

**“ARE YOU ENVIOUS  
BECAUSE I AM GENEROUS?”**



MATTHEW 20:15

**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES • SEPTEMBER 18, 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

**Rev. Michael Holzmann**  
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**

Coordinator of Worship

OLL Choir Director

**Vita Scorcia**

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 Scorcia

Fr. Mike Vetrano

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## *Parish Staff*

**AnnMarie Buonaspina**

Director of Youth Choirs

**Michael Buonaspina**

Parish Organist

**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-Thursday: 9 AM - 7:30 PM

Friday: 9 AM - 5 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, ext. 122

(Senior Advocates for Growth  
and Enrichment)

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



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

*Dear Parish Family,*

**Renewing Our Spiritual Home Projects**

**The Lights are in the Mail!**

Get ready. You are going to come to church some day soon and fine the lighting all new! We are expecting delivery of 38 new lighting fixtures on September 20. This is the main part of the project and the other items – new control panels and lighting for the sanctuary and tabernacle will be in by the end of that week. So we are ready to go!! As soon as we can find some time when we can close the building for a bit to allow the technicians to work we will move ahead.

**Narthex Entry and Rectory Entry**

We have received some initial plans from an architect. These need to be reviewed by our Team and Pastoral Council.

**Parish Center:**

We have finally found a good, and thankfully not expensive, way to fix our plumbing problems. As soon as this is done we will be moving forward with plans to completely renew our Parish Center.

**Is it too late to participate?**

Not at all! All gifts and pledges are always welcome. Just call our Parish Office at 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*

**Feast of St. Francis**

**Blessing of the Animals**

**Saturday, October 1**

**12 noon**

**Fr. Joe Lukaszewski Memorial Garden** (*weather permitting*)

The Feast of St. Francis, a saint famous for his kindness to animals, will be celebrated with our annual blessing of the animals!

This year, we'll gather at **12 noon on Saturday, October 1**, for a beautiful prayer service and blessing, followed by food and fun for all (including our four legged friends, those that crawl, those that swim and even those that fly!)



## **Michael and Eleanor Carrano St. Agnes Medal of Service Award Recipients 2011**

The parish family of Our Lady of Lourdes is proud to congratulate Michael and Eleanor Carrano as recipients of the St. Agnes Medal of Service. Michael and Eleanor are the recipients of this year's St. Agnes Medal of Service given on Friday, September 16, by Bishop Murphy.

This medal is given each year to one person or couple from each parish in our Diocese who embody a true spirit of love and stewardship for their own parish community.

We are proud that Mike and Eleanor are being honored. Mike has been a founding member of our Feast Committee from the beginning. He has served on our Pastoral Council and parish safety committees. Eleanor is a member of our Baptism Ministry. Eleanor and Mike have served us together as Eucharistic Ministers. The Carranos are generous supporters of everything we do here at Our Lady of Lourdes, and we are proud to see them receive this honor!

*Fr. Mike*

## **Altar Servers**

### **Girls and Boys-4th grade and up**

*Do you want to be an Altar Server?*

What a great way to get more involved when we're praying together. It's also a service to the Parish that we really need you for. If you have not thought about it already, please give it some thought now.

If you want to sign up for the training sessions, contact the Parish Office at 661.3224 and leave a message for Mrs. Nancy Kuchler or contact her at [nkuchler@ollschoo.org](mailto:nkuchler@ollschoo.org). Altar Server Training will be in the Fall, and we will contact you (the dates for the training will be in the bulletin as well) Hope you say YES to this call!



*Welcoming the*  
**ROMAN MISSAL** THIRD EDITION  
*Deepen. Nurture. Celebrate*

## **Scriptural Reflections on the New Roman Missal** *by Msgr. Chris Heller*

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### **25th Sunday in Ordinary Time** **Sept 18 - Matthew 20:1-16**

2. Jesus uses many varied examples to describe what the reign of God or the kingdom of heaven is like. In past weeks here at The Word, Jesus has likened it to a king settling up accounts with his debtors, and on another day to a tiny mustard seed that grows to many times its size.

Today we will hear Jesus compare the heavenly kingdom to a landowner who sought out laborers to work in his vineyard. There are most certainly some common elements that Jesus includes in all these parables, and one of these is the fact that none of us can earn God's love or blessing or favor. We can only accept God's generosity, which by divine design will benefit others around us as well as ourselves. One of the clearest illustrations for us is that by accepting God's invitation to come to the Eucharistic Banquet, we receive blessings that far outweigh God treating us with fairness and justice. In fact, God loves us **abundantly** each day. But **how** we view ourselves and how we respond to God's love is crucial for our growing into and living the Christian life.

It is also good for us to realize that we are now and forever creatures of our loving God. In about eleven weeks from now, we will begin to pray at Mass with a new translation of the Roman Missal. We will hear and use language that makes our relationship with God quite clear: we are not God's buddies or pals or equals. Rather, we are members of a divine flock whose leadership by Jesus Christ gives us the strength and courage to call God our Father in the midst of a praying faith community or church. All is grace; all is gift; all is wonder and awe as we enter God's Holy Presence. Having such an attitude even while we are on our way to Mass can actually prepare our hearts to hear and accept God's wonderful Word. Blessed be God, who gives us new life and new hope in Christ Jesus our Savior.



Welcoming the  
**ROMAN MISSAL** THIRD EDITION  
*Deepen. Nurture. Celebrate*

**A New Translation of the Mass?  
Yes: We Will Welcome It Together!**

-Do you know that some of the words we use at Mass will be changing this November?  
-Have you heard that the Creed and Gloria at Mass have undergone a new translation and that both the words and music we sing at the Holy Holy will be revised?  
-Yes, it's true: the **translations** of our Memorial Acclamations will be **new!**  
To begin our preparation to welcome this new Mass translation, a process designed to take us more deeply into the biblical and liturgical bases of our faith, we will have a **two-part presentation** on this New Translation entitled:

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**New Words, Same Mass, Deeper Meaning:  
Welcoming the New Translation of the  
ROMAN MISSAL**

two Tuesday evenings:  
**September 20 and September 27**  
**from 7:30 PM to 9 PM in the Church**

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The presenter is Father Chris Heller, Pastor of St. Joseph Church in Babylon. Fr. Chris will provide a brief outline on how and why this new translation came to be. Using some of the new prayers and texts we will hear this November, Fr. Chris will also illustrate how this new translation opens and connects us more deeply to our Biblical tradition, our long liturgical roots, and to our contemporary world.

Some of the questions that will be answered during these presentations include:

- *Is the Mass we celebrate in English a translation from the Latin?*
- *Why do we need a new translation, and where did it come from?*
- *Who will be affected, or not affected, by the new translation?*
- *What are some of the major differences between the new and the current one?*
- *When will this new translation first be used? Can we use it before that date?*
- *How will our parish be preparing for this new translation?*
- *How can I personally prepare for this new translation?*

We will begin with prayer, and we will pray with Christ Jesus through this transition. Handouts and a navigation sheet will be provided, so you can see and reflect on some of the changes. And even those who tell us "I can't sing a note" will be able to participate in a simple chant dialogue, one that could be used every weekend of the year!

**Let us begin this journey of faith together!**



## *Serving the Body of Christ*

### **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

What does it take to be an Extraordinary Minister?

- Participation in Sunday Eucharist
- Commitment to serve two to three times a month
- Attendance at a Diocesan training and parish training
- Openness to bring Communion to the Sick.

If you have questions or are interested in becoming an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, please contact Mrs. Mary Borgs of our parish Liturgy Committee at 665.2928 or e-mail Fr. Pat Amabile at [FrPat@ollchurch.org](mailto:FrPat@ollchurch.org).

RCIA



### **Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults**

*What's it all about?*

*IF* you are an adult AND

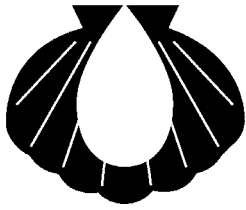
- ... you were never Baptized
- ... you were Baptized in another faith and would like to become a baptized Catholic
- ... you never received Holy Communion (Eucharist)
- ... you never received your Confirmation

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

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

Our email address is [RCIA@ollchurch.org](mailto:RCIA@ollchurch.org) or call the Parish Office at 661.3224, option #1, and we would be happy to help you.





## **Baptism Ministry**

*“By Water and the Holy Spirit,  
they are to receive the gift of new life from God, who is love.”*

The Baptism Ministry will have a meeting on Monday, September 19 at 7:30PM in the Spiritual Life Center for all current members of the Baptism Ministry and anyone that would like to join or learn more about this wonderful ministry!

We invite you to come and sign up to volunteer your time with a team member at two or three Baptisms every six months. If you have any questions, please e-mail Deacon Tom at [DeaconTom@ollchurch.org](mailto:DeaconTom@ollchurch.org) or call 631.235.3845.



## **Confirmation**

On Thursday, November 10, Bishop Emil Wcela, will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to the candidates of our parish. These young women and men are the chosen members of this community who have studied, served and prepared for this Sacrament.

During the next few weeks, they will continue their journey towards Confirmation and even greater involvement in the life of our Church. The Confirmation Candidates of our parish will participate in “Spirit Nights” with their parents and sponsors. These times together will be an opportunity for them to experience how important it is to be active faith-filled members of the church community. Each “Spirit Night” will include celebrating Mass with our parish family Sunday evening at 6 PM.

Please pray for our Confirmation Candidates as they embrace this very important commitment in their faith journey and that they will continue to be strengthened, loved and supported by YOU... their parish family.

## Men's Prayer Group-PM

An *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, September 20**. 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.

## OLL Bereavement Support Group

You are invited to join our next Bereavement support group. This is a wonderful opportunity to be supported in a small discussion group with people who have also suffered a loss. The group will meet on Wednesday for 8 weeks starting **September 21, from 7:30PM to 9:30PM in the Spiritual Life Center**.

To register and for more information please contact Diane Ackerly at 226.9373 or email at [dkkkk710@hotmail.com](mailto:dkkkk710@hotmail.com).

### Support Groups

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

**ALANON:** Each Wednesday at 10 AM in Lourdes Hall-convent lower level.  
(Free babysitting available)

## Prayer for Divine Mercy

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

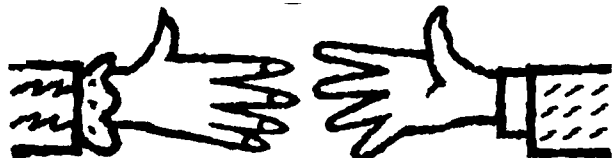
We invite you to meet in prayer for the world and our nation to put their trust in God. Our hope is that the nations will have a new spirit of morality.

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.

## Adult Faith Formation

### Why Do I Have to Shake Hands in Church?

#### *The Mass (Sacred Liturgy) as Communal Prayer*



**Presenter: Fr. Bob Sheckeback**

**Tuesday - October 4, 11, 18**

**7:30-9:30 PM**

**Parish Center**

With the Liturgical Reforms that came from the Second Vatican Council, our Church re-embraced an ancient and consistent element of her identity. She re-established the Mass as the corporate prayer of the community on the Sabbath.

For the greater majority of our history, Christians prayed with each other to express their faith, and to revel in the presence of Christ in their communion with each other.

We invite you to a three night Adult Faith Formation course to look at the parts of the Mass, the words and gestures, the format and development; that all calls us to see our worship as relational and community minded. Using the 3rd edition (new translation) of the Roman Missal we will see how we are still being called

“to that full, conscious, and active participation in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy...” Sacrosanctum Concilium 1963

*There is a \$5 fee for each session. No fee is required for those who have paid the Religious Education Family Fee or Our Lady of Lourdes School tuition.*

*Registration is necessary and helpful. This will enable us to have enough reading material and refreshments for all those attending. To register, please call the Religious Education Office at 661.5440, option 3 or email to [religioused@ollchurch.org](mailto:religioused@ollchurch.org).*

## Our Lady of Lourdes

### CYO Basketball Registration

**Wednesday, September 21 and Thursday, September 22**

**7 PM to 8:30 PM**

**All Purpose Room**

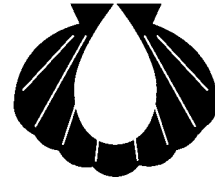
Grades 2 to 9

Travel fee \$170

Intramural fee \$120

If you have any questions, please contact Dan White at

[danielfwhite581@aol.com](mailto:danielfwhite581@aol.com) or Ed Ryan at [eryan@edryanrealestategroup.com](mailto:eryan@edryanrealestategroup.com)



## ***Baptism***

*Nicholas Robert DiBernardo*

Robert and Eileen

*Allyson Barbara Habel*

William and Jill

*Joseph Daniel Lella*

Michael and Jennifer

*Matthew Paul Lella*

Eric and Jeannann

*Mikaela Khryselle Bacomo Preposi*

Criseldo and Nebeth

*James Marshall Willis*

William and Jeanne-Marie



## ***Rest In Peace***

*Ann Sanfilippo* died on September 7 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was September 10. We extend our prayers to her children, grandchildren, and entire family.

*James Heverin* died on June 3 and a memorial prayer service was held September 10. We extend our prayers to his cousin, Regina Beisner, children, grandchildren, and entire family.

*Josephine Vitale* died on September 10 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was September 13. We extend our prayers to her children, grandchildren, and entire family.

### **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, September 19

*Saint Januarius, bishop and martyr*

**8:00 AM** Baby Shaddock

### Tuesday, September 20

*Saint Andrew Kim Taegon, priest and martyr*

**8:00 AM** Kenneth Ross

### Wednesday, September 21

*Saint Matthew, apostle and evangelist*

**8:00 AM** Jane Poit

### Thursday, September 22

*Our Lady of Sorrows*

**8:00 AM** Pat Wallace

### Friday, September 23

*Saint Pio of Pietrelcina, priest*

**8:00 AM** Jim Loretz, Sr.

### Saturday, September 24

**8:00 AM** Debra Czawursky, Kathleen Ferrara, Peter Mirabella,  
Rita Wettermark, Chris Bertino, Ruth Hiller

**5:00 PM** Kerry Ann LaRosa  
*Fr. Ambrose Cabildo*

### Sunday, September 25

**8:00 AM** Thomas Coletto  
*Fr. Michael Holzmann*

**9:30 AM** William Basso  
*Fr. Ambrose Cabildo*

**11:00 AM** William Cronin  
*Fr. Mike Vetrano*

**12:30 PM** Michael J. Sullivan  
*Fr. Bob Scheckenback*

**6:00 PM** People of the Parish, Patricia Beyerbach, Joan Bosshammer (*10th Anniv.*),  
Fred Scheckenback, Sam Giarrusso, Patrick Lamberson, Minnie Polini,  
Patricia Pietrowski, Angie Cinquemani  
*Fr. Bob Scheckenback*

## Upcoming Marriages



*Michelle Santospirito and  
Benjamin Willett, both OLL  
Laurie Krebs, St. Jude, Shirley and  
Jeffrey Van Schaick, OLL  
Heather Fogarty and  
Thomas Withe, both OLL*



©LPI

## 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The vineyards of California are so beautiful this time of year. The clusters of grapes are hanging from the vines and the owners of the vineyards are waiting for the right moment to pick each variety of grape. Some grapes will develop more character if left for a longer "hang" time, while others must be collected rapidly for their peak quality. In any event, these weeks will be filled with long days for the myriad of workers who crawl over the steep hillsides and rolling hills to bring in the grapes. From south to north the workers will move in their race against time to ensure that each block of grapes is brought in at its best.

Winemakers in California will understand the plight of the landowner in this weekend's parable. The grapes must be brought in. There is no time to put things off. You can't wait for another week. To do so is to risk the entire harvest. While we tend to focus on the landowner's generosity in the parable (a meaning not to be lost, since we are comparing the landowner to God), we should not lose sight of the fact that the landowner needs the harvest completed now! He cannot wait, lest his crop be lost.

It is that sense of immediacy that could impel us today. God has no time to waste. His people need to be attentive to the needs of the vineyard now. That can translate into daily life in the ways that we interact with others. We don't have to be preaching the Gospel from our work cubicle or in the grocery store aisle. But how we act on the factory floor, in the store parking lot, at our child's soccer game, or in the classroom can reveal what kind of worker in the vineyard we are. God needs us now to work hard at being examples of the Christian life. Then will come our reward.

2011 Liturgical Publications Inc

### Readings for the Week of September 18, 2011

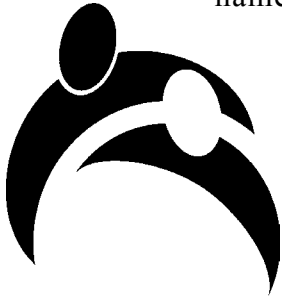
<b>Sunday:</b>	Is 55:6-9/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a
<b>Monday:</b>	Ezr 1:1-6/Lk 8:16-18
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20/Lk 8:19-21
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Mt 9:9-13
<b>Thursday:</b>	Hg 1:1-8/Lk 9:7-9
<b>Friday:</b>	Hg 2:1-9/Lk 9:18-22
<b>Saturday:</b>	Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Lk 9:43b-45
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Ez 18:25-28/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32

## Altar Society

Altar linens this week will be cared for by *Dottie Collins*.  
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 ...

*Nicole Cerny, Eddie Cronin, Jeanne Marie DellaRagione, Baby Reagan Farrell,  
Jake Feldman, Marguerite Filippone, Ann Finn, Elizabeth Fredriksen,  
Donna Galindez, Kenneth Garretson, Kathleen Gilgan, Baby Gavin Gradiska,  
Joan Griffin, Winifred Hanrahan, Baby Peter Horyczun, George Impellizeri,  
Marie Impellizeri, Peter Joseph, Robyn Kerrigan, Krista Kinney Kearney,  
Anne Losee, Christopher J. Maher, Marge Marotta, Tony Marotta, Rosa Mastrorocco,  
John McNevin, Arlene Monte, Rae Morris, Evelyn Nonnon, Joanne Popper,  
Peter Porzio, Joe Radosti, Anthony Rao, Teresa Saraceno, Ann Marie Schiraldi,  
Baby Isabella Shaw, Anne Tamney, Joseph Yezek*

# Does God Have Favorites?

by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

Does God love some people more than others? Does God have favorites?

This is an old, disputed question with centuries of history: Is there a chosen race? Are some people predestined for heaven or hell? Does God love the poor more than the rich? Does God love sinners more than the righteous? Does God love virgins more than married persons? On the surface at least, it would seem that scripture suggests that God loves some people more than others. But is this true?

The question is hard to answer because partly it's a false one. Generally whenever we set up these kinds of oppositions (Does God love this person more than that person?) we are formatting the issue in a wrong way:

For example, when Jesus tells us that there is more joy in heaven over the conversion of one sinner who has strayed than over ninety-nine others who seemingly have no need of repentance, he is not affirming that God loves sinners more deeply than righteous persons. For Jesus, speaking in this specific context, there are no righteous persons. There are only sinners (people who feel their need for conversion) and self-righteous persons (people who are sinners and have not yet acknowledged their need for repentance). Conversion, at least in this particular context, is not a precondition to the Christian life. It is the Christian life. There are no righteous persons, only sinners, and the Christian journey is always a journey of conversion, a returning to the fold. We open ourselves to receive the love of God whenever we are conscious of that. God does favor sinners, but that includes all of us.

The same is true regarding whether God loves the poor more than the rich. Jesus tells, seemingly without equivocation, that God has a preferential love for the poor, but does that mean that God loves the rich less?

Again, we must be careful in how we contrast these categories: poor versus rich. What's being affirmed is not that God loves us better when we are poor than when we are rich. Rather the idea is that God loves us in our poverty - and that we more easily let ourselves be loved and more easily express gratitude when we acknowledge our poverty. For Jesus, there are only two kinds of persons: Those who are poor and those who are not yet in touch with their own poverty. And it's not that God prefers us to be poor and loves us better when

we are poor. Rather it's when we are poor and in touch with our poverty that we more easily invite in love, both that of God and that of others. God does favor the poor, but, if we truly know our own condition, that's all of us.

The same principle needs to be applied to questions surrounding holiness and sexuality. Does God love us better when we are sexually incontinent than when we are not?

The Gospels emphasize that Jesus was born from a virgin womb, that he was buried in virgin tomb, and that we are invited to have a virginal heart. Because of this, inside of Christian spirituality as well as in the spiritual traditions of all the great world religions, there has always been a stream of thought that suggests that God somehow blesses the celibate life more than the non-celibate life, that virginity is the preferred spiritual state. Does God love us more when we are virgins?

Again, we must be careful in how we contrast the categories: virgin and non-virgin. What's being taught is the God loves what is virginal inside of us. The contrast is not between those who sleep alone and those who don't, but between those who protect what is virginal inside of themselves and those who don't, and between those who can sweat blood so as to carry the tension of living without consummation (of all kinds) and those who cannot. It's when we protect what is virginal inside us and when we don't short-circuit life's proper innate rhythms because of our tensions that we open ourselves up more to receive love, God's love and human love. God does favor virgins, but, if we live our lives with the proper reverence and patience, that includes all of us.

The same thing might be said about Jesus' holding up little children as an ideal. He is not teaching that God loves children more than adults. The contrast is not between little children and grown-ups, but between those who, like little children, know their need for help and those who because of pride or wound no longer admit their need for God and others. It's when we admit the deep truth that we are not self-sufficient that we open ourselves up, preferentially, to be loved by God and others. God does favor those who are childlike, but, hopefully, that includes all of us.

Does God play favorites? Yes, but not between and among different persons, but between and among different states inside our own souls.

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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).*



## Financial Summary

### September 4, 2011

Weekly Collection	\$ 22,773.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 19,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ 3,773.00

*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:

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

**Christopher Florca**-*US Marines*

**Garrett Kerschner**-*US Marines*

**Cari Kelly**- *US Air Force*

**Anthony Mannino**-*US Marines*

**JD Montefusco**-*US Marines*

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

## Donations to Outreach

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

### August Donations: 2011

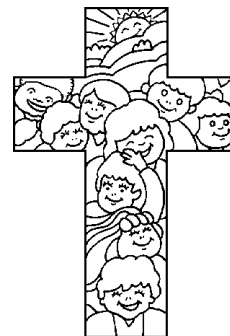
- Pat Loretz has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Peter Mirabella*.
- Outreach has received a donation in memory of *Mario Mirabella* from Kathy Kruger, Dotty Meloni, Angia Raia, Geri Athenas, Pat Loretz.
- Ruth Hiller, Gail and Jack Hessel, Nedine and Martin Cowan, Kathy and Dan Conroy, Louise Kucmarski, Anthony and Carol Agiato, Claire Donovan, The McMahon Family, Lauren and Michael Rosato have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Joseph Lehmann*.
- Marcine Giordano has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Louise Malcuit*.
- Glenn and Susan Schmid have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Dr. John Troise*.
- Marcy and Ken Chapuisat have made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of Marcy's mother, *Martha Reynolds Gau*.
- Elaine Missack has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Pat Marmo*.
- Mary Borgs has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Martha Gau*.
- Roberta Palumbo has made donations to Outreach in memory of *Maria Manco and Rose Grispino*.
- Doris Simonsen has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Alice Bonacci*.
- Eleanor and Connell McGee have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Kathleen Kerrigan*.
- Peggy Cook has made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of her husband, *Arthur*.
- Marie Ricigliano has made a donation to Outreach in honor of *Doug Chapey*.
- Mr. and Mrs. Edward Critchley have made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of *Pat Marmo*.
- Camille and Robert Watts have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Joseph Fenlon*.
- Anne Basso has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Ruth Hiller*.
- Mary Hulse has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Ruth Hiller*.
- Helen Lehmann has made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of her husband, *Joseph*.
- Mr. and Mrs. Richard Barthel have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Ruth Hiller and Fred Scheckenback*.
- Pat and Carl Falco have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Ruth Hiller*.
- Bob and Adele O'Shea have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Kathleen Kerrigan and Frederick Scheckenback*.
- Barbara Foster has made a donation of food to Outreach in memory of *Kathleen Kerrigan*.

*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.*

## Religious Education

### PEP 1 Registration Dates 2011

for children entering public school, grade 1 - September 2011  
 Meetings will take place in the Parish Center. (room opposite the playground on Hunter Ave) *Please note: Baptismal Certificates required for any child being registered in PEP 1.*



<b>Monday, September 26</b>	<b>10 AM and 8 PM</b>
<b>Wednesday, September 28</b>	<b>10 AM and 8 PM</b>
<b>Tuesday, October 11</b>	<b>10 AM</b>
<b>Wednesday, October 12</b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>
<b>Wednesday, October 19</b>	<b>11 AM and 8 PM</b> (late registration after Parent Mtg)

If this is your **first child in our program**, the registration fee (Family Fee) is \$175 and textbooks are \$25 (if needed.) Details will be provided at the meeting.

All Religious Education information may be obtained by going to our OLL website [ollchurch.org](http://ollchurch.org) and click on the Religious Ed link or go to our echalk website [ollreled.org](http://ollreled.org) and click on Religious Education Calendar, or Religious Education Programs, or Adult Faith Formation.

## Education of a Lifetime

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

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

### Open House Schedule

<b>Saturday, September 17</b>	11 AM - 1:30 PM	Our Lady of Mercy Academy
<b>Sunday, September 18</b>	10 AM - 1 PM	St. Anthony's High School
<b>Saturday, September 24</b>	9 AM - 12 PM	McGann-Mercy DHS
<b>Sunday, September 25</b>	12 PM - 2:30 PM	Holy Trinity DHS
	2 PM - 4:30 PM	St. Mary's College Prep. HS
<b>Saturday, October 1</b>	9 AM - 1 PM	Sacred Heart Academy
	10 AM - 1 PM	Kellenberg Memorial HS
	2 PM - 4 PM	Chaminade HS
<b>Sunday, October 2</b>	2 PM - 4:30 PM	St. Dominic High School
<b>Sunday, October 16</b>	10:30 AM - 2 PM	St. John the Baptist DHS

The Catholic High School Entrance Exam is scheduled for Saturday, October 29. You must register by October 5. Applications for the Catholic High School entrance exam are available at the OLL School Office and Religious Education Office. If you have any questions, please call the OLL School Office at 661.7200, option #2 or Religious Education Office at 661.5440, option #3.

## **Genesaret Retreat** *for those facing serious illness*

A retreat especially designed for persons who live with a serious illness is planned **September 23-25, 2011 at Montfort Spirituality Center in Bay Shore**. This retreat offers a respite, a quiet time, an oasis, to enable one to continue the journey. The retreat focuses on God's love, His forgiveness, and His faithfulness. To register or receive more information about this weekend, please call Colette at 631.665.7052.

## **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.

## **Golden Wedding Jubilee**

This fall, couples that have been married fifty years or more will be honored at liturgies on **Sunday, October 16, at the Church of Saint Rose of Lima in Massapequa and on Sunday, November 6 at the Church of Christ the King Church in Commack**. **Both liturgies begin at 2:30 PM**. *Couples may register for ONE liturgy*. Registration forms and complete instructions can be obtained at the OLL Parish Office. Registration must be received by the Office of Worship by September 29 for the October liturgy and by October 20 for the November liturgy. If you have any questions, please call 516.678.5800, extension 207.

## **Dominican Village**

**Please join us for an Open House on Saturday, September 24, 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.

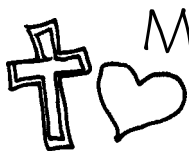
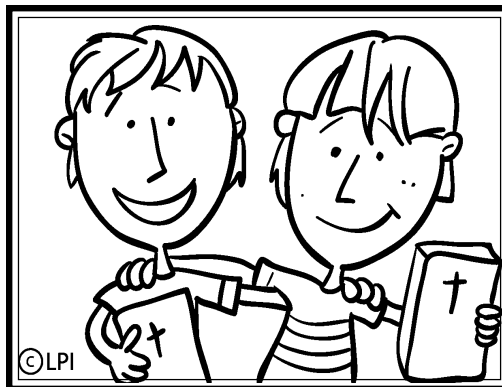
## **Religion & Rock**

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 "**Stress**." 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 TELECare, Cablevision Channel 29/137 or Verizon FIOS 296 for the Best in Catholic Television!

# Sharing the Gospel

Whether you work for God your whole life, or whether you just got started, God will reward you in heaven. God doesn't want you to compare yourself with other people. God just wants you to love him with your whole heart.



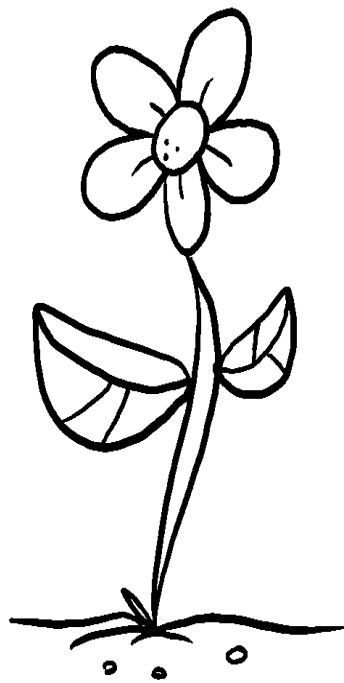
## Mission for the Week

Say a special prayer for each person in your family.



## Puzzle

Find 8 differences.



©LPI

## Prayer



God,  
help me to be  
ready when you ask  
me to work for you.

## Something to Draw



Draw a picture of  
yourself telling a  
friend at school  
about Jesus.