the 5 PM Mass in the Parish Center.

Dinner will be served.

Please call Pat Wallace at 587.4342 or 796.1265 if you plan to attend.

Can't wait to see you there!

## **Help Save a Life - Give Blood**

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**On Wednesday, October 1, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish will hold a Blood Drive from 3:30 PM to 8:30 PM. The Drive will be held in the Parish Center.**

All eligible donors are strongly urged to give blood. To donate you must be between the ages of 16 (with parental consent) and 72, in good health, and weigh at least 110 pounds. All donors must show proof of identification and should eat some food before donating. Donating blood is easy and completely safe. The donation includes a mini-health exam, including blood pressure, pulse, temperature and iron count. Free Cholesterol Testing for all blood donors. The donation itself takes about ten minutes, plus time for refreshments.

For more information about the Drive or to make an appointment, please call Marie at 669.5837 or just walk in the day of the drive.

# Outreach Oktoberfest

**“The Best of the ‘Wurst’ in Town!”**

**Saturday – October 4  
Hibernian Hall in Babylon  
8 PM – Midnight**

**Music, dancing, German buffet and, of course, beer!**

## **Oktoberfest Trivia**

*Did you know...*



Among the many reasons the Oktoberfest is celebrated during the end of September thru early October is because the temperature is near 30° C and this stimulates the thirst of visitors.



Although the citizens of Munich vowed never to cancel Oktoberfest, war, famines and emergencies have forced the cancellation of this event twenty-four times.



In 1816, carnival booths appeared at the Oktoberfest, with prizes, silver, porcelain, and jewelry-no flat screen TV. You have to attend the “Outreach Oktoberfest to win a flat screen TV!

*Outreach Oktoberfest will not be cancelled!*

*Tickets are selling quickly, limited seating remains.*

**\$40 per person includes German buffet unlimited beer/wine/soda**



## Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Take a good look at the world around you today. What do you see? A society wracked with crime, selfishness, hatred, and it only seems to get worse every year. It's a hard world to love, isn't it? Not for God. This world is his creation, something to be cherished for all time. And in giving us his only Son so that our sins are forgiven, we must understand that Jesus doesn't just cleanse the sins of the past, but also of every sin to come. Our responsibility? To believe.

Many a popular song contains a variation on the phrase, "I would do anything for love." That is exactly what God did for us. He loved the world and all of its children so deeply that he sent his Son, Jesus, literally to save us from ourselves. Even though the Father and the Son both knew the fate that waited on a stony hill called Calvary, this most beautiful mission was begun. "For God so loved the world?" And while we may be willing to do anything for love, we need only to have faith and belief in God and we will be loved for all eternity.

By giving us his Son, God has revealed to us the very essence of his truth. "Full of grace and truth," he came as the "light of the world." By believing and following Jesus, we are living in the spirit of the truth (CCC 2466). On this the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, we are reminded that this most powerful and most recognized symbol is a part of our lives as believers in the truth that is Jesus Christ. Just as we are sealed with the sign of the cross at baptism, we begin and end our conversations with God with the sign of the cross. Today, examine your heart and understand what Jesus was willing to do for you. What are you willing to do for him?

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### Readings for the Week of September 14, 2008

<b>Sunday:</b>	Nm 21:4b-9/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17
<b>Monday:</b>	1 Cor 11:17-26, 33/Jn 19:25-27 <i>or</i> Lk 2:33-35
<b>Tuesday:</b>	1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a/Lk 7:11-17
<b>Wednesday:</b>	1 Cor 12:31-13:13/Lk 7:31-35
<b>Thursday:</b>	1 Cor 15:1-11/Lk 7:36-50
<b>Friday:</b>	1 Cor 15:12-20/Lk 8:1-3
<b>Saturday:</b>	1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49/Lk 8:4-15
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Is 55:6-9/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a

## Altar Society

Altar linens this week will be cared for by *Marie Cirone*.  
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.



## 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:

**Bryan R. Dempsey**-US Marines  
**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.

## Pray for Our Sick

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

*Connie Altadonna, Lucas Anderson, Susan Aviza, Deacon Dick Barry,  
 Ben Bellotti, Peter Buccinna, Nicholas Buscemi, Jr., Jim Butler,  
 Howard Campkin, Regina Cranor, Karen DellaVecchia, TJ Devlin,  
 Josephine DiBenedetto, Susan Gigante, Samantha Hil, Brian Hinkelman,  
 Lili Hinkelman, Kathleen Kerrigan, Richard Lang, Nancy Letsch,  
 Kara Lobasso, Anthony Marrotta, Margery Marrotta, Vicky Massaro,  
 Michele McCann, Peter McCann, Sr., David McCarthy, Eleanor McGee,  
 Dorothy Meloni, Brenden Muldoon, Joseph Ortiz, Robert Petersen,  
 Arthur Petrino, Joanne Popper, Joe Radosti, Patricia Salimbene, Joe Shields,  
 Derek Stahl, Diana Marie Taveras, Charlie Tibbetts, Baby John Tramazzo,  
 Jean Virgilio, Pat Wallace*

## **Calling all people with no time to spare!**

*(If you want something done, ask a busy person!)*

Commit to one hour a week as part of a program to visit parishioners in Good Samaritan Hospital. Training will be given. To learn more, contact : [sage@ollchurch.org](mailto:sage@ollchurch.org) or call 661.3224 x 122. Hurry. Volunteers will be accepted on a first-come-first-chosen basis.

***Benefits: out of this world!***

## **Feast of St. Francis**

### **Blessing of the Animals**

**Saturday, October 4 – 12 Noon**

The Feast of St. Francis will be celebrated with our annual blessing of the animals! This year's we'll gather at 12 Noon in the Fr. Joe Garden (weather permitting) or in All Purpose Room for a beautiful prayer service followed by food and fun for all (included our four legged friends, those that crawl, those that swim and even those that fly!).

## **OLL C.Y.O. Basketball**

Basketball registration for all boys and girls in grades 1 - 9 will be held at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in the All-Purpose Room on September 15, 16, and 19 from 7- 9 PM. For more information, please call Dan White at 661.2928. Please note: These are the only registration times, late registration is not guaranteed.

## **Men's Retreat**

The Men's Retreat this year is scheduled for the weekend of October 3-5 at the Bishop Molloy Retreat House in Jamaica. All men of Our Lady of Lourdes are invited to participate in this wonderful weekend which starts at 7 PM dinner on Friday, October 3 and ends at noon lunch on Sunday, October 5. This will be a weekend that you will remember; it is spiritual, fun, informative and relaxing (your own room with excellent meals. ) Come and see. If you are interested, or have any questions, please call Pete Cunningham at 661.0273. If transportation is needed, please call and let Pete know.



# **Italian Family Feast 2008**

**September 10 - 14, 2008**

**Opens Saturday at 6 PM  
Opens Sunday at 2 PM**

## **Official Feast Sponsors**

- **West Islip Wines & Liquors, Inc.**
- **Hither Brook Nursery, Inc.**
- **Chapey & Sons Funeral Home**

**NEW!**

## **"The Magic of Mark & Kym"**

**An illusionary journey into the World of Magic!**

**Sunday, September 14 on the Great Lawn**

**Show Times: 2:30 PM, 3:30 PM and 5 PM**

**Free Admission!**

**Come one and all-especially children -to see live exotic animals,  
breathtaking illusions, and become involved in audience participation!**

## **Super Raffle**

**Drawing to be held on Sunday evening,  
September 14 at 9 PM**

**Super Raffle tickets are \$100 each - only 200 tickets sold!**

***Domestic Workers: Stories of Oppression***

**MICAH\*: A Campaign to End LI Poverty  
(\*Mobilized Interfaith Coalition Against Hunger)**

To learn more about the MICAH campaign, contact Rev. Thomas Goodhue at the LI Council of Churches ([LICCHemp@aol.com](mailto:LICCHemp@aol.com)) or Neelofer Chaudry ([LICCMICAH@aol.com](mailto:LICCMICAH@aol.com))

**Recent *Newsday* stories about two Indonesian domestic workers enslaved by their wealthy Muttontown employers shed light on the oppressive conditions faced by many housecleaners, nannies, elder-care providers and companions. Here are a few of their stories, edited by Richard Koubek, Ph.D., MICAH Steering Committee.**

***Isolated:*** “My employers shut off all outgoing phone service. I now began to get very worried. Not only was I not allowed to call anyone, I was also barred from leaving the house – I couldn’t even go into the front yard unless they were home...” said an immigrant domestic worker to Domestic Workers United. (Source: Domestic Workers United)

***Abused:*** “Georgia Danan was ... crying... She was ... telling the tale of how she came to be a 76-year-old Filipina domestic worker fighting to win \$22,000 in back wages from a recalcitrant employer. ... For one fifteen-day period, she said, the agency didn’t pay her at all. ‘I am old. If I get sick, if I have no money, what will happen to me for my medicine and doctors?’ Danan said.” (Source: “Domestic Workers Unite” by Lizzy Ratner, *The Nation*, June 13, 2008)

***Powerless:*** “Araceli Herrera said some of her employers inspected her bags before she left their homes and refused to drive her to or from the bus stop, a half-hour’s walk away. One employer, she said, fired her after she had a gallbladder operation and needed a month’s rest. ‘...The thing is, the more you suffer, the harder it is to defend yourself,’ said Ms. Herrera.... ‘Collective bargaining is not possible,’ said Ai-jen Poo, an organizer with Domestic Workers United.... ‘Workers usually achieve rights through strength in numbers,’ Ms. Poo said, ‘banding together to pressure an individual employer to change. ...’ Ms. Poo said. [For domestic workers] ‘If you try to negotiate, you’re out.’” (Source: “Domestic Workers Organize to End ‘Atmosphere of Violence’ on the Job” by Cara Buckley and Annie Correal, *New York Times*, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008.)

***Fed by Charity:*** “In our food pantry program, we have many elderly African American women who seek our help. They worked hard all their lives. They worked as housekeepers, laundresses and child care providers. And they worked ‘off the books.’ When they could no longer work and applied for Social Security, they had no work record. Now they receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI.) which is under \$650 per month. With a typical one-bedroom apartment renting for about \$900 a month, their SSI income won’t even cover rent. As for food, our Outreach Center is the provider of last and only resort.” (Source: Sr. Ginny Down, Former Parish Social Ministry Coordinator, Our Lady of Good Council Church, Inwood, New York.)

## Financial Summary

### September 7, 2008

Weekly Collection	\$ 21,000.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 21,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ 400.00

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

## 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.

## SAGE

The SAGE Group (Senior Advocates for Growth and Enrichment) will meet on **Tuesday, September 16, in the Parish Center at 9 AM.**

## 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**.

# The Silence of Life

by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

Meister Eckhard once suggested that nothing so much resembles the language of God as does silence.

That challenges us on many levels: What language will we speak in heaven? We don't know, but if, as scripture tells us, heaven will be where we know and are known perfectly, love and are loved perfectly, and understand and are understood perfectly, I suspect that words will be superfluous. We will speak the language of silence.

So it is wise that, already now, we begin more and more to learn the language of silence, not just for later on, after death, but especially so that already in this life we can begin more to connect ourselves to our deepest roots.

Raimon Panikkar, in a recent book, *The Experience of God*, makes a distinction between what he calls "the silence of life" and "a life of silence". They aren't the same thing. His words, while not always easy to grasp, are deeply insightful and worthy of meditation, so I quote him at length:

"The silence of life is not necessarily identical with a life of silence, like the silent life of desert monks. The life of silence is important to realize our objectives, to plan our actions or develop our relations, but it is not the same as the silence of life. The silence of life is the art of making silent the activities of life that are not life itself in order to reach the pure experience of life itself.

We frequently identify life itself with the activities of life. We identify our being with our feelings, our desires, our will, with everything that we do and everything that we have. We instrumentalize our life while forgetting that it is an end in itself. Plunged into the activities of life, we lose the faculty of listening, and we alienate ourselves from our very source: silence, God.

Silence appears at the moment when we position ourselves at the very source of being."

He goes on to suggest that our striving to attain the silence of life should not take away from the importance of our everyday activities - eating, working, socializing, healthy recreation. But there must be times when we also practice a healthy life of silence, when our bodies, hearts, and minds must be stilled enough so that, somehow, we can sense what lies beyond our activities and is the source of them, life itself, God.

How do we get there? That is exactly what every spirituality worthy of the name is trying to teach us. While there are many differences in the roads they suggest, there are a number of things upon which they all agree:

First, all the great traditions of prayer tell us that the road is simple, but not easy!

Next, each, in its own way, tells us what Jesus told us, namely, that the road that takes us to genuine depth, to an experience of God, is not so much dependent upon any particular prayer practice, but upon "purity of heart" (Matthew 5, 5), that is, upon a certain moral condition, an unselfishness, that takes us beyond the tyranny and idolatry of the ego.

And, how do we do that?

Every spirituality has its own route, but, again, they all agree on a number of non-negotiable elements:

Any journey that takes you towards God will demand, at a point, some vigorous asceticism, some real fasting, a real purification and a disciplined ordering of the countless, obsessive feelings and desires that act through us. We must break what some spiritual masters call "the tyranny of the ego" and Panikkar calls "the idolatry of the ego". We will not get in touch with the deep source of our lives if the activities of our life are so consuming and obsessive that we can never find an identity and meaning in something beyond them. That is the ultimate reason behind asceticism and fasting of all kinds, we renounce something, even if it is good, in function of getting in touch with its deeper source, life itself, God.

And this asceticism, through which we are trying to come to the silence of life will require too, at some point, a life of silence, a deliberate, disciplined effort (not to stop thinking and feeling since this is impossible) but to put ourselves in touch with what is beyond our thoughts and feelings at their origins. A Hindu text tells us that God is found in "nourishment", in what is seen, heard, and understood, but adds immediately that we only experience our activities as bearing God if we also, at times, deliberately halt those activities and go into silence so that we can see what's behind them

The practices of meditation and contemplation, no matter what particular technique we use, have this precisely as their aim, namely, to practice a little bit "a life of silence" so as to sit for awhile in "the silence of life."

Nothing so much approximates the language of God as does silence. It's a language we need to practice.

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*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](http://www.ronrolheiser.com).*



## 2009 Respect Life Contest

The Diocesan Office of Respect Life is pleased to announce the 2009 Respect Life Youth Contest. This year's theme is "We are Wonderfully Made by God."

All Catholic youngsters in grades 7 - 12 who live in the Rockville Centre Diocese and attend Catholic elementary and high schools or parish religious education programs, are invited to participate in any of the following categories: Poetry, Bookmark Design, Essay, Music and Photography.

Winners will receive monetary awards in support of their future education. For further information contact the Parish Office at 661.3224. Registration forms may be downloaded from the diocesan website at [www.drvc.org](http://www.drvc.org).

## Education of a Lifetime

A Catholic High School education offers young people a challenging, value-centered liberal arts education. It also affords each student an opportunity to test abilities, add skills, build confidence and develop an understanding of faith, while preparing for college and for life.

Open Houses present students and parents with a special opportunity to gain information about the programs, faculty, and facilities of the Catholic High Schools on Long Island. Administrators, faculty members, staff, and students are available to describe school programs and to answer questions at the Open House events. For additional information on particular schools, plan to attend one or more of the Open House.

### Open House Schedule

Sunday, September 14	10 AM - 1 PM	St. Anthony's High School
<b>Saturday, September 20</b>	11 AM - 1:30 PM	Our Lady of Mercy Academy
<b>Sunday, September 21</b>	1 PM - 4 PM	St. Dominic High School
<b>Sunday, September 28</b>	12 PM - 2:30 PM	Holy Trinity High School
	2 PM - 4:30 PM	St. Mary's College Prep. High School
<b>Saturday, October 4</b>	9 AM - 12 PM	Sacred Heart Academy
	10 AM - 1 PM	Kellenberg Memorial H. S.
	2 PM - 4 PM	Chaminade H. S.
<b>Saturday, October 18</b>	10 AM - 1 PM	McGann-Mercy D.H. S.
	12 PM - 2 PM	Academy of St. Joseph
<b>Sunday, October 19</b>	10:30 AM - 2 PM	St. John the Baptist D.H.S.

The Catholic High School Entrance Exam is scheduled for Saturday, October 25 and will be held at several locations. Applications for the Catholic High School entrance exam are available at the Religious Education Office and the OLL School Office.

If you have any questions, please call the Religious Education Office at 661.5440, option #3 or the OLL School Office at 661.7200, option #2.

## Gennesaret Retreat

Gennesaret Retreat held **September 19-20-21 at Montfort Spiritual Center, Bay Shore**, offers a unique opportunity for persons who face serious illness to come away for a weekend retreat of spiritual renewal and refreshment. The retreat focuses on God's love, God's forgiveness and God's faithfulness. Several parishioners have already experienced the retreat and have found the weekend extraordinary. There is no charge for the weekend retreat. All the caregivers volunteer their time. To register or to receive more information about this wonderful weekend, please call Colette Fanelli at 631.665.7052

## Come to the Fair!

West Islip Country Fair will be held on Sunday, September 21 on the grounds of the West Islip Public Library. Park your car anywhere near Higbie Lane or Montauk Highway and let the Jitney take you to and from the fairgrounds!

## Gala Dinner Dance and Auction

The Sisters of Saint Joseph of Brentwood will honor Joseph K. Collins, President/CEO Collins Building Services, William J. Forrester, Exec. VP/COO Goodwill Industries, Sister Elizabeth Mullane, CSJ, Assoc. Dir., St. Vincent Services, Medical & Special Services, St. Vincent Services at their Gala Dinner Dance and Auction to be held at the **Garden City Hotel on Thursday, October 23**. For further information call 631.273.1187, extension 25.

## Bereavement Support Groups

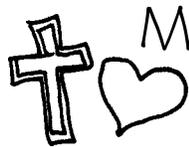
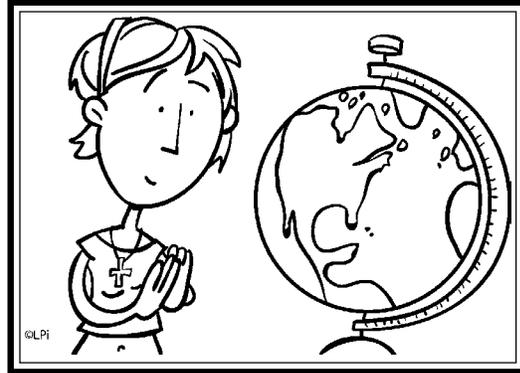
A variety of Bereavement Support Programs is available in Nassau and Suffolk Counties for all losses, including adults and children. You will find groups that meet 6 or 8 weeks, weekly and monthly groups, special programs, masses and retreats for the bereaved. Simply check the website of Catholic Cemeteries, Diocese of Rockville Centre at [www.holyroodcemetery.org](http://www.holyroodcemetery.org).

## 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 Long Island's East End. The show is also available on Sirius Radio, Channel 159 at 11 PM on Saturday nights. Next Sunday's theme is: **"Knowing the Issues."** Don't miss it! To listen online or receive more information regarding Religion and Rock, go to [www.ReligionandRock.com](http://www.ReligionandRock.com). Don't forget to tune into TELE CARE, Cablevision 29 or Verizon FIOS 271 for the best in Catholic television!

# Sharing the Gospel

The Hebrew people were being bitten by serpents in the desert. God told Moses to make a serpent out of bronze and put it on a pole. Everyone who looked at it would be healed. God put an end to the serpents and helped the Hebrew people. Many years later, Jesus was lifted up on the cross. We look at him and know that Jesus is our strength, our hope, and our healing. Look at the cross and say, "Jesus, I believe in you."



## Mission for the Week

Every morning, I will remember to tell Jesus that I believe in him.



### Puzzle

Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

<del>M</del> oses	lifted	snake
perish	save	world
loved	heaven	desert

soMes	<u>M</u> <u>o</u> <u>s</u> <u>e</u> <u>s</u>
havnee	_____
letfid	_____
saken	_____
dseret	_____
levod	_____
wrodl	_____
preshi	_____
seva	_____

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### Prayer



God, you are my power and my strength.

### Something to Draw



Draw a cross and decorate it with flowers to show that Jesus is alive.