

Our Lady of Lourdes • Third Sunday of Advent • December 12, 2010



**See how the farmer waits for
the precious fruit of the earth,
being patient with it.**



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.

Our Lady of Lourdes

*455 Hunter Avenue
West Islip, New York 11795*

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

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.

Pastoral Team

Rev. Michael A. Vetrano
Pastor

Rev. Patsy Amabile
Associate Pastor

Rev. Robert Scheckenback
Associate Pastor

Rev. Ambrose Cabildo
In Residence

Deacon John DeGuardi

Deacon Tom Lucie

Deacon Jack Meehan

Coordinator of Stewardship

Deacon John Teufel

Sr. Margaret Bickar

Senior Ministry-SAGE

Sr. Nancy Campkin

Director of Religious Education

Allegra D'Alo

Youth Minister/Social Action

Louise Jane Krol

School Principal

Sr. Diane Liona

Director of Religious Education

Mary McMahan

Director of Parish Social Ministry

Robin Reynolds-Brennan

Director of Music and Worship

Vita Scorcio

Ministry Spiritual Director

Sr. Betty Toohig

Senior Ministry-SAGE

Anthony Trombino

Business Manager

Pastoral Council

Diane Ackerly

Stacie Baltrusitis

Mary Borgs

Lisa Cantalino

Sonia DaSilva

Nilo DeLeon

Jerry Esposito

Trish Frodell

Rosalie Mangels

Maryellen McKee

Deacon Jack Meehan

John Muldoon

Bob Natale

Eileen Rega

Vita Scorcio

Fr. Mike Vetrano

Parish Staff

Jennifer Gallagher

Women's Chorale Director

Mary Anne Lettieri

Parish Office

Debbie Meyer

Bulletin Editor/Parish Office

Rosemary Multer

School Office

Rita Spera

Religious Education Office

Lori Walsh

Parish Office



Parish Office

661.3224 (option 1)

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 (option 2)

Monday-Friday: 9 AM - 3 PM

email: lkrol@ollschool.org

Religious Education Office

661.5440 (option 3)

Monday-Friday: 9 AM - Noon

1 PM - 5 PM

7 PM - 9 PM

email: ReligiousEd@ollchurch.org

Parish Outreach Office

661.9262 (option 4)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:

9:30 AM - 3 PM

S.A.G.E.

661.3224

(Senior Advocates for Growth
and Enrichment)

email: Sage@ollchurch.org

Welcome...

to Our Lady of Lourdes!

We are so happy to welcome everyone who has come to worship with us today! Whether you have come a long distance or you live locally, we are glad that you have decided to spend some time with us as we worship our Lord together. Please know that your presence today is a blessing to our parish family.

Would you like to know more about our parish family?

All are welcome at Our Lady of Lourdes and we do our best to reach out to everyone.

If you would like more information about our parish or if you would like one of our team to be in touch with you, please fill this form out and place it in any collection or offering basket, mail it to us, or send an email to parishoffice@ollchurch.org

Welcome...

to Our Lady of Lourdes!



I would like information about:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Joining the Parish | <input type="checkbox"/> Baptizing my Children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religious Education of my Children | <input type="checkbox"/> Becoming a Catholic or Adult Confirmation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marriage or Annulment / Remarriage | <input type="checkbox"/> Spiritual Direction or Counseling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Our Parish Catholic School | <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

I would prefer to be contacted by:

Phone at: _____ Email at: _____

Mail at: _____

Your Name: _____



Our Lady of Lourdes Ninth Annual Family Christmas Pageant

Wednesday, December 22

7 PM in the Church

*What better way to prepare for Christmas
than to share the Christmas story with our children!*

We invite our entire parish family to come and share this special evening with us.

We'd like to involve many members of our parish community,
especially all parish children!

It's easy...there are only two short practices and a dress rehearsal.

There's something for all ages:

Children

Pre-K through Grade 3

angels and shepherds

Grades 4 through 6

three kings, royal servants, and dancers

Grades 7 through 12

*We need lots of help-musicians, singers,
organizers and assistant directors!*

If you can help with our pageant, please email Jennifer Gallagher at
JenGallagher@ollchurch.org.

Adults

We need help with costumes and supervision of the "angels and shepherds." If
you can help with any of these areas, please email JenGallagher@ollchurch.org.

Pageant Practices for All

Sunday, December 5

10:30 AM until 11:15PM in the Parish Center
(right after Family Mass)

Friday, December 10

7 PM until 7:45PM in the Church

Saturday, December 18

Dress Rehearsal at 11:30 AM in the Church

Children's Liturgy of the Word

CLTW Team

Are you a teacher? A catechist? Do you like kids or volunteering for your church? Come and join our wonderful team for Children's Liturgy of the Word at our 9:30 AM Sunday Mass. We need adults who are passionate about teaching children what it means to be a Christian.

Contact Allegra@ollchurch.org with any questions or to sign up.

SAGE

The SAGE Group (Senior Advocates for Growth and Enrichment) will meet on **Tuesday, December 14**, in the **Parish Center at 9 AM**.

Senior Circle

The Senior Circle meets on the last Monday of each month. The next meeting will be held on **Monday, December 27**, at **12:30 PM in the Parish Center**.



Daytime Eucharistic Devotion

The afternoon adoration for the month of January will be on **Wednesday, January 5 from 1- 3 PM**. All are invited and welcome!

Follow the CLTW Angel throughout Advent!

The Advent Angel will be teaching our children the true meaning of Christmas during Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 9:30 AM Mass, all through the Advent season.

Our CLTW participants made an Advent Angel to take home, who would be with them through the Christmas count down. Each week in Children's Liturgy, the Advent Angel will teach a new lesson about preparing for the birth of Christ, which every family can follow on the parish website. Just go to www.ollchurch.org to read our lessons and ask the questions that help us to understand this blessed holiday.



Don't worry! If you did not get to make an Advent Angel on the November 21, we have many angels waiting for a friend. Just find a member of CLTW at the 9:30 AM Mass and you may take an Advent Angel home to make and love with your family.

OLL Youth Minister Receives Peace Award

OLL Youth Minister Allegra D'Alo was honored by the Long Island Peace Alliance at Hofstra University.

She received their Next Generation of Peacemakers Award for fostering young people involved in soup kitchens, our sister parish in El Salvador, and for her work with victims of hurricane Katrina. Fr. Mike and youth group members joined her at the celebration.



Mass for Bereaved Parents

Saturday, December 18

OLL Church-- 10:30AM

The holidays are often times of great celebration. But, for many, particularly those who have lost a child, the holidays are painfully hard. They are a reminder of our losses and a reminder of how our lives are perhaps a little less full. 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 invite all who have lost a child to come and gather together for this special Mass on **Saturday, December 18 at 10:30 AM**. Mass will be followed by refreshments. Please feel free to invite family and friends.

For more information, or to let us know you will be able to attend, please call the Parish Office at 661.3224, extension 121. Let's pray that through prayer and coming together, the challenges of the holidays can become a little lighter and that we may be strengthened by God's love and presence.

Prayer for Divine Mercy

An invitation to all men and women to be part of God's plan.

We invite you to meet in prayer for the world and our nation to put their trust in God.

Our hope is that the nations will have a new spirit of morality. Please come with your love and hope for humanity as well as your prayer requests.

We gather together every **Thursday at 1:30 PM before the Blessed Sacrament** for about one half hour. For more information, please call Charles Argento at 586.8528.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Bring your prayer and creativity together in a gift of love.

Join us ...

Wednesday, December 15 at 9:30 AM in the Parish Center.

All you need to bring is scrap yarn, knitting needles or crochet hooks (patterns and instructions will be given to you) and your gifts of love and prayer.

Men's Prayer Group-AM

An Invitation to all men from OLL and beyond...

We invite all men of the parish to meet for prayer and reflection after 8 AM Mass on **Thursday, December 16, in the Parish Center.** We meet once a month to read and discuss the Scriptures for the following Sunday. Come with your ideas and suggestions.

We'll gather for conversation and fellowship. Join us in this pioneering experience for men. Call Jack Fitzgerald at 587.5548 for more information.

Men's Prayer Group-PM

A new *evening* men's prayer group! It will be held once a month, on the third Tuesday of each month from **7:30 PM until 8:30 PM in the Spiritual Life Center.** The next meeting will be **Tuesday night, December 21.** Come with your ideas. We'll read and discuss the Liturgy for the following Sunday Mass. For more information, call Bob Natale at 893.3041, Charles Zeiss at 669.7189 or Cliff Proctor at 669.3198.

Rosary Christian Mothers

Holiday Raffle

The "Holiday Basket Raffle" was a great success!

We made over three thousand dollars thanks to all of you!

A special thanks to our Rosary Christian Mothers who generously contributed the beautiful gift baskets. Also our appreciation to the following businesses for their donations...



Please patronize them:

*Barbara & Doug Chapey
of Chapey's Funeral Home Inc*

Boyd Funeral Homes

Mangano Funeral Home Inc.

YMCA

A & G Bakery

Advent Shop

All-Brite Cleaners

Anthony's Pizza & Pasta

Bali Hair Design

Bagel Buzz

Bonwit Inn

Candy Lane

Carvel(West Islip)

Carmela's Hair Design

Carousel Diner

Chowder Bar

Flavor Crisp

Francesco's Restaurant

Gemelli Restorante

Higbie Bagels

Home Town Heroes

Irish Coffee Pub

Italiano's Pizza & Restaurant

J & R's Restaurant

Jon Thomas Inn

King Kullen

Long River

Lowe's

McDonald's

Molly Malone's

Olympic Diner

Our Little Italy

Panera's

Parkwood Cafe

Peter Pan Diner

Pizzaiola

Popei's

Raindrops & Roses

Salon de Caro

Shear Instincts

Stuff-a-Bagel

Towers Flowers

White Cap Fish Co

Villa Monaco

West Islip Bagels

West Islip Wines & Liqors

Ziegler's Deli

Broadhollow Theatre

Painted Present

Angelina Juliano

Extra special "Thank You" to Denise Tomas and Patty Anne Crisci who decorated the baskets so professionally!

Thank you again,

Claire McLoughlin

President RCM

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-
9:30 AM beginners meeting
convent lower level.
(Free babysitting 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.

Welcome

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all newly registered members of our parish family...

Thomas and Kristine Cantwell and family

Joseph and Justine Zerbo and family

Josephine Walsh

...we are truly blessed by your presence among us!

Rest In Peace

Salvatore Sciortino died on November 28 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was December 2. We extend our prayers to his wife, Francesca, children, grandchildren, and entire family.

Marie A. Valentino died on December 2 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was December 6. We extend our prayers to her children, grandchildren, and entire family.

William J. Massaro died on December 2 and the celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was December 6. We extend our prayers to his brother, Robert, and entire family.

Michael Brennan, Sr., died on December 3 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was December 7 at St. Francis de Sales, Patchogue. We extend our prayers to his daughter-in-law, Robin Reynolds-Brennan, OLL Director of Music and Worship, his children, grandchildren, and entire family.

Remembering...

Monday, December 13

Saint Lucy, virgin and martyr

8:00 AM Carmela & Vincent Stumpo

Tuesday, December 14

Saint John of the Cross, priest and doctor of the Church

8:00 AM Charlotte & James Quinn

Wednesday, December 15

8:00 AM LaRocca & Sweeney Families

Thursday, December 16

8:00 AM Howard Campkin

Friday, December 17

8:00 AM Mary Elizabeth McFadden (*living*)

Saturday, December 18

8:00 AM Mary Covello, Alexander Longo,
Loretta Longo, Josephine Carrano,
Ruth Gilroy, Jerome Hancock,
Linda Kelly, Salvatore Sciortino

5:00 PM Heartt & Guider Families

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

Sunday, December 19

8:00 AM Peter Reehil

Fr. Pat Amabile

9:30 AM Loreto & Ben Fantauzzi

Fr. Pat Amabile Mike Vetrano

11:00 AM John Szczecina

Fr. Mike Vetrano

12:30 PM Anne Kelly

Fr. Ambrose Cabildo

6:00 PM People of the Parish, Rudy Hujik, Theresa Feliney,
Sheila Timmer, Rose & Dominick Cocco, Mamie & Mike Raia,
Theresa & Frank Marsala, Mary Tortorella, Dolores Cardoso,
Tavie Caratozzola, Angela D'Ambrosio, Teresa DioGuardi

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

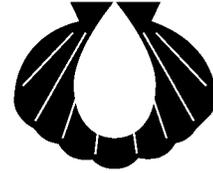
Baptisms

Anthony James Bussa

James and Danielle

Pedro Lima Mendes

Joao and Susana





©LPI

3rd Sunday of Advent

While debate surrounding the passage of the health care bill raged last winter, those in the medical profession who care for the sick continued their work day after day in hospitals and clinics, in nursing homes and rehabilitation centers. Simple cataract surgery restored sight to many elderly people. Innovations in artificial limbs made it possible for even severely injured veterans who were amputees to be able to walk again. Hansen's disease (leprosy) has been almost completely eliminated, and those who had been considered modern day lepers-people infected with HIV-have been given a new lease on life with modern drugs. Cochlear implants make it possible for many who had become deaf to be able to hear again. And the stories about people who are saved because of automatic defibrillators are recounted almost weekly in the media.

In this day and age, we could indeed act upon Jesus' words to "go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised" (Mt 11:4-5). These very things are happening today in hospitals and clinics all over the world. The miracles of Jesus take place each and every day.

There is one more thing that Jesus told John's disciples that they should recount to him: the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. There are lots of opportunities for Christians to bring good news to the poor during this time of year. Many parishes have programs in place to help the needy, especially at Christmas. Many of us feel particularly generous in extending a helping hand. Contributions like that are great! But proclaiming good news is about more than a check. It also means working with organizations that are trying to alleviate poverty. We're not all qualified to be physicians who work the miracles of healing, but we can work the miracle of ending poverty through our advocacy for the poor.

2010 Liturgical Publications Inc

Readings for the Week of December 12, 2010

Sunday:	Is 35:1-6a, 10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11
Monday:	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday:	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday:	Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21b-25/Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday:	Is 54:1-10/Lk 7:24-30
Friday:	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17
Saturday:	Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25
Next Sunday:	Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Altar Society

Altar linens this week will be cared for by *Angela MacDermott*.
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 ...

Giovanni Andriola, Susan Aviza, Ben Bellotti, Viola Callanan, Grace Ciccarello, Beverly DeCanio, Mike DeJong, Jeanne DellaRagione, Tony DeVivo, Tony Drexler, Debbie Eichen, Jake Feldman, Patricia Ferrara, Leif Gunderson, Bill Howe, Berdine Ivory, Kathleen Kerrigan, Robyn Kerrigan, Ann Losee, Rachel Mackey, Louise Malcuit, John McNevin, Vincent Meade, Ann Mongeau, Michael Montesanto, John Mordente, Ruth Murray, Evelyn Nonnon, Karen Parpounas, Joe Radosti, Dorothy Schiavone, AnnMarie Schiraldi, Baby Isabella Shaw, Roy Sorrese, Lindsay Stahl, Linda Starr, Patrick Tardo, Nancy Turano, Dotty Valerga, Al Van Pelt, Bunny Vilim, Joe Yezek

Please note: All names shall remain on the list for a “short term” of five weeks or “long term” for five months.

Financial Summary

December 5, 2010

Weekly Collection	\$ 20,422.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 19,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ 1,422.00

The Long Island Catholic

Collection	\$ 4,470.00
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The estimated weekly collection needed to maintain and operate our parish buildings, ministries, programs and salaries is \$19,000.

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:

Bryan R. Dempsey-*US Marines*

Christopher Florca-*US Marines*

Michael Mallimo- *US Army*

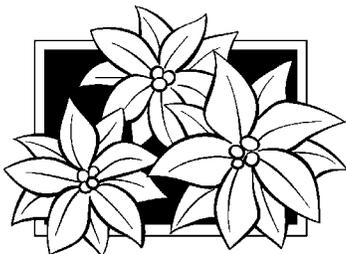
Anthony Mannino-*US Marines*

JD Montefusco-*US Marines*

Peter Provenzano-*US Army*

Joshua Tyrrell-*US Army*

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



Christmas Flower Offerings

Christmas Flower offerings received by **Sunday, December 12** will be published in the Christmas bulletin.

Offerings received after that date, will be published in subsequent bulletins.

Parish Outreach

Office telephone:

661-9262, option 4

Office hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:

9:30 AM - 3 PM

Outreach Donations

If you would like to make a donation to Parish Outreach in memory of a loved one, please call Mary McMahon, Director of Parish Social Ministry at 661.3224, option 4.

News From Outreach

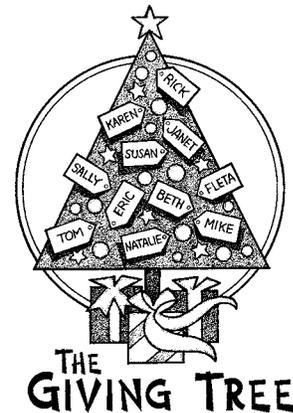
In anticipation of the great event: Christmas!

The Giving Tree will be decorated and filled with tags beginning the first Sunday of Advent, November 28. Once again, PODS will be donating a POD for storage of the gifts you donate.

Each Sunday of Advent, starting December 5, volunteers will be sorting your gifts. If you are interested in becoming an 'elf' -we will meet in the APR at 1 PM and are usually finished by 2:30 PM. We are very organized and work in teams of two-so bring a friend, dust off your elf hat and join us! Another way to 'give' during this Advent season.

-Mary McMahon

Director of Parish Outreach



Did you notice The Giving PODS?

Our thanks goes to Terry Lacher , manager for PODS on Long Island, for donating the use of a POD to our Outreach Office for the Christmas Season.

The POD will be used to store your generous gifts and contributions until they can be distributed at Christmas.

Terry has also offered a discount on a POD rental for any OLL parishioner! Contact the Outreach Office for details.



Joseph and Christmas

by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

There are countless persons, basilicas, churches, shrines, seminaries, convents, and even towns and cities named after St. Joseph. My native country, Canada, has him as its patron.

Who exactly is this Joseph? He is that quiet figure prominently named in the Christmas story as the husband of Mary and the stepfather of Jesus, and then basically is never mentioned again. The pious conception of him is that of an older man, a safe protector to Mary, a carpenter by trade, chaste and holy, humble and quiet, the perfect patron for manual laborers and anonymous virtue, humility incarnate.

But what do we really know about him?

In the Gospel of Matthew the annunciation of Jesus' conception is given to Joseph rather than to Mary: Before they came together, Mary was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. Joseph, her husband, being an upright man and unwilling to shame her, had decided to divorce her quietly, when an angel appeared to him in a dream and told him not to be afraid to take Mary as his wife, that the child in her had been conceived through the Holy Spirit.

What can we learn from this text?

Partly it is symbolic: The Joseph of the Christmas story is clearly reminiscent of the Joseph of the Exodus story, he too has a dream, he too goes to Egypt, and he too saves the family. Likewise King Herod is clearly the counterpart of the Egyptian Pharaoh; both feel threatened and both kill the Hebrew male children only to have God protect the life of the one who is to save the people.

But, after that, the Joseph of the Christmas story writes his own history: He is presented to us as an "upright" man, a designation that scholars say implies that he has conformed himself to the Law of God, the supreme Jewish standard of holiness. In every way he is blameless, a paradigm of goodness, which he demonstrates in the Christmas story by refusing to expose Mary to shame, even as he decides to divorce her quietly.

What actually happened here?

The background, in so far as we can reconstruct it, to the relationship between Joseph and Mary would have been this: The marriage custom at the time was that a young woman, essentially at the age of puberty, would be given to a man, usually several years her senior,

in an arranged marriage by her parents. They would be betrothed, technically married, but would not yet live together or begin sexual relations for several more years. The Jewish law was especially strict as to the couple remaining celibate while in the betrothal period. During this time, the young woman would continue to live with her parents and the young man would go about setting up a house and an occupation so as to be able to support his wife once they began to live together.

Joseph and Mary were at this stage of their relationship, legally married but not yet living together, when Mary became pregnant. Joseph, knowing that the child was not his, had a dilemma: If he wasn't the father, who was? In order to save his own reputation, he could have demanded a public inquiry and, indeed, had Mary been accused of adultery, it might have meant her death. However, he decided to "divorce her quietly", that is, to avoid a public inquiry which would leave her in an awkward and vulnerable situation.

Then, after receiving revelation in a dream, he agrees to take her home as his wife and to name the child as his own. Partly we understand the significance of that, he spares Mary embarrassment, he names the child as his own, and he provides an accepted physical, social, and religious place for the child to be born and raised. But he does something else that is not so evident: He shows how a person can be a pious believer, deeply faithful to everything within his religious tradition, and yet at the same time be open to a mystery beyond both his human and religious understanding.

And this was exactly the problem for any Christians, including Matthew himself, at the time the Gospels were written: They were pious Jews who didn't know how to integrate Christ into their religious framework. What does one do when God breaks into one's life in new, previously unimaginable ways? How does one deal with an impossible conception? Here's how Raymond Brown puts it: The hero of Matthew's infancy story is Joseph, a very sensitive Jewish observer of the Law. ... In Joseph, the evangelist was portraying what he thought a Jew [a true pious believer] should be and probably what he himself was.

In essence what Joseph teaches us is how to live in loving fidelity to all that we cling to humanly and religiously, even as we are open to a mystery of God that takes us beyond all the categories of our religious practice and imagination.

Isn't that one of the ongoing challenges of Christmas?

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.

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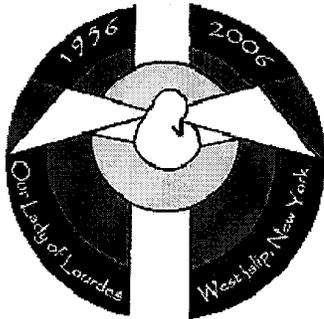
December Donations to Outreach

Parish Outreach has received many donations in memory of loved ones...

- Mary Petersen has made a *Thanksgiving donation* to Outreach.
- Michael and Rose Carrano have made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of *Josephine Carrano*.
- Nancy DiGruccio has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Josephine Carrano*.
- Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Tessitore have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Josephine Carrano*.
- Lorraine and Bob Petito have made a donation to Outreach in honor of the *80th birthday of Joan Van Wheelden*.
- Sylvester Bonacci has made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of his wife, *Alice*.
- Regina and Peter Mirabella have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Josephine Carrano and Richard Petrucci*.
- Paul and Diane Munch have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Josephine Carrano*.
- Gerri and Richard Ricciotti have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Richard Petrucci*.
- Marie Ricigliano has made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of *Richard Petrucci*.
- Carol Ann and David Zaleski have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Josephine Carrano*.
- Richard and Doris Shaddock have made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of their children *Baby and Richard Joseph*.
- Emmett McHugh made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Walter Erwood*.

If you would like to make a donation to Parish Outreach in memory of a loved one, please call Mary McMahan, Director of Parish Social Ministry at 661.3224, option 4.

"Renewing Our Spiritual Home"



A Stewardship Parish

My parish is composed of people like me.

I help make it what it is.

It will be friendly, if I am.

It will be holy, if I am.

Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them.

It will do great work, if I work.

It will be prayerful, if I pray.

It will make generous gifts to many causes
if I am a generous giver.

It will bring others into its worship,
if I invite and bring them.

It will be a parish of loyalty and love,
of fearlessness and faith,

of compassion, charity and mercy,

if I, who make it what it is,

am filled with these same things.

Therefore, with the help of God,

I now dedicate myself to the task

of being all the things

That I want my parish to be. Amen.

*adapted from the stewardship prayer of the Diocese of
San Francisco*

Here is a list of projects which need to be done...

- Church lighting and electrical
- Narthex entrance
- Church pews, kneelers, chairs, and doors
- Parking lot refurbishment
- Parish Center air conditioner unit
- Parish Center repair and remodel

*Would you/could you help
support these projects?*

Is there something we missed?

*Do you see the need
for these projects?*

Please be sure to fill out a questionnaire.

Your feedback is important-we want to hear what you think...

"Renewing Our Spiritual Home"

Your Feedback to Date!!!

Thanks to the many individuals/families who have responded to the questionnaire! This feedback is so very important for helping us to take the next steps on our projects!



Summary Data

- 119 Responses
- 91% Positive Response

Trends in Written Comments

So many of our parishioners who responded stated their love for our parish and the warmth that they experience being a part of our parish family.

The willingness to help our parish is so very encouraging!

- Almost every single positive response agreed that the lighting in the Church needs to be addressed as the top priority.
- Many written comments stated that the parking lot should be moved down in the priority list.
- A number of comments expressed that the Parish Center should be moved up in the priority list.
- The small number of parishioners that stated they would not support our projects in almost every case said the reason was the economic times that we live in and the effect it is having on their families.
- Families have told us that they would like to have flexibility in picking the term for payment of a pledge.
- So many comments stated their understanding that the projects are very much like the maintenance everyone must do on their own homes.
- Many have stated that the condition of our worship space is the most important task we need to accomplish.

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.

Christmas Concert

On **Friday, December 17 at 8 PM, St. Patrick's Church, Bay Shore** will be hosting their 24th Annual Christmas Concert.

Featured artists will be internationally famous tenor, Karl Scully, Eily Patterson and her Celtic Harpists, and the Hibernian Festival singers under the direction of Christopher Bilella. Admission is \$35. For further information, please call 631.665.4911, extension 0.

The Long Island Catholic

Last weekend was the collection for The Long Island Catholic and each of us was asked to make a \$20 donation. Many of you responded with great generosity. Thank you all so very much!

If you missed our special collection last week, you may still make your donation to The Long Island Catholic. You can place your donation in the collection basket at Mass or drop it by the Parish Office. Thank you for your continued support.

Dominican Village

Please join us for an Open House on Thursday, December 16 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 or info@dominicanvillage.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 the East End of Long Island. Listen on Saturdays at 11 PM on Sirius Radio, Channel 159, the Catholic Channel and at 11 PM on XM Satellite, channel 117. Next Sunday's theme is "**Sharing Our Gifts.**" Don't miss it! To listen online or receive more information regarding "Religion & Rock" go to www.religionandrock.com or at "Religion & Rock" on ITUNES. Don't forget to tune into TELECARE, Cablevision 29 or Verizon FIOS 296 for the Best in Catholic Television!

