

*“Live in peace with one another and the God of peace will be with you.”*



*2 Corinthians 13:11*

*The Most Holy Trinity*

*Our Lady of Lourdes • June 19, 2011*



## *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.*

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

### **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-Catho-  
lics and for Catholics who have  
never received formal religious  
education. If interested, please  
call the Parish Office.

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## *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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## *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

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**Rev. Patsy Amabile**  
Associate Pastor

**Rev. Robert Scheckenback**  
Associate Pastor

**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

**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

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

**fax:** 661.7143

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

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

587.7200 (option 2)

Monday-Friday: 9 AM - 3 PM

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

### **Parish Outreach Office**

661.9262 (option 4)

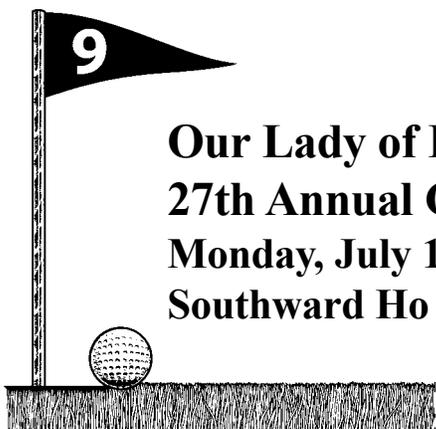
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:  
9:30 AM - 3 PM

### **S.A.G.E.**

661.3224

(Senior Advocates for Growth  
and Enrichment)

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



**Our Lady of Lourdes  
27th Annual Golf Classic  
Monday, July 18, 2011  
Southward Ho Country Club, Bay Shore**

*This year we will be honoring*



**Fr. Mike Vetrano, Pastor**



**Golfing Package = \$275**  
includes green fees, golf cart,  
driving range, lunch and dinner

*If you would like to  
join us for dinner,  
only \$95 per person.*

Outing includes raffles, auction,  
contests-longest drive,  
most accurate, closest to pin.

*Registration and BBQ is at  
11 AM with a 12:30 PM  
shot gun tee off. Cocktail  
hour is 5:30 - 6:30 PM with  
dinner at 6:30 PM.*



**Journal Ads:**

- Full page \$100
- Half page \$ 75
- Quarter page \$ 50
- Personal Message \$ 25  
*(one line)*

**Sponsorships:**

- Dinner \$1,500
- Lunch \$ 750
- Driving Range \$ 500
- Individual Hole \$ 100

*For more information please contact Golf Committee member  
Rich at 661.5478 or Frank at 587.7988..  
All proceeds will benefit Our Lady of Lourdes.*

# Our Lady of Lourdes 27th Annual Golf Classic Golf Journal

The Our Lady of Lourdes 27th Annual Golf Classic, honoring Fr. Mike Vetrano, has many wonderful opportunities for men and women golfers. We would love to have many golfers for that day to come and join us for a day of fun, and to honor Fr. Mike for all he has done for our Parish.

This year's golf journal will have a special section added. We are offering a section where you can write a one line personal message for Father Mike. The cost will be \$25.

Father Mike has served this Parish for over eleven years; let's show him our heartfelt thanks for his dedication and commitment to our Parish. It's a small way to thank him for continuing to make Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, a parish where "All are Welcome."

Please fill out the form below and include your check for \$25 made to Our Lady of Lourdes. The form and check can be dropped off at the Parish Office marked c/o Frank Antonawich, Journal Editor. If you prefer, you can mail it to: Our Lady of Lourdes Golf Outing, 455 Hunter Avenue, West Islip, NY 11795 Attn: Frank Antonawich.

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## Our Lady of Lourdes 27th Annual Golf Classic Journal – Personal Message



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Message \_\_\_\_\_

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## Registration Form



**Our Lady of Lourdes  
27th Annual Golf Classic  
Monday, July 18, 2011  
Southward Ho Country Club, Bay Shore**



**Golfing Package = \$275**  
includes green fees,  
golf cart, driving range,  
lunch and dinner

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_



## Parish Family of Our Lady of Lourdes "Renewing Our Spiritual Home"

Dear Parish Family,

Each week I will be updating this page so that you can understand how the "Renewing Our Spiritual Home" project, to which you were so generous, is moving forward. Here is our progress to date.

### **Completed Work:**

In the week right before Easter, we were able to purchase and install two new heating / air conditioning units (HVAC) on the roof of our parish center. This will keep our main meeting room cool for the summer season of meetings.

### **Next Steps:**

Last week I met with the representatives of a company which will be supplying control units for our new church lighting. Our meeting was very successful and we look forward to having a final proposal this week for the electrical work. We are being very careful here to get the best value, function, and economy from this system.

This week we hope to accomplish the following:

- Receive a final proposal; sign off on the design of the fixtures.
- Submit our proposal for work to the diocesan building office for approval.

We met this week with the architect who will help us with the design of our Narthex entrance, rectory entrance, and grotto of welcome. Thanks to your generosity, it is now possible to make concrete plans for these needs. We will be showing plans for you as soon as we receive them from the architect.

### **Redemption:**

Many parishioners have been asking me when the pledge payments will begin and how it will work. The sending of monthly / annual / quarterly / and other reminders begins just before the end of June. So we will be asking parishioners to begin to fulfill their pledges this month.

### **Is it too late to participate?**

Not at all! All gifts and pledges are always welcome. Just call our parish office 631-661-3224 or send me an email at [pastor@ollchurch.org](mailto:pastor@ollchurch.org). It would be wonderful if every Our Lady of Lourdes parishioner can claim a share of the "Renewing Our Spiritual Home" Project.

**Thanks for all you do to support the parish family of Our Lady of Lourdes!**

*Fr. Mike*

# OLL Roundup!

OLL Vacation Bible Camp '11

July 25-29

9 AM - 12:30 PM daily

**Camp Registration Form**

*Return to OLL Parish Office or school-  
along with fees (\$75 per child) before July 1.*

*Please make checks payable to Our Lady of Lourdes Church.*



We'll journey on an exciting journey of faith and fun as we learn about God, hear stories from the Bible, share cool science activities, and make crafts. And of course, we'll end our camp each day with our famous OLL camp sing-along!

Please list below the names and present grade levels of the children in your family who will attend camp. Camp is for Nursery (age 4) through Grade 5. *Students entering grade 6 and up are volunteer counselors and assistants. There will be a \$10 fee for counselors to cover the cost of a t-shirt and snacks.*

**Child's First & Last Name**

**Grade Level in Sept. '11**

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**Full Names of Parents/Guardians:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Family Address (Street, Town, Zip):** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell and/or Business Phone(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Emergency Contact and Phone #:**

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**Please indicate any health problems, food allergies, or special situations that it might be helpful for the camp staff to know about your child.**

*You will receive a letter with your child's group name and all important information around July 15<sup>th</sup>. We need adult and teen volunteers! If anyone in your family (teens and/or adults) would be willing to help out at the camp, please list their names and ages on the back of this sheet. We will hold meetings for all volunteers in mid-July.*

OLL Vacation Bible Camp '11

## 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, call Charles Argento at 586.8528.



## Men's Prayer Group

*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, July 21, 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, June 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.



## Discovery Summer Camp

**Sponsored by Our Lady of Lourdes**

**June 27 - August 5**

**9 AM - 5 PM**

**Monday -Friday**

A full-time day camp program for students entering grades Pre-K - 7, beginning with an academic based morning and a fun-filled afternoon of sports. Choose from the four or six week program. Before/After Care and school provided lunch available for an additional fee.

Registration now being accepted. For further information, or to register, please contact Lisa Kennedy, director at 631.587.7200, extension 101 or email to [lkennedy@ollschool.org](mailto:lkennedy@ollschool.org).

# Summer Evening Prayer



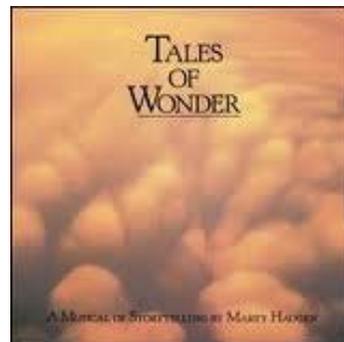
7 PM  
Great Lawn  
Monday evenings  
July 11-August 15

Come to the Great Lawn on Monday evenings to enjoy the fruits of our Parish Ministries and Societies. Bring a chair or a blanket AND an appetite.

Each night will be presented by various groups in our Parish involving prayer, song, and hospitality (that means FOOD).

Parish Ministries and Societies including...*Religious Education, The Men's Prayer Group, Evangelization, The Rosary Christian Mothers, The Holy Name Society, our very own Music Ministry presenting "Tales of Wonder", The Good Samaritan Prayer Group, and Prayer Shawl Ministry.*

Please plan on joining us-All are Welcome!



## Tales of Wonder

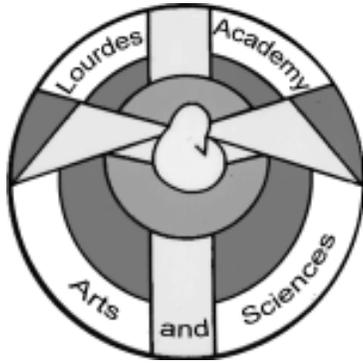
### Calling all aspiring performers-Actors, Singers, Dancers

On August 8, as one of the Monday Summer Evening Prayer, we are going to present *Tales of Wonder* composed by Marty Haugen.

This piece centers on the books of the Bible- for example Creation, Job, The Prophets...

For this to be a success we will need many people...adults and children, performers, stagehands, singers and musicians!

If you are at all interested, please come to a meeting on **Tuesday June 28 at 7 PM in the Church.** Hope to see you there!



## Congratulations Graduates! Our Lady of Lourdes School Academy of Arts and Sciences June 16, 2011

### Class of 2011

**Valedictorian** – *Elizabeth Conklin*

**Salutatorian** – *Eva Gallegos*

*Daniel Antonawich*

*Ryan Bacchus*

*Isiah Borrero*

*Allison Brown*

*Christopher Burke*

*Christian Ciccarello*

*Elizabeth Conklin*

*Candace Corrigan*

*Daniel Cunningham*

*Lisa DeMotta*

*Francesca Desiderio*

*Krysta Flareau*

*Eva Gallegos*

*John Gebert*

*Tiffani Greene*

*Rory Hannigan*

*Austin Higley*

*Chloé Hoerner*

*Meghan James*

*Joseph LaCarrubba*

*Theresa Maher*

*Christina Natale*

*Skiela Pearson*

*Anthony Rinaldi*

*Mia Rogers*

*Kristin Sabarese*

*James Schneider*

*Jake Shapiro*

*Jason-Michael St. Laurent*

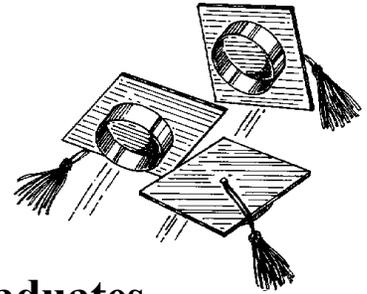
*Jhon Suescun*

*Shannon Thomson*

*Matthew Vandenburg*

*Christopher Whalen*

*Nicholas Zotto*



### Prayer for Graduates

God of our beginnings,  
We thank you for the gifts of these graduates;  
their excitement, their awesome wonder and curiosity,  
their open speech and encouraging words.  
Their contributions have blessed and challenged us,  
and we have become a richer  
and more diverse community because of them.  
As they step forward into the world that awaits,  
comfort their fears with the full knowledge  
of your divine presence.  
Strengthen their resolve  
to walk in the footsteps of Jesus  
as modern-day disciples in  
a world that needs their spirit.  
Guide their feet as they move through life,  
protecting them from  
the pitfalls of darkness  
while they help to lead future generations  
into the warmth  
and promise of your light.  
We ask this blessing upon each of them,  
In the name of the Father, the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

# OLL Week-at-a-Glance

	Church/APR	Parish Center/Rm 16	Spiritual Life Center/LH
<b>Monday</b> June 20	8 AM Mass after 8 AM Mass Miraculous Medal Novena		
<b>Tuesday</b> June 21	8 AM Mass  7:30 PM Cantor Rehearsal		8 PM Alcoholics Anonymous LH  7:30 PM Men's Prayer Group SLC 8 PM Alcoholics Anonymous LH
<b>Wednesday</b> June 22	8 AM Mass		10 AM AIAnon LH  7 PM All God's Children SLC 7 PM AIAnon District mtg. LH
<b>Thursday</b> June 23	8 AM Mass  5 PM Youth Choir 7 PM Adult Choir	7 PM Youth Group  Rm. 16	
<b>Friday</b> June 24	8 AM Mass		
<b>Saturday</b> June 25	8 AM Mass  4-4:45 PM Confessions 5 PM Mass	8 PM Good Samaritan Prayer Group 16  6 PM Senior Single Social PC	2 PM Alcoholics Anonymous LH  7 PM Alcoholics Anonymous LH
<b>Sunday</b> June 26	8 AM Mass 9:30 AM Mass- CLTW 11 AM Mass, 12:30 PM Mass 6 PM Mass		



## *Upcoming Marriages*

*Dona Calia, and  
Rusty McKenna, both OLL  
Kathryn Lucie and  
Justin Grover, both OLL*

## *Welcome*

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

*Kristian and Lynda Balasic & family*

*Brian Petry and Kerryanne Autera*

*Dawn Lutrario*

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

### **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, June 20

8:00 AM Benjamin Giambalvo

### Tuesday, June 21

*Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, religious*

8:00 AM Mario Arena

### Wednesday, June 22

8:00 AM Joseph Netska

### Thursday, June 23

8:00 AM Robert Beck

### Friday, June 24

*Nativity of Saint John the Baptist*

8:00 AM Sr. Marie Melton

### Saturday, June 25

8:00 AM Elisa Coon, Mary Ann Bertani (*living*), Mark G. Petito,  
Patricia Volk, Edward Jewhurst, Doreen Shippard,  
Enrique Relevo, Rafael Gimarino

5:00 PM Jerry Castonguay  
*Fr. Mike Vetrano*

### Sunday, June 26

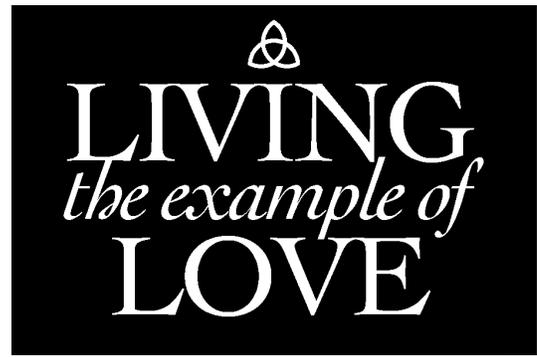
8:00 AM Rose Giacalone  
*Fr. Bob Scheckenback*

9:30 AM Margaret Kruger  
*Fr. Mike Vetrano*

11:00 AM Joseph DiMola III  
*Fr. Ambrose Cabildo*

12:30 PM Garcia Family  
*Fr. Pat Amabile*

6:00 PM People of the Parish, Anna Ballou, Eugene Gitto,  
Frances T. Brown, Evelyn Fontaine, Anne Tropeano,  
Katherine Pomposello, James Harchak,  
Michael Kidney, Anthony Nuccio  
*Fr. Bob Scheckenback*



## Most Holy Trinity

In broadcasting this year's Packers-Steelers Super Bowl game, FOX Sports rejected a thirty-second ad featuring the Scripture citation, John 3:16. The citation periodically pops up on signs held by fans in end zone shots, even though television networks are getting skilled at eliminating such scenes from their broadcasts. The ad rejected by FOX Sports did appear in the Washington, DC and Birmingham, Alabama markets just before the fourth quarter. A close-up of a defensive player's face after a tackle shows the Scripture citation painted on his eye black. Even with that limited exposure, enough people logged in that the Internet traffic crashed the sponsor's Web site.

As we celebrate the feast of the Most Holy Trinity this weekend, we hear the actual text to which the citation refers: "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." The life of the Holy Trinity is one of pure and total love. That is the love we are celebrating today: complete and unconditional, sacrificial and eternal.

We could emulate the zeal of those who are so intent on proclaiming John 3:16 at every opportunity, but not necessarily their methods. Holding up signs at football games or producing a commercial may entice the curious, but these actions don't necessarily lead to lifelong conversion. But if people see in our way of living the example of love that is lived within the Trinity, then people will be attracted naturally to the faith. While we may consider the Trinity an abstraction about God, it is really an expression of the deepest love, love so intense that the three persons-Father, Son, and Holy Spirit-are one. Our own human love will never be that complete, but if we strive for that in our own lives others will come to share in what we believe.

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### Readings for the Week of June 19, 2011

<b>Sunday:</b>	Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9/2 Cor 13:11-13/Jn 3:16-18
<b>Monday:</b>	Gn 12:1-9/Mt 7:1-5
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Gn 13:2, 5-18/Mt 7:6, 12-14
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Gn 15:1-12, 17-18/Mt 7:15-20
<b>Thursday:</b>	Gn 16:1-12, 15-16 or 16:6b-12, 15-16/Mt 7:21-29
<b>Friday:</b>	<i>Vigil:</i> Jer 1:4-10/1 Pt 1:8-12/Lk 1:5-17 <i>Day:</i> Is 49:1-6/Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80
<b>Saturday:</b>	Gn 18:1-15/Mt 8:5-17
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a/1 Cor 10:16-17/Jn 6:51-58

## **Pantry Needs**

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canned vegetables  
jelly  
macaroni/cheese  
pasta  
peanut butter  
pudding/jello  
spaghetti sauce

### **Calling all Vampires...**

**(I knew that would get your attention!)**

Our Lady of Lourdes is sponsoring a **Summer Blood Drive!**

The Blood Drive will be held on **Monday, June 20 from 3:30 PM until 8:30 PM in the Outreach area.**

We need at least 75 Vampires to break our record of 72 pints. *Can we do it?*

Only the vampires among us know for sure!

### **Donations to Outreach-June 2011**

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

- Doris and Richard Shaddock have made a Fathers Day Donation to Outreach in loving memory of their fathers: *Frank Monroe and George Shaddock.*
- Michael and Beth Murdoch have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Ronald Koraus.*
- Eleanor and Michael Carrano have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Mrs. Lee Addeo.*
- Lorraine and Bob Petito have made a donation to Outreach in memory of their son, *Mark Petito.*
- John and Anne DeGuardi have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Mark Petito and Mario Mirabella.*
- Richard and Marilyn Barthel have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Patricia Volk.*
- Bob and Camille Watts have made a donation to Outreach in memory of the deceased members of the *Watts and Aragona Families.*

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.

## Financial Summary

**June 12, 2011**

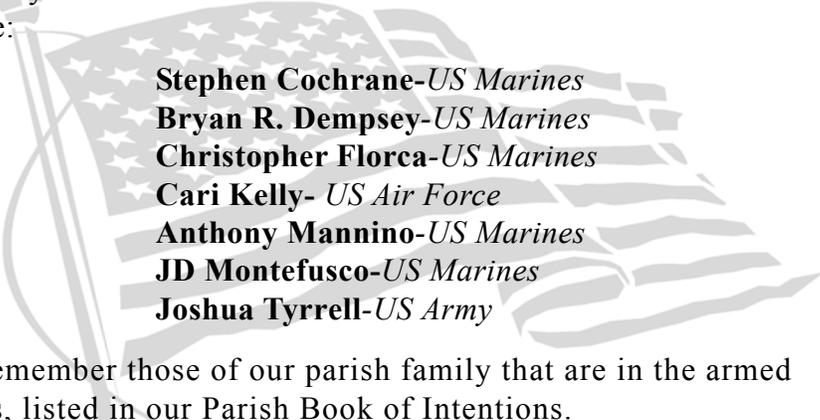
Weekly Collection	\$ 16,706.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 19,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ (2,294.00)

*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:



**Stephen Cochrane**-*US Marines*  
**Bryan R. Dempsey**-*US Marines*  
**Christopher Florca**-*US Marines*  
**Cari Kelly**- *US Air Force*  
**Anthony Mannino**-*US Marines*  
**JD Montefusco**-*US Marines*  
**Joshua Tyrrell**-*US Army*

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

## **Altar Society**

Altar linens this week will be cared for by *Janet Loehr*.  
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 ...

*Provi Bennett, Edith Caputo, Nicole Cerny, Jeanne Marie DellaRagione,  
Edward Cronin, Frank Edwards, Baby Reagan Farrell, Jake Feldman,  
Marguerite Filippone, Ann Finn, Kenneth Garretson, Baby Gavin Gradiska,  
Winifred Hanrahan, Peter Joseph, Kathleen Kerrigan, Marty Kerrigan,  
Robyn Kerrigan, Eric Lee, Ann Losee, Christopher J. Maher, Louise Malcuit,  
Marge Marotta, Tony Marotta, Rosa Mastrorocco, Peter McCarthy,  
Vincent McGuire, John McNevin, Vincent Meade, Peter Mirabella,  
Frances Miranda, Julio Miranda, Rae Morris, Evelyn Nonnon,  
Philomena Owens, Karen Parpounas, Joanne Popper,  
Joe Radosti, Charles Rainone, Patricia Sanchez, Teresa Saraceno,  
Ann Marie Schiraldi, Baby Isabella Shaw, Derek Stahl, Lindsay Stahl,  
Daniel Taranto, Joseph Yezek*

## Struggling with my Father's Blessing

by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

My father died when I was twenty-three, a seminarian, green, still learning about life. It's hard to lose your father at any age and my grief was compounded by the fact that I had just begun to appreciate him.

Only some time later did I realize that I no longer needed him, though I still badly wanted him. What he had to give me, he had already given. I had his blessing, and that contained who he really was and what ultimately the gift of his life was to me.

I knew that I had his blessing. My life and the direction it had taken pleased him, made him proud. Like God's voice at the baptism of his Jesus, his too had already communicated to me: You are my son in whom I am well pleased. That's about as much a person may ask from a father.

And what did he leave me, and the rest of his offspring? Too much to name, but, among other things: He was one of the truly moral persons I have ever known, allowing himself the minimum of moral compromise. He wasn't a man who bought the line that we are only human and so it's okay to allow ourselves certain exemptions. He used to famously tell us: "Anyone can show me humanity; I need someone to show me divinity!" He expected you not to fail, to live up to what faith and morality asked of you, to not make excuses. If we, his family, inhaled anything from his presence, it was this moral stubbornness.

Beyond this, he had a steady, almost pathological, sanity. There were no hysterical or psychotic outbursts, no depressions, no lack of steadiness, no having to guess where his soul and psyche might be on a given day. With that steadiness, along with my mother's supporting presence, he made for us a home that was always a safe cocoon, a boring place sometimes, but always a safe one. When I think of the home I grew up in I think of a safe shelter where you could look at storms outside from a place of warmth and security.

And because we were a large family and his love and attention had to be shared with multiple siblings, I never thought of him as "my" father, but always as "our" father. This, perhaps more than anything else, has helped me grasp the first challenge in the Lord's Prayer, namely, that God is "Our" Father, Someone we share with others, not a private entity. Moreover his family extended to more than his own children.

I learned early not to resent the fact that he couldn't always be with us, that he had good reasons to be elsewhere: work, community, church, hospital and school boards, political involvements. He was an elder for a wider family than just our own.

Finally, not least, he blessed me and my brothers and sisters with a love for baseball. He managed a local baseball team for a good number of years. This was his particular outlet for freeness, a place where his soul could enjoy some Sabbath.

But blessings never come pure, my father was human, and a man's greatest strength is also his greatest weakness. In all that moral fiber and rock-solid sanity, there was also a reticence that sometimes didn't allow him to drink in fully life's exuberance. Every son watches how his father dances and unconsciously sizes him up against certain things: hesitancy, fluidity, abandon, exhibitionism, false bracketing of sanity, irresponsibility. My father never had much fluidity to his dance, and I have inherited that, something that pains me deeply. There were times, both as a child and as an adult, when, at a given moment, I would have traded my father for a dad who had a more fluid dance-step, for someone with less reticence in the face of life's exuberance.

And that is partly my struggle to receive his full blessing. I'm often reminded of William Blake's famous line in, *Infant Sorrow*: "Struggling in my father's hands." For me, that means struggling with his inability at times to simply let go and drink in life's full gift.

But, if there was hesitancy, there was no irresponsibility in his dance, even if sometimes that meant standing outside the dance. I was grieved at his funeral, but proud too, proud for the respect that was poured out for him, for the way he lived his life. There was no judgment that day on his reticence.

As of January 5th this year, my earthly days began to number more than my father's. I'm older now than he was. But I still live inside his blessing, consciously and unconsciously striving to measure up, to honor what he gave me, my father. And mostly that's good, though I also have moments when I find myself standing outside of life's exuberance, reticent, his look on my face, looking with envy at those who have a more fluid dance step - me, ever my father's son.

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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).*

# 2011 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL



<b>Parish Goal</b>	\$ 52,785*
<i>(*reduced due to Capital Campaign)</i>	
<b>Amount Pledged</b>	\$ 72,595
<b># of Donors</b>	323
<b>Average Pledge</b>	\$ 225
<i>as of May 31, 2011</i>	

**One Faith, One Hope,  
Many Gifts.**

As stewards, we choose to live our lives in thanksgiving to our generous God. The CMA allows us to share our gifts in many different ways; through prayer, through gifts of time and talent and by sharing our financial resources. More than 550,000 of our sisters and brothers receive support and assistance from funds shared through the CMA each year.

Feeding the hungry, providing religious education for thousands of students, educating our seminarians, deacons, and lay people for service to the Church and her people, housing the homeless, caring for the sick in hospitals and helping people prepare for the Sacraments are among the vital ministries the Catholic Ministries Appeal supports.



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*Supporting the Community Around Us*

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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.

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**A Guide To Giving**

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<input type="checkbox"/> 250	31.25
<input type="checkbox"/> 150	18.75

**Every Gift Counts!**

Please make checks payable to:  
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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.

## 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.

## Lectors Wanted!

Would you like to be involved in a ministry at OLL that is rewarding, exciting, and invigorating? Then consider becoming a lector! Proclaiming the Word of God is a very special way of being part of the liturgy and touching everyone in the assembly. If you would like more information about what becoming a lector entails, please call the Parish Office at 661.3224, option 1.



## Parish Office-Change in Hours

Beginning Friday, July 8, the Parish Office will be closing at 5 PM on Fridays. The new office hours will be:

<b>Monday-Thursday</b>	9 AM to 7:30 PM
<b>Friday</b>	9 AM to 5 PM
<b>Saturday</b>	9 AM to 3 PM
<b>Sunday</b>	9 AM to 2 PM

## The Swinging Seniors Are At It Again!

### “Branson Show Extravaganza”

7 Fabulous Branson Shows

9 Days – 8 Nights

October 8 – 16th

\$749.00 pp

That’s right...travel, lodging, meals, show tickets-all for \$749 per person!

How can you pass this up?

For more information-please phone the Outreach Office at 661.9262, option 4.

## 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 “**Relaxation.**” Don’t miss it!

To listen online or receive more information regarding “Religion & Rock” go to [www.religionandrock.com](http://www.religionandrock.com) or at “Religion & Rock” on ITUNES. Don’t forget to tune into TELE CARE, Cablevision Channel 29/137 or Verizon FIOS 296 for the Best in Catholic Television!

# Sharing the Gospel

God loves you so much. He sent Jesus into the world to take your sins away. Jesus died on the cross as punishment for all of your sins so that you could have a new, better life with God. Believe in Jesus. Trust in God's love. Then you can live with God forever.



## Mission for the Week



Read John 3:16-18 with your family. Thank Jesus for taking all of your sins away.

### Puzzle

Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

God	gave	eternal
loved	believes	Son
world	perish	save

oGd	<u>G</u> <u>o</u> <u>d</u>
presih	_____
noS	_____
levod	_____
geva	_____
eetrnla	_____
wrodl	_____
bleevise	_____
vase	_____

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### Prayer



Jesus,  
thank you for taking  
away my sins.

### Something to Draw



Draw a picture of  
Jesus on the cross.  
Around Jesus, write  
some sins that Jesus  
took away.