



**“He remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him.”**

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Our Lady of Lourdes February 12, 2012**

## *Welcome to our Parish Family!*

*New Parishioners are cordially invited to register as members of our parish family.*

*Please call or visit our Parish Office.*

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**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

**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.

### *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  
**Trish Frodell**  
Director of Parish Social Ministry  
**Louise Jane Krol**  
School Principal  
**Sr. Diane Liona**  
Director of Religious Education  
**Mary McMahan**  
Business Manager  
**Robin Reynolds-Brennan**  
Coordinator of Worship  
OLL Choir Director  
**Vita Scorgia**  
Ministry Spiritual Director  
**Sr. Betty Toohig**  
Senior Ministry-SAGE

## *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 Scorgia  
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  
**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

## **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- Friday  
9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

# Mission 2012: Finding Joy, Hope, and Peace on God's Holy Mountain (of Life)!



**Monday, February 27**

*Fr. Mike Vetrano*

**Joy:** It's not just the summit – it's how you make the climb! Can we really be happy on the journey of life.



**Tuesday, February 28**

*Fr. Jim Vlaun*

**Hope:** Being a person of Hope – the best in life (the SUMMIT!) is yet to come!



**Wednesday, February 29**

*Fr. John Sureau*

**Peace:** Every Journey has its moments (those bumpy stretches on the trail that trip us up and make us work hard to get through)! Finding peace and serenity on the way.



**Thursday, March 1**

*Fr. Bob Scheckenback*  
**A Mass for Healing and Peace**

**Come join us each night,  
or any night, at  
7:30 PM in the Chutch.  
All are Welcome!**

# **Our Lady of Lourdes School**

## **Our Doors are Always Open!**

*Visit our classes in session-  
Have your child team up with a buddy for a day!*

### *What Makes Us Different?*

- NEW Fully Stocked Science Lab & Media Center,
- SmartBoard,
- Piano/Guitar/Violin/Dance Lessons Included in Curriculum,
- Italian and Spanish Language,
- Enrichment Clubs,
- Student Government,
- Classroom Laptops,
- Sports Program,
- Student run TV Studio,
- Before and After Care,
- 8th Grade Academy of Inquiry in partnership with Stony Brook Medical School,
- Distance Learning with NASA,
- Virtual Field Trips from Nursery through 8th Grade
- Early Childhood Programs beginning at 2 years old!

### **2012 -2013 Rolling Registration**

**Stop in or call to make an appointment**

**Phone: 631.587.7200 ext.100**

**Fax: 631.587.4531**

**Please visit our Website: [www.ollschool.org](http://www.ollschool.org)**

#### Testimonial:

*“My daughter is in the fifth grade and is in her first year at OLL. I am so very pleased with the challenges that fifth grade has given her so far. This has been such a positive change for my daughter. All her teachers have challenged her to do her very best and to not settle for less. I know she has only been here for a few months, but if this is any indication of what she is to expect in the coming years, we are in for a wonderful ride!”*

*- B. Molina*



## **“Soup”er Bowl Sunday**

Go Giants! Our Lady of Lourdes School really got into the Super Bowl Spirit! The school’s Student Government, led by Mrs. Kristen Kenny, asked students to dress in New York Giant’s colors and bring in a can of soup which was donated to our Parish Outreach. The event was a huge success!

## **GRADES 6/7/8... Hang Out Nites**

Don’t miss it!

Fridays...February 17, May 18, June 8

- We have KINECT !
  - Basketball
  - Volleyball
  - And more
- PLUS PRIZES and RAFFLES

They continue to serve those in need... they care...every month Grade 6/7/8 bring food/paper goods/and or \$1.00 for our Parish Food Pantry! Come and join the fun!

## “SPECIAL K”

### *New Kindergarten Program!*

Our first session, which was held on January 28 was wonderful! We had twelve families come to the Church, where we had a gathering session with a story from the Bible. Jesus tells us that he stands at the door and knocks....and we have to let Jesus in.

Since we need keys to unlock doors, the children received the first of a whole set of keys.. The first key is PRAYER. When we pray, we open our hearts to Jesus.

It's not too late to join us ~~ the dates are Fridays at 4:30 PM in Church...February 17, March 16, April 16 and May 18.

E mail to register:

[sdiane@ollchurch.org](mailto:sdiane@ollchurch.org)

## LENT '12

### Come and pray this Lent at “The Six”

#### Sunday, 6 PM Mass

All 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th graders and their families. Please join “The Six” with your grade...

3rd Sunday of Lent	March 11	Grade 8	“Celebrate” Religious Ed Week
4th Sunday of Lent	March 18	Grade 7	“Serve” Service Project Sunday
5th Sunday of Lent	March 25	Grade 6	“Sent” to make a difference
Palm Sunday	April 1	Grade 5	“Pray” as Holy Week begins

Lent begins Ash Wednesday-February 22. Ashes will be distributed every hour on the hour. Distribution will begin at 7 AM until 9 PM.

## **Mass Book of Intentions**

The 2013 Mass Book of Intentions will be opening on Tuesday, February 28 at 9 AM in the Parish Office.

As always, we will do our best to accommodate your Mass Intention requests.

## **R.C.I.A. – The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

Next Sunday, February 19 at our 11AM Mass, our Catechumen *John Amdur* who will be fully initiated into the Church at the Easter Vigil and our Candidates *Charles Frith* and *Tina Hennessy* will be dismissed with the “Rite of Sending Forth”. Please continue to pray for them as their journey continues.

On Sunday, February 26, John Amdur will participate in the Rite of Election at St. Patrick’s R.C. Church in Smithtown at 7PM with Bishop Murphy. All are welcome!! On Sunday, March 4th, we will celebrate the Call to Continuing Conversion for our baptized candidates – Charles Firth and Tina Hennessy – also at St. Patrick’s R.C. Church in Smithtown at 2:30PM All are welcome!! These are important steps in the journey of the R.C.I.A. It’s a clear sign to the community that they are coming closer to receiving the Sacraments of Initiation and full communion with the Church at our Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 8.

On Sundays, March 11, March 18 and March 25, the Third Sunday of Lent, and continuing on the Fourth and Fifth Sundays of Lent, at the 11am Mass we will celebrate the “scrutinies” – times for the candidates and the Elect to continue to remain “united with Christ and make progress in their efforts to love God more deeply”.

The Church gives us this public and life-giving process DURING LENT so that these good and holy people can be nourished and supported by our parish family. At the same time, we know that when we initiate others, we confront and renew our own identity as members of the Catholic Christian community.

Please continue to pray for these women and men and our RCIA team .



## **At the Foot of the Cross:**

### **Reflection on the Spirituality of the Seminary Chapel**

Msgr. Peter Vaccari will present a Lenten Day of Prayer at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington on Sunday, March 11 from 9:30 AM to 3 PM. Program includes conferences, lunch, opportunity for confession, and Mass. Donation -\$25 for non-Friends. Sponsored by Friends of the Seminary. Reservations required. Please call 631.423.0483, extension 102 or [bmalone@icseminary.edu](mailto:bmalone@icseminary.edu).

### **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.

## **Congratulations!**

*Marc Anthony D. Minicozzi*, achieved the rank of Eagle Scout on January 6, 2012! Marc Anthony is in Boy Scout Troop 194 of Babylon and a junior at West Islip High School. His service project consisted of constructing an engraved brick walkway in the rear of Oquenock Elementary School, West Islip through the generous donations of the community, family and friends. Congratulations Marc Anthony!

## **Ninth Annual El Salvador Mission Trip 2012**

As many of you know, last year, a team of OLL parishioners traveled to El Salvador to pray and work with the communities of Mogotes and Tacuba. It is in keeping with Catholic Social teaching that we help others and share our faith with Catholics everywhere.

With the help of the parishioners here at home, the El Salvador Team has been raising money through our CASA project to build homes for those belonging to our sister parishes. Through the support of Our Lady of Lourdes, our young people have been able to experience another culture and help people in need. Thank you OLL!

This year, our Ninth Annual El Salvador Mission Trip will be held **the week of June 30 - July 6, 2012**. We ask for your prayers and continued support, as parishioners of OLL prepare for this life changing and spiritual trip.

*Please excuse our bulletin appearance while we undergo some construction. Thank you.*

*-D. Meyer*

## **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

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

Join us...

**Wednesday, March 14 at 9:30 AM in the Parish Center.** All you need to bring is scrap yarn, knitting needles or crochet hooks (patterns and instructions will be given to you) and your gifts of love and prayer.

## **Men's Prayer Group***-morning*

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, February 16, in the Parish Center.**

We meet once a month to read and discuss the Scriptures for the following Sunday.

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

## **Men's Prayer Group***-evening*

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, February 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.

# ***Baptism***

*Paul Michael Terembes*

Paul and Jillian

## ***Welcome***

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

*William and Stacy Shannon & family*

*John and Domenica Spence & family*

*John and Sandra Stanborough & family*

*John and Krystyna Guiliano & family*

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

## ***Rest In Peace***

*Mildred Savastano* died on November 24 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was February 3. We extend our prayers to her children, grandchildren and entire family

*Regina Belyea* died on February 2 and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial was February 7. We extend our prayers to her husband, John, children, grandchildren and entire family.

# *Remembering...*

## **Monday, February 13**

**8:00 AM** Agnes Schioppa

## **Tuesday, February 14**

*Saints Cyril, monk and Methodius, bishop*

**8:00 AM** John Lodespoto

## **Wednesday, February 15**

**8:00 AM** Theresa Reardon

## **Thursday, February 16**

**8:00 AM** Vito Mastrorocco

## **Friday, February 17**

**8:00 AM** Ann DiGregorio

## **Saturday, February 18**

**8:00 AM** Baby Christopher Patrick Flynn, Mary Madrugo,  
DeLeon Family

**5:00 PM** Margaret Homann

*Fr. Pat Amabile*

## **Sunday, February 19**

**8:00 AM** Eileen Specht

*Fr. Bob Scheckenback*

**9:30 AM** Baby Christopher Patrick Flynn

*Fr. Pat Amabile*

**11:00 AM** Frances & Joseph Cannizzaro

*Fr. Bob Scheckenback*

**12:30 PM** Jerome Marino

*Fr. Ambrose Cabildo*

**6:00 PM** People of the Parish, Jeannette Storino, Lucy Zeoli,  
Caryl Rissland, Dolores Borman, Millie Collado,  
Dennis Ryan, Joan Maietta

*Fr. Ambrose Cabildo*

## **Ash Wednesday**

### *Distribution of Ashes*

On Ash Wednesday, February 22, we celebrate distribution of blessed ashes every hour on the hour beginning at 7AM until 9 PM.

Celebration of the Mass, with distribution of ashes, will be at 8 AM and 8 PM.



## 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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A friend of mine had been out of work for over a year. He spent a good deal of time each week contacting businesses, sending out résumés, and filling out applications. In the first few months he was pretty hopeful, but then after a while I could start to see how the lack of securing a new position was beginning to weigh on him. As a household, they had come to rely solely on his wife's income. When the unemployment ran out and they began to dip into savings, my friend's confidence was shaken. When he landed a new job he was overjoyed, and even though it was not as prestigious as his previous employment, my friend couldn't wait to tell others about his good fortune.

In some ways my friend was a bit like the leper in the Gospel today. He lost what he once had. In my friend's case it was a job; for the leper it was his health. They both ended up in a situation that made them feel isolated, cut off from ordinary life. Despite that, neither of them gave up. My friend kept looking for work; the leper took the initiative to seek out Jesus. And both of them ended up with something they were looking for and they had to tell others.

Often when we have good news, we like to share it, especially if it impacts how others might view us. For the leper, bragging about his cure meant that he would be welcomed back into society. For my friend, sharing the good news about his new job helped to validate his self-worth at a time he was struggling. Being saved by Jesus is the best thing that has happened to any of us. We don't have to go around telling that story every minute of every day. But it's not a story we should keep secret either. Is there someone with whom you can share the good news?

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### Readings for the Week of February 12, 2012

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**Sunday:** Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/1 Cor 10:31--11:1/Mk 1:40-45  
**Monday:** Jas 1:1-11/Mk 8:11-13  
**Tuesday:** Jas 1:12-18/Mk 8:14-21  
**Wednesday:** Jas 1:19-27/Mk 8:22-26  
**Thursday:** Jas 2:1-9/Mk 8:27-33  
**Friday:** Jas 2:14-24, 26/Mk 8:34--9:1  
**Saturday:** Jas 3:1-10 /Mk 9:2-13  
**Next Sunday:** Is 43:18-19, 21-22, 24b-25/2 Cor 1:18-22/Mk 2:1-12

## **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 ...

*Eric Becker, Frank Castellano, Nicole Cerny, Phyllis Clyde, Eddie Cronin, Frank Edwards, Helen Esposito, William Farley, Jake Feldman, Thomas Fico, Elizabeth Fredriksen, Kenneth Garretson, Susan Gebhardt, James Grillo, Sr., Marie Impellizeri, Ellen Kane, Robyn Kerrigan, Anne Losee, Christopher J. Maher, James Martin, Vicky Massaro, Vinny Meade, Margaret Meringolo, Denise Michelback, Arlene Monte, Rae Morris, Patricia Muller, Andy Nolfo, Frances Parine, Helen Phillips, Roger Phillips, Peter Porzio, Hilda Poulos, Joe Radosti, Richard Riedemann, Marina Rios, Patricia Sanchez, Teresa Saraceno, Joseph Schiavoni, Ann Marie Schiraldi, Baby Isabella Shaw, Derek Stahl, Lyndsey Stahl, John Stamer, Angelo Tedesco, Nancy Turano, Glen Zachary, Louie Zaino*

## Straining for Sabbath amidst the Demands of Phones and Computers

A comedian recently quipped that today's information technologies have effectively rendered a number of things obsolete, most notably phone-books and human courtesy. That's also true for human rest.

Today's information technologies (the internet, email, software programs like Facebook, mobile phones, iPhones, pocket computers, and the like) have made us the most informed, efficient, and communicative people ever. We now have the capability, all day, every day, of accessing world events, world news, whole libraries of information, and detailed accounts of what our families and friends are doing at any moment. That's the positive side of the equation.

Less wonderful is what this is doing to our lives, how it is changing our expectations, and robbing us of the simple capacity to stop, shut off the machines, and rest. As we get wrapped up more and more in mobile phones, texting, email, Facebook, and the internet in general, we are beginning to live with the expectation that we must be attentive all the time to everything that's happening in the world and within the lives of our families and friends. The spoken and unspoken expectation is that we be available always - and so too others. We used to send each other notes and letters and expect a reply within days, weeks, or months. Now the expectation for a reply is minutes or hours, and we feel impatient with others when this expectation is not met and guilty inside of ourselves when we can't meet it.

And so we are, daily, becoming more enslaved to and more compulsive in our use of mobile phones and the internet. For many of us it is now existentially impossible to take off a day, let alone several weeks off, and be on a genuine holiday or vacation. Rather the pressure is on us to constantly check for texts, emails, phone messages, and the like; and the expectation from our families, friends, and colleagues is precisely that we are checking these regularly. The sin-du-jour is to be, at any time, unavailable, unreachable, or non-communicative.

But the rhythm of time as God designed it is meant to give us, regularly, weekly, some time off the wheel, some "Sabbath-time" when ordinary life, ordinary pressures, ordinary work, and ordinary expectations are bracketed and we give ourselves permission to stop, to shut things down, and

to rest. Today, nowhere is this more appropriate and urgent than in regards to our use of phones, notebooks, and computers. They, more than anything else, constitute regular time, servile work, and the occupations and preoccupations from which the commandment to keep holy the Sabbath ask us to refrain.

I know a woman who works for her church, as does her husband. Since they are both in ministry, they need to work on Sunday mornings and often into the afternoon as well. So they begin celebrating the Sabbath late afternoon on Sunday. Here is how she describes what they do: We start our celebration of the Sabbath at 4:00 PM (1600 hours) on Sunday and we begin it symbolically by unplugging our computers, turning off our mobile phones, disconnecting our house phone, and turning off every information gadget that we own. For the next 29 hours we don't receive any calls and we don't make any. We are on a cyber-fast, non-contactable, off the wheel, unavailable. At 9:00 PM (2100 hours) on Monday night we end our Sabbath we began it, symbolically: We break our cyber-fast and fire up again our phones and our computers and begin answering our messages. We get back on the wheel for another week. Sometimes making ourselves unavailable like this irritates our families and friends, but if we are to celebrate Sabbath, given our pressured lives, this pulling away is the most important single thing that we have to do. It's either that - or working 7 days a week!

When I was young both our churches and our culture still took the concept of Sabbath (for Christians, especially the idea of not working on Sunday) more seriously. A popular question was always: What are you allowed to do on a Sunday and what are you not allowed to do? Mostly this focused on different kinds of physical labor: May you work in your garden on a Sunday? May you harvest your apples tree on a Sunday? Today, I worry less about gardening or picking apples on a Sunday. The more important issue is: Can we step off the treadmill of phones and computers on Sundays and be genuinely available to celebrate Sabbath?

Sabbath, as Wayne Muller tells us, is time off the wheel, time when we take our hand from the plough and let God and the earth care of things, while we drink, if only for a few moments, for the fountain of rest and delight. Today that plough looks a lot like a mobile phone or a computer.

Centuries ago, the mystic poet, Rumi, wrote: I have lived too long where I can be reached!" Haven't we all!



## Financial Summary

**February 5, 2012**

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Weekly Collection	\$ 15,071.00
Weekly Budget	<u>-\$ 19,000.00</u>
+/- for the week	\$ (3,929.00)

*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:

**Kimberly Braun** - *US Army*

**Michael J. Clifford**-*US Army*

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

**Christopher Florca**-*US Marines*

**Mark Harvey**-*US Coast Guard*

**Anthony Mannino**-*US Marines*

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

February 6, 2012



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus:

On Friday, January 20, the President approved new regulations from the Department of Health and Human Services. These regulations mandate that, with few exceptions, all Catholic employers, including Catholic Charities and Catholic hospitals, provide coverage for contraception, abortion-producing drugs and sterilization in the healthcare benefits provided to their employees. Most insurance programs will have to include these as well.

This mandate directly interferes with the freedom of conscience of individuals and with the freedom of religious belief and practice of our Catholic institutions. The Administration has chosen to cast aside the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, denying to Catholics our nation's first and most fundamental freedom, that of religious liberty and free exercise of conscience. Regulations about healthcare are being used to re-define pregnancy as a disease and to make abortion-inducing drugs available to one and all. As a result, unless the rule is overturned, we Catholics will be compelled either to violate our consciences or to drop healthcare coverage for our employees and suffer significant penalties for doing so.

As Pope Benedict XVI said last week:

*"It is imperative that the entire Catholic Community in the United States come to realize the grave threats to the Church's moral witness presented by a radical secularism which finds increasing expression in the political and cultural spheres . . . Of particular concern are certain attempts being made to limit the most cherished of American freedoms, the freedom of religion."*

I would ask of you two things. First, as a community of faith, we must commit ourselves to prayer and fasting that wisdom and justice may prevail and religious liberty may be restored. Without God, we can do nothing; with God, nothing is impossible. Second, I would recommend that you contact your US Congressional representatives to express to them why this mandate cannot stand and to support religious freedom through the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 2012. This legislation, sponsored by Senator Marco Rubio, would reverse the Administration's decision. To learn more about this assault on religious liberty, the US Bishops have set up the following special website: [www.usccb.org/conscience](http://www.usccb.org/conscience).

Yours devotedly in Christ,

+*William Murphy*

Bishop of Rockville Centre

## Donations to Outreach-February Donations

*Parish Outreach has received many donations.*

- Outreach has received a donation in memory of *Florence Grigonis* from the Managed Care and Third Party Workers as the Department of Social Services.
- “Our Gang” has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Florence Grigonis*.
- Outreach has received a donation from the Choir in memory of *Ruth Hiller*.
- Michael and Rose Ann Carrano have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Miss Josephine Carrano*.
- Joseph and Donna Tessitore have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Miss Josephine Carrano*.
- Deacon John and Anne DeGuardi have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Florence Grigonis*.
- Susan Castonguay has made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of her husband, *Jerry Castonguay*.
- Outreach has received a donation in memory of *Peggy Cook* from the colleagues of Peggy Cook-Schleirmacher.
- Joan McGoldrick has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Eileen Hernandez and Sr. Anna Mercedes, SC*.
- Outreach has received a donation from Jerry Esposito in honor of *Fr. John Sureau*.
- Jerry Esposito has made a donation to Outreach in honor of *Carol and Jack Fitzgerald on the occasion of their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary*.
- Outreach has received a donation in memory of *Florence Grigonis* from Jerry Esposito.
- Dr. and Mrs. Alan Fried have made a donation to Outreach in memory of *Peggy Cook*.
- The Zanella Family has made a donation to Outreach in honor of *Fr. John Sureau*.
- The West Islip Fire Department has made a donation to Outreach in memory of *John J. Oleksiuk*.
- Joe and Barbara Catuosco have made a donation to Outreach in honor of *Jack and Carol Fitzgerald’s 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary*.
- Deacon John and Anne DeGuardi have made a donation to Outreach to honor *Jack and Carol Fitzgerald on the occasion of their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary*.
- Doris Gonzalez has made a donation to Outreach in remembrance of *Pat and John Wallace* on the anniversary of their birthdays.
- Alexander and Anastasia MacGregor have made a donation to Outreach in loving memory of their son, *Alexander MacGregor III*.

*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.*

## **F.I.S.H. (Friends in Service Helping)**

F.I.S.H. ( Friends in Service Helping) is in great need of volunteers . Volunteers help in driving people to appointments and in providing help over the phone. Volunteers can help out for as little as one day a month.

The Mission of F.I.S.H. is to provide food, clothing, shelter, and medical aid to the homeless and hungry within our community, with the objective to provide programs and referrals to families and individuals so they may become self sufficient.If you can help, please call Sue Barry at 422 3011. Thank you for your generosity in considering giving some of your time to others who need it.

## **Spiritual Care Companions Needed**

Catholic Health Services of Long Island will hold a training program for volunteers interested in becoming Spiritual Care Companions. Some of our parishioners have taken the program and found it helpful in their ministry as well as in their own personal lives. The free program will offer individuals the skills necessary for caring and listening to people who are sick or elderly. Those interested may attend an information session on Tuesday, February 7 from 9:30 – 11:30am at Our Lady of Consolation, West Islip. There will be six training sessions which will run from February 28 – April 3. Spanish-speaking volunteers are particularly needed. For further information, call Carol Cella at 465-6307 or Trish Luvin at 465-6306.

## **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.

## **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

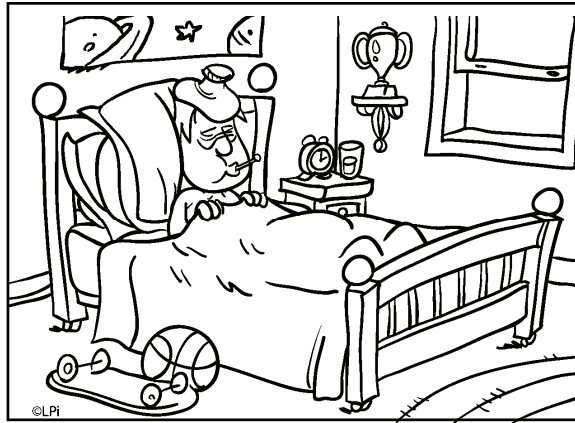
on Sirius Radio, Channel 159, the Catholic Channel and at 11 PM on XM Satellite, Channel 117. Next Sunday’s theme is “**Relationships.**” Don’t miss it!

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

It is not fun to be sick. You miss your friends at school. You can't go outside to play. On top of being bored and lonely, you don't feel well at all. The man with leprosy in today's Gospel was sick a long, long time. He was really bored, lonely, and feeling awful. There was no medicine for leprosy. Jesus was the only one who could help him.



## Prayer

God, you have the power to heal. Help me to trust you, even when I'm sick.



## Puzzle

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

LEPROSY

JESUS

POWER

WELL

WARNED

SHOW

GIFT

HEALED

WALKED

M O S Y T E D A G U R  
A L E P R O S Y E W A  
N I U O A L I U D O M  
S H O W F O E G I F T  
E Y I E I J A O U H I  
I W A R N E D I V E K  
T E O D Y S E B Y A O  
O L P A K U N A T L M  
H L U N I S O Y A E U  
U R E M W A L K E D W  
P A C I E N U H P I Y

## Mission for the Week

Visit the sick.

Make a card. Take a treat to share.

Give them something to read. Pray for them before you leave. You will brighten their day.

## Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself sick in bed.