

“We are one body in Christ.”

1 Corinthians 10:17

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Our Lady of Lourdes · June 26, 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.

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

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

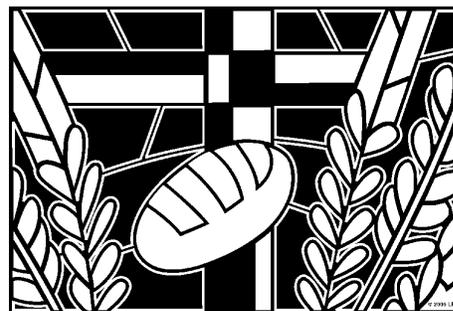
School Office

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:

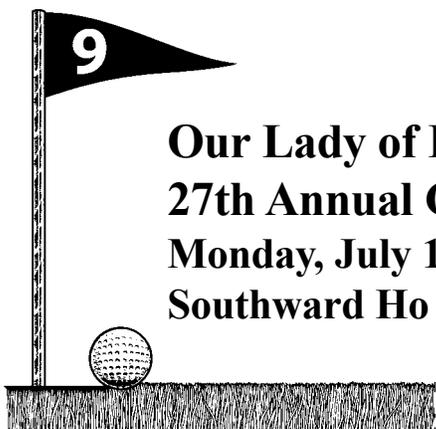
9:30 AM - 3 PM

S.A.G.E.

661.3224

**(Senior Advocates for Growth
and Enrichment)**

email: Sage@ollchurch.org



**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 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 Fr. Mike. The cost will be \$25.

Fr. 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, a parish where "All are Welcome."

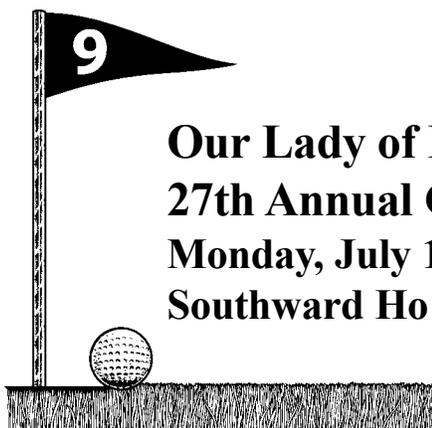
Please fill out the form below and include your check for \$25 made out to Our Lady of Lourdes. The form and check can be dropped off at the Parish Office marked c/o Frank Antonawich, Journal Editor. If you prefer, you can mail it to: Our Lady of Lourdes Golf Outing, 455 Hunter Avenue, West Islip, NY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



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

Name _____ Phone # _____

Message _____



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:

On June 17, 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.

Narthex and Rectory

We met with the architect who will help us with the design of our Narthex entrance, rectory entrance, and grotto of welcome. This week the firm was here at OLL to measure the areas that need to be redesigned. 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. 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

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

Full Names of Parents/Guardians: _____

Family Address (Street, Town, Zip): _____

Email: _____

Phone #: _____

Cell and/or Business Phone(s): _____

Name of Emergency Contact and Phone #: _____

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 15th. 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.

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.

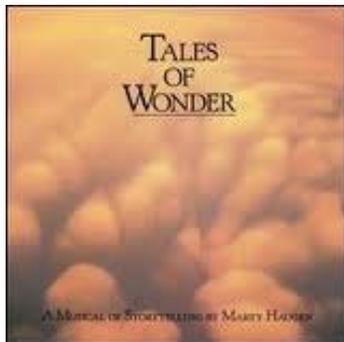
Serving the Body of Christ...

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

We congratulate and welcome our parish's newest Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion-

*Cathy Brady, Dustin Dente, Lisa Eastwood, Ann Finn, Joseph Halonka,
Marie LaCarrubba, Gene Sternkopf and Josephine Walsh.*

All have been commissioned to serve as Extraordinary Ministers in our parish. Pray for them as they begin this important ministry in the life of OLL!



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!

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!

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| July 11 | Good Samaritan Prayer Group
<i>-featuring the vocal stylings of Fr. Ed</i> |
| July 25 | Men's Prayer Group and Lector Ministry
<i>-Jesus feeds the multitude "Hero Night"</i> |
| August 1 | Religious Education
<i>-our very own Sister Nancy and Sister Diane</i> |
| August 8 | Music Ministry
<i>-Tales of Wonder</i> |
| August 15 | Rosary Christian Mothers and Holy Name Society
<i>-Feast of the Assumption Mass</i>
bring your own "Dessert Night" |
| August 22 | possible Movie Night |

Collection for El Salvador Mission Trip

This year, 25 parishioners will participate in our ninth annual Mission Awareness Trip to El Salvador. One of our activities will involve running a mini “Vacation Bible Camp” for the children of our Sister Parish in Tacuba.

We are asking parishioners to participate in this effort by donating:

SCHOOL AND ART SUPPLIES

We will collect them at all Masses this weekend of **June 25/26**. Please place all donations in the receptacles in the narthex.

Thanks for helping us to help the children of El Salvador!

El Salvador Sending Mass

Come and help ask for God’s blessings on our missionaries:

Sunday, June 26th, at 9:30 Mass. Then, follow our daily trip blog at www.ollchurch.org.



Nocturnal Adoration

Nocturnal Adoration will follow the 5 PM Mass on **Saturday, July 2**, concluding with Benediction at 9:50 PM. Please come and pray with us. All are invited and welcome! Bring a friend.

SAGE

The SAGE Group (Senior Advocates for Growth and Enrichment) will meet on **Tuesday, June 28**, 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, June 27**, at **12:30 PM in the Parish Center**.

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:

Monday-Thursday 9 AM to 7:30 PM

Friday 9 AM to 5 PM

Saturday 9 AM to 3 PM

Sunday 9 AM to 2 PM



OLL Week-at-a-Glance

	Church/APR	Parish Center/Rm 16	Spiritual Life Center/LH
Monday June 27	8 AM Mass after 8 AM Mass Miraculous Medal Novena		
Tuesday June 28	8 AM Mass 7 PM "Tales of Wonder" meeting		8 PM Alcoholics Anonymous LH
Wednesday June 29	8 AM Mass		8 PM Alcoholics Anonymous LH 10 AM AIAnon LH
Thursday June 30	8 AM Mass 1:30 PM Prayer for Divine Mercy	7 PM Youth Group Rm. 16	
Friday July 1	8 AM Mass		
Saturday July 2	8 AM Mass 4-4:45 PM Confessions 5 PM Mass 6 PM Nocturnal Adoration		2 PM Alcoholics Anonymous LH 7 PM Alcoholics Anonymous LH
Sunday July 3	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
Michelle Kleiber, OLL and
Michael Serrago, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Lindenhurst*

Welcome

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

Thomas and Christina Simicich & family

Terrence and Christina Kossegi & family

Evan and Anita Mendelson & family

...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.

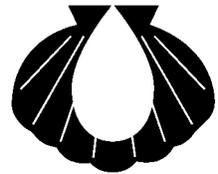
Marriage

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.

Baptisms



Antonio James Milone

John and Jennifer

Kellen Dennis Andrews

Jason and Adrienne

Nina Carrienne Crosley

Steven and Connie

Mackenzie Rose Davis

Michael and Michele

Joshua Lucian Vizcarrondo

Damian and Ivana

Remembering...

Monday, June 27

8:00 AM Elizabeth Meditz

Tuesday, June 28

Saint Irenaeus, bishop and martyr

8:00 AM Kathryn Chazey and Anthony Stiefvater

Wednesday, June 29

Saint Peter and Saint Paul, apostles

8:00 AM Vincent McCarthy

Thursday, June 30

8:00 AM Donald Hoevels

Friday, July 1

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

8:00 AM Angela Linzy

Saturday, July 2

8:00 AM Mark G. Petito, Sal Graziano, Florence Fusco,
MaryAnn Ammann, Dahlia Rosario,
Conroy and Pirro Family

5:00 PM Bill Heartt

Fr. Ambrose Cabildo

Sunday, July 3

8:00 AM Greg Henesy and Dec'd mbrs of Henesy Family
Fr. Ambrose Cabildo

9:30 AM John Sirico

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

11:00 AM William Otterbeck

Fr. Pat Amabile

12:30 PM Frances Torina

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

6:00 PM People of the Parish, Arthur Sandstrom,
Mary A. Watson, James Leddy, Sr., Kathy Rossiello,
Dahlia Rosario, Warren Foreman, Thomas Bigler

Fr. Pat Amabile

Rest In Peace

Joseph J. Fenlon died on June 13 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was June 18. We extend our prayers to his parents, Thomas and Joanne, and entire family.

Paul A. Quinn died on June 14 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was June 18. We extend our prayers to his daughter, Alexis, and entire family.



Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

We sometimes go to extraordinary lengths to preserve life. Consider all the interventions that exist in a modern hospital's emergency room: from defibrillators to ventilators, from medicines that instantly negate the effects of an opiate overdose, to drugs that can break up a clot even as a stroke is underway. All of these intricate responses have been devised over and above the more ordinary actions of orange juice to revive a diabetic or caesarian section to deliver a baby in a compromised pregnancy. Because modern medicine can do so much, many of us in the developed world live with the expectation that our lives will just keep going on. The progress of medicine has made it inevitable that many families now confront the decision of when to let someone go—ending treatment, stopping medication, removing machines.

In this weekend's Gospel, Jesus promises that whoever eats his flesh and drinks his blood has eternal life. He tells the crowds that whoever eats the bread that comes down from heaven will live forever. The body and blood of Christ is real food and real drink. It is medicine for our body and soul. It is nourishment for our lives.

When Jesus makes the promise of life forever to those who eat his flesh and drink his blood, he is not talking about the kind of life support that we associate with hospital care. He is instead indicating that those who eat his body and drink his blood will live eternally because of the life that he gives. The medicine of the Eucharist heals us from sin and division, and makes us whole in Christ uniting us in one communion of love. So when we think about the extraordinary lengths we undertake to preserve life in the natural world, we may want to reconsider what we are willing to do in the spiritual world. Is the Eucharist part of our spiritual health care regularly?

2011 Liturgical Publications Inc

Readings for the Week of June 26, 2011

Sunday:	Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a/1 Cor 10:16-17/Jn 6:51-58
Monday:	Gn 18:16-33/Mt 8:18-22
Tuesday:	Gn 19:15-29/Mt 8:23-27
Wednesday:	<i>Vigil:</i> Acts 3:1-10/Gal 1:11-20/Jn 21:15-19 <i>Day:</i> Acts 12:1-11/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19
Thursday:	Gn 22:1b-19/Mt 9:1-8
Friday:	Dt 7:6-11/1 Jn 4:7-16/Mt 11:25-30
Saturday:	Gn 27:1-5, 15-29/Lk 2:41-51
Next Sunday:	Zec 9:9-10/Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30



Victorian Tea

“HATS! HATS! That’s all we see are HATS!!!

Big Hats, Little Hats, Striped Hats, Polka Dot Hats...Hats, Hats, That’s all we see are Hats!!!”

What an absolutely glorious afternoon! Pity the poor souls who were unable to attend the festivities! (Ahem!-did you wait until the last minute to purchase your ticket?) The strains of Baroque

Music filled the air! (Abundant thanks to the *Buonaspina Family* for donating both their time and talent!) An epicurean delight spread before us...(Stifle a sigh!)... Tiny tea sandwiches (standing ovation to *Michael Dunne, Marie and Steve Duncan*); scones (applause, applause to *Trish Frodell*); sweet baked goods to tempt even the staunchest dieter (Clap! Clap! to the many anonymous bakers of brownies, cakes and cookies)! And of course, TEA!

Genteel Women-(refined, elegant both in appearance and decorum) demonstrated the utmost restraint while perusing the abundant “baskets of chance” being offered for raffle. (Oh, NO! NO! NO!-we would not tolerate a stampede!) Objects d’art to be cherished (with appreciation to *Deacon John DeGuardi and Bill Kuchler*); a ‘contraption of entertainment’ referred to as a flat screen something or other which boggles the sensitivities of the Victorian mind-(donated by *Barbara and Bob Evans*); were among the many prizes offered for chance.

Local merchants, donated their wares-*Zeiglers Deli, Captree Deli, Café MOJO, Italianos, West Islip Wines/Liquors, Towers Flowers, Farrells, West Islip Opticians, West Islip Bagels, Anthony’s Pizza, Best Kitchen, Long River Kitchen, Hometown Heros, Bebe’s Florist, Kathy’s Hair Corner, In Style Hair Salon, Ace of Cuts Barber Shop*, and very many others their time (*Marcy/Ken Chapuisat, Josephine Barone, Dottie Perdue, Barbara Evans*); to ensure the afternoon would be a success of enormous proportion. How wonderful that these good deeds and noble works would be of benefit to others!

Indeed, a full and complete afternoon. But, oh yes, there was more! One must acknowledge greatness among us! The Woman of Honor: “*Mother Jane Desthers*.” True to character, Mother Jane’s comportment was stately and refined as she humbly accepted praise and accolades from our distinguished guest, the Rev. Vetrano. It was noted, that in her day, Mother Jane was a member of Maryknoll, frequented the Catholic Worker and to this day remains a constant companion to, and advocate for, those in need.



Tis said:behind each great man is a woman.....(mastermind). Certainly, behind each great event is a truly tremendous team of “Ms. Minds”. Our Victorian Tea was a terrific success due to the hard work of many people. I would like to thank *Mrs. Trifoli’s Seventh Grade religion class* for being our wait staff. A special thanks to *Valerie Dunne* for pulling all the pieces together to make the Tea a reality.

Please, do mark your calendars as to avoid any confusion in the year 2012. The Tea will be held on Sunday, April 29. We will accept nothing less than your presence, a HAT...and certainly your teapot! We are already in preparation for the event. If you have any items which would be appropriate as a re-gift...we will gladly accept these in the Outreach office. But do be discrete as you leave them less you offend the giver of your gift!!! (Wink! Wink!)

-*Mary McMahon*, Director of Parish Social Ministry

Financial Summary

June 19, 2011

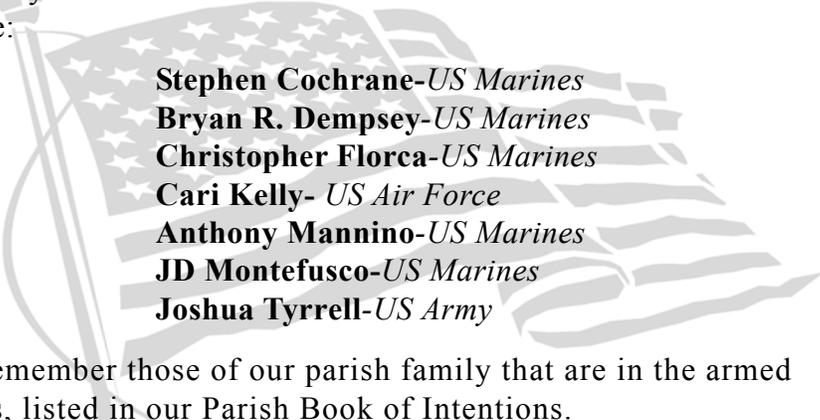
Weekly Collection	\$ 16,107.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 19,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ (2,893.00)

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 *Joyce Petersen*.
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, Marge Marotta, Tony Marotta, Rosa Mastrorocco, Vincent McGuire, John McNevin, Vincent Meade, Peter Mirabella, Frances Miranda, Julio Miranda, Rae Morris, Rosali Napoli, Evelyn Nonnon, Philomena Owens, Karen Parpounas, Joanne Popper, Joe Radosti, Charles Rainone, Patricia Sanchez, Teresa Saraceno, Ann Marie Schiraldi, Violet Sferrazza, Baby Isabella Shaw, Derek Stahl, Lindsay Stahl, Daniel Taranto, Joseph Yezek

Getting it down to the Essentials

by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

Sometime after his 70th birthday, Morris West wrote an autobiography which he entitled, *A View from the Ridge*. By ridge, he meant the angle that 70 years of living had given him.

And what he offers is an exceptionally mature perspective on life.

When you get to be 75 years old, West says, your vocabulary should be pretty simple. You only need to have two words left: "Thank you!" Gratitude is the real mark of genuine maturity, of spiritual health. Don't ever be fooled about this.

Moreover, for West himself, gratitude wasn't easy to come by. His life, as his autobiography makes clear, had its share of hurts and rejections; not least by the church which he loved. So his story also highlights that gratitude is predicated on forgiveness, on letting go of hurts, on not letting the past bitterly color the present. To be grateful is to be forgiving.

And we all have hurts, deep hurts. Nobody comes to adulthood, let alone to old age, without being deeply hurt. Alice Miller, the renowned psychologist, puts it this way: All of us, from the time that we are infants in the cradle until we are self-possessed enough to write an autobiography like Morris West's, are not adequately loved, not adequately cared for, not adequately recognized, not adequately valued, and not adequately honored. Moreover all of us also suffer positively some rejection and abuse. None of us is spared life's unfairness. She calls this the drama of the gifted child, namely, the drama of being a unique, sensitive, intelligent, deep, and gifted person who in this life is never quite loved enough, recognized enough, respected enough, or honored enough, and who is sometimes positively rejected and abused. Small wonder that it is easier to be bitter than grateful, paranoid than hospitable, angry than gracious.

What can we do about this, beyond first of all admitting that we do nurse a grudge against life?

Miller suggests the most important task of mid-life and beyond is that of grieving. We need, she says, to cry until the foundations of our life are shaken. At a certain point in our lives the question is no longer: "Am I hurt?" Rather it's: "What is my hurt and how can I move beyond it?" It's like having been in a car accident and carrying some permanent scars and debilitations.

The accident happened, the limp is there, nothing is going to reverse time, and so our only real choice is between bitterness and forgiveness, between anger and getting on with life, between spending the rest of our lives saying "if only!" or spending the rest of our lives trying to enjoy the air, despite of our limp.

An important idea within the Jewish and Christian concept of the Sabbath is the notion that, while the celebration, rest, enjoyment, and prayer of the Sabbath is largely for its own sake, these are also in function of something practical, namely, forgiveness. We are meant to rest regularly, pray regularly, celebrate regularly, and enjoy life regularly both because this is what we will be doing in heaven and because, by doing these, we might find within us the heart we need to forgive.

It's no accident that, often times, our vacations don't really do for us what they should: We get over-worked and tired and we look forward to a vacation, some time away to rest, to relax with friends, to drink wine and enjoy the sun. Then we take a vacation and do, in fact, very much enjoy it. Sadly though, within days or weeks after we return we find ourselves as tired as we were before the vacation. What happened? Why didn't our vacation work?

Our vacation didn't work because we didn't forgive anybody. We didn't let go of any grudges. The most tired and stressed part of us didn't get to go on vacation, didn't get to let go and relax, and didn't find itself warmed by wine and friends. It stayed cold, anxious, stressed, over-worked. There's a tiredness that cannot be cured by a good sleep, a good vacation, or by the right time with the right friends with the right wine, and it's the deepest tiredness inside us. It's the tiredness that stings because of hurt, that's cold because it hasn't been loved, that's calloused because it has been cruelly cut, and that burns with resentment because of the neglect and rejection it has experienced. This is a bone, deep tiredness that isn't cured by a vacation, but only by forgiveness.

There is only one ultimate imperative in life: Before we die, we need to forgive. We need to forgive those who hurt us, to forgive ourselves for not being any better than those who hurt us, to forgive life itself for some of the things that it dealt us, and, not least, to forgive God for the fact that life is unfair, so as not to die with a bitter and angry heart.

Gratitude is the fruit of that struggle.

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.

American Sign Language

Cleary School for the Deaf is offering evening Adult Education classes in American Sign Language-levels 1, 2, 3 and Intermediate/Advanced. The summer session will be July 6 - August 3 for ages 10 and up. Call Carolyn Kelly at 631.588.0530 or email *Cleary ASL@hotmail.com* for more information.

The Beginning Experience

Help for the heartache of divorce, separation, and widowhood, A weekend away for a lifetime of change. The next weekend is August 19-21 at the Montfort Spiritual Center, Bay Shore. The program helps grieving single-again persons emerge from the darkness of grief into the light of a new beginning, and move into the future with renewed hope. Turn the pain of loss into an experience of positive growth. For information and reservations, call John at 516.822.0635, Karen at 201.736.8200, or Jim at 718.474.3779.

Dominican Village

Please join us for an Open House on Saturday, July 9, from 1 PM until 3 PM. Dominican Village is an independent retirement community that offers assisted living and respite care, outstanding programs, all-inclusive services and bountiful amenities. For more information, or to schedule a tour at your convenience, call 631.842.6091.

Religion & Rock

Tune into "Religion & Rock" with Msgr. Jim Vlaun on Sunday from 7 AM to 8 AM on WBAB 102.3 FM or 95.3 on the East End of Long Island. Listen on Saturdays at 11 PM on Sirius Radio, Channel 159, the Catholic Channel and at 11 PM on XM Satellite, Channel 117. Next Sunday's theme is "**Growth.**" 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 Channel 29/137 or Verizon FIOS 296 for the Best in Catholic Television!

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.

Outdoor Rummage Sale

Grandma's Attic at Westminster United Presbyterian Church, Udall Road, West Islip.
On Saturday, August 13, rain date: August 20, from 10 AM – 4 PM.
Spaces are available for the donation fee of \$30.
Call 631.661.6740 for information or email: wupc@optonline.net

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.

Children's/Young Person's Choir and Musicians

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Lake Ronkonkoma seeks to hire a person to direct a Children's/Young Person's Choir and Musicians. The Choir and Musicians would assist the Congregation at the 12 noon Mass each week. One rehearsal per week would be required. If you are blessed with the gift of music and would like to answer the call to ministry through song with children and young people, please either mail your resume to Msgr. Daniel A. Picciano, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 800 Portion Rd., Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779 or email to steas@optonline.net or FAX to 631-737-4389.

Sharing the Gospel

When God's people were in the desert with Moses, they got hungry. So, God gave them sweet manna from heaven every morning. It was all they needed "to live. God sent Jesus to us from heaven, too, but he's much better than manna. Through Jesus, we can live forever with God.



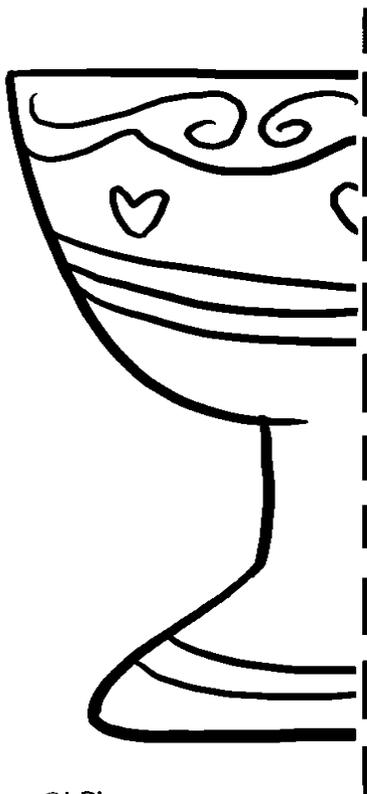
Mission for the Week

Every morning when you eat breakfast, spend time with Jesus. Trust God to give you all that you need.



Puzzle

Complete the picture!



©LPi

Prayer



God,
thank you
for sending Jesus
from heaven.

Something to Draw



Draw a picture of
manna falling from
the sky.