

# Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

455 Hunter Avenue, West Islip, NY 11795

**Msgr. Brian McNamara**, Pastor  
**Rev. Charles Mangano**, Associate Pastor  
**Rev. Saji Jose, CM**, Chaplain at  
Our Lady of Consolation Nursing

**Deacon Nilo DeLeon**, **Deacon Tom Lucie**,  
**Deacon Rich Maher**, **Deacon Jack Meehan**,  
**Deacon John Teufel**

**Sr. Nancy Campkin CSJ**, Director of Religious Ed  
**Trish Frodell**, Director of Parish Social Ministry  
**Sr. Diane Liona CSJ**, Director of Religious Ed  
**Debbie Meyer**, Business Manager  
**Robin Reynolds Brennan**, Coordinator of  
Worship and Choir Director  
**Vita Scorcia**, Ministry Spiritual Director

## Parish Office

**Phone: 631.661.3224 (select option #2)**

Monday-Thursday: 9:00am-7:30pm

Friday: 9:00am-5:00pm

Saturday: 9:00am-3:00pm

Sunday: 10:30am-2:30pm

E-mail: [ParishOffice@ollchurch.org](mailto:ParishOffice@ollchurch.org)

Fax: 631.661.7143

Website: [www.ollchurch.org](http://www.ollchurch.org)

## Religious Education Office

**Phone: 631.661.5440 (select option #3)**

Monday-Friday: 9:00am-Noon,

1:00pm-5:00pm, 7:00pm-9:00pm

E-mail: [ReligiousEd@ollchurch.org](mailto:ReligiousEd@ollchurch.org)

## Parish Outreach Office

**Phone: 631.661.9262 (select option #4)**

Monday-Friday: 9:30am-3:30pm

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

**Phone: 631.661.3224, Ext. 122**

E-mail: [Sage@ollchurch.org](mailto:Sage@ollchurch.org)



## Liturgical Schedule

### Daily Mass

8:30am

### Weekend Masses

Saturday: 5:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am, 12:30pm  
and 6:00pm.

### Reconciliation/Confession

Saturday: 4:00pm-4:45pm or by appointment

### Rosary

Daily at 8:00am

### Miraculous Medal Novena

Monday at 8:00am

## Sacraments

### 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.

*Fourth Sunday of Advent • Sunday, December 18, 2022*



## 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.

*Remember: Together, we can do something beautiful for God!*

*- Saint Teresa of Calcutta*

### Pastoral Council

Msgr. Brian McNamara  
Eileen Rega  
Mary Borgs  
Lisa Cantalino  
Sonia DaSilva  
Dcn. Nilo DeLeon  
Jerry Esposito  
Trish Frodell  
Pam Gagliano  
Deborah Lamb  
Rosalie Mangels  
John Muldoon  
Dottie Perdue  
Vita Scorcia

### 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.

### Readings for the Week of December 18, 2022

**Sunday:** Is 7:10-14/ Rom 1:1-7/ Mt 1:18-24  
**Monday:** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/ Lk 1:5-25  
**Tuesday:** Is 7:10-14/ Lk 1:26-38  
**Wednesday:** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/ Lk 1:39-45  
**Thursday:** 1 Sm 1:24-28/ Lk 1:46-56  
**Friday:** Mel 3:1-4, 23-24/ Lk 1:57-66  
**Saturday:** Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/ Lk 1:67-79  
**Next Sunday:** Day: Is 52:7-10/ Heb 1:1-6/ Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

### Parish Staff

**Patti Anderson**  
Parish Office/Bulletin Editor

**Michael Buonaspina**  
Parish Organist

**Rosemary Cannarella**  
Parish Office

**S. Kathleen Carberry, CSJ**  
Parish Office

**Carol Grillo**  
Parish Office

**Rita Spera**  
Religious Education Office

### Financial Summary

#### December 11, 2022

Weekly Collection	\$ 15,260.00
Weekly Budget	- \$ 17,800.00
+/- for the week	\$ (2,540.00)

**Immaculate Conception** \$ 3,362.00

**Religious Retirement** \$ 5,077.00

*The estimated weekly collection needed to maintain and operate our parish buildings, ministries, programs and salaries is \$17,800.*

Dear Parishioners:

It is hard to believe but Christmas is upon us. In the midst of the last-minute hustle and bustle, let us not forget the true meaning of Christmas: God loving us so much that God became one of us.

As St. John reminds us: "God so loved the world that He gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him may not die but may have eternal life. God did not send His son into the world to condemn the world but that the world might be saved through Him (John 3:16 - 17)." This is the heart of the Christmas message. God loved us so much that He sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, and Jesus Christ loved us so much that He died on the cross for us. That awesome message is the Good News! It is news that may sound too good to be true – but it is true! Our response to that Good News is to do what the shepherds and Wise Men did: Come, let us adore! We adore Christ by our participation at Sunday Mass each week.

As we come to the end of the Advent season, I wanted to take an opportunity to thank a number of people.

First, I would like to thank everyone for their generosity and kindness to the needy of our Parish. The Parish gave a wonderful response to the gift cards from the Giving Tree. I appreciate your thoughtful consideration to the needy of our community. You gave many families an opportunity to have a "very merry Christmas"!

I also want to thank all those involved with the "Bethlehem Village" which took place on December 4. **Cathy Danowski** Cathy is the creative force behind so much of the events we have for our children but her husband, **Rick Danowski**, did a magnificent job of transforming the APR. **Rick** spent hours constructing all the sets! **Trish Frodell** also played a key role as did the Knights of Columbus. There was also a whole army of people helping set up, take down and run the various shops in the village of Bethlehem. Thank you to all!

Don't forget the **Sacrament of Reconciliation this Monday, December 19 from 3:00pm – 8:00pm**. We will have 2 priests hearing Confessions throughout that time period. Confessions will be heard in the Parish Center and Parish Outreach Office. Let's prepare to welcome Christ with a grace-filled heart because Christ has removed our sinfulness from our souls. Just as we do a lot of cleaning for the holidays, let's "clean" our hearts and souls by receiving this great sacrament.

As we know, Christmas is associated with gift-giving. Why not give someone the gift of faith! This Christmas would be a great time to personally invite someone you know who is in the situation of not going to Church to come back to Church. It does not have to be complicated or pushy! Just a simple "Why don't you come to church with my family this Christmas" can be a very powerful invitation. Give it a shot!

Remember: Together, we can do something beautiful for God.

In Christ,

Fr. Brian

PS: Fr. Saji, the priest who lives here and ministers at Our Lady of Consolation Nursing Facility, is in need of a car. If you have car that you would be willing to donate or sell to him for a cheap price, please give me a call. It would greatly assist him in his work. You can give Fr. Saji a great Christmas gift!

## Altar Society

Altar linens this week will be cared for by *Connie Lynch*. If you would like to help care for our altar needs, please call the Parish Office at 631-661-3224.

## Members in the Military

We ask that you pray especially for those in our parish that are on active duty.

**Michael DiMatteo**-US Marine Corps  
**Michael Fantauzzi**-US Air Force  
**Christopher Florca**-US Marine Corps  
**Dominick Gennaro**-US Army  
**Patrick Harty**-US Coast Guard  
**Ritchard Higham**-US Army  
**Colby Matthew Kelly**-US Army  
**Luke Loftsgaarden**-US Army  
**Anthony Mannino**-US Marine Corps  
**Msgr. Brian McNamara**-US Air Force  
**Anthony Memoli**-US Marine Corps  
**Timothy Milligan**-US Marine Corps

**Melissa Mockler**-US Navy  
**Patric Mockler**-US Navy  
**Andrew Perniciaro**-US Army  
**Brandon Ranzie**-US Army  
**Stephen Rolston**-US Army  
**Jack Shires**-US Navy  
**Raymond Sgambati**-US Navy  
**James Stultz**-US Army  
**Jack Taffner**-US Marine Corps  
**Michael Wilkinson**-US Army  
**Peter Zaccaria**-US Navy

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



## Pastoral Care of Our Sick

Please call the Parish Office at 631-661-3224 to leave the names of parishioners who:

- Are homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist.
- Are in Good Samaritan Hospital and/or a local nursing home 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 ...

*Jon Ackerman, Connie Ambrosino, Baby Ellis, Thomas J. Calogero III, Maria Clark, Dcn. John DeGuardi, Amanda DiTingo, Paula Edwards, Nicolette Gebhardt, Thomas Geraghty-USMC, William Hacker, Patrick Anthony Heffron, Henry Kahn, Shena Kahn, Anne Kerrigan, James Leung, Vincent Marinelli, Joseph Marrone, Jr., John McMahon, Zachary Melengic, Richard Meyer, Edward Pauciuлло, Bob Petersen, Mary Polik-Gunther, John Posanti, Louise Posanti, Clifford Proctor, Dina Rajotte, Ida Schiavoni, Joseph J. Schiavoni, Vita Scorcia*

Names of the sick will be listed for **six weeks** for short-term requests and **six months** for long-term.



## Rest In Peace

Daniel R. Conboy  
Phyllis Gunther  
Margaret O'Connor  
Kevin Oleaga  
Gene Sowinski  
Dcn. John "Jack" George Teufel  
Robert F. Twiford

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*We extend our prayerful sympathy to the families and loved ones of those recently deceased.*

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## Upcoming Marriages

Layna Sheridan, OLL  
and  
Anthony Berta, OLL



## Baptism

Rylie Addison Alfredson

*Masses may be viewed via livestream on our Facebook page. Please join us directly on Facebook or by visiting our website at: [ollchurch.org](http://ollchurch.org), where you will be redirected. You do not need a Facebook account.*

## Mass Intentions

**Monday, December 19**  
8:30am John Patrick Lilly

**Tuesday, December 20**  
8:30am Dolores Lazarich

**Wednesday, December 21**  
*St. Peter Canisius*  
8:30am James Amend

**Thursday, December 22**  
8:30am Salvatore Pinello

**Friday, December 23**  
*St. John of Kanty*  
8:30am Cosimo Ciocia & Grace Ciocia

**Saturday, December 24**  
8:30am Lillian La Rocca

*Please see the Christmas Schedule on page 11 for more information.*

4:00pm Christmas Novena Church  
4:00pm Christmas Novena School Cafeteria  
6:00pm Christmas Novena  
11:00pm Christmas Novena (Midnight Mass)

**Sunday, December 25**  
*The Nativity of the Lord*  
8:00am Christmas Novena

9:30am Christmas Novena

11:00am Christmas Novena

12:30pm Christmas Novena

*No 6:00pm Mass on Christmas*



## Now and at the Hour of Our Death

### Catholic Guidance for End-of-Life Decision Making

Illness and aging, coupled with rapid advances in medical technology, can lead to heightened anxiety when health care decisions must be made. For assistance in navigating the end-of-life challenges that you and/or your loved ones face, please visit: [www.CatholicEndofLife.org](http://www.CatholicEndofLife.org). Learn about the key principles of Catholic teaching in this area, and how to apply them in the complex world of medical advance directives.

## Pregnant? Need Help?

**Birthright, Inc. 24 Hour Helpline 1-800-550-4900**

Islip: 631-277-3888 - Hampton Bays: 631-728-8900 - Rocky Point: 631-821-9727

Southold: 631-876-5138 - Wantagh 516-785-4070

## SAGE

Our next SAGE meeting will be **Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>** at 9:30am in the Parish Center.

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

We will be having extended hours of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on this **Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> from 12:30pm to 7:30pm**. Come, spend some intimate time with Jesus during our Extended Adoration. Invite a family member or friend along too! In case of inclement weather, please call the parish office at 631-661-3224 ext. 0, or log onto the parish website ([ollchurch.org](http://ollchurch.org)) to check if adoration has been canceled.

## Men's Prayer Group

The Men's Prayer group will meet on Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:00am-11:00am in the Parish Center. All men are welcome to join us for prayer, conversation and fellowship.

## Divine Mercy Prayer Group

We come together in the Church every Thursday from 1:30pm-2:30pm to pray and reflect on the Divine Mercy. We welcome anyone wishing to join us in this mission.

## Donations to Outreach

If you would like to make a donation to Parish Outreach in memory of a loved one, please call Trish Frodell, Director of Parish Social Ministry at 631-661-3224, option 4.



- Pancake Mix
- Pasta Sauce in Jars
- Canned Beets
- Cannellini Beans
- Hamburger Helper

## Second Collection on December 24-25 - Parish Ministry

The Second Collection next weekend (12/24 and 12/25) will be for Parish Ministry. As always, we thank you for your generosity.

### Christmas Schedule

The Parish Office will be open until 3:00pm on Christmas Eve (Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>), and will be **closed on Christmas Day**. The Parish Office will also be **closed on Monday, December 26** in observance of Christmas. It will re-open on Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am.



### Religious Give Thanks

A sister writes, “ We remember the many People who believe in the Retirement Fund for Religious, thanking them in prayer for their great generosity and compassion.” God bless you for donating to last week’s second collection.

Visit [retiredreligious.org](http://retiredreligious.org) to learn how your gift supports elderly sisters, brothers and religious order priests.

### Christmas Candles

This year, we are once again offering a *Loving Candle*. This symbolic light is a beautiful way to remember our loved ones - both living and deceased - and will remain lit throughout the life of the candle (approximately a week). The candles will be available for a donation of \$10.00. They will be sold after all weekend Masses on December 17-18, and will also be available in the Parish Office. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at: 631-661-3224, ext.121.



### 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 more 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 631-661-3224, and we would be happy to help you.



**Family Christmas Fair**

**Sunday, December 18 - Parish Center**  
after the 9:30, 11:00 and 12:30 Masses

We're having a party and everyone is invited!  
**Christmas Games, Crafts for the Kids, Treats**  
and  
**SANTA WILL BE THERE!**

*Bring your cameras for pictures with Santa!*



**Christmas Flower Offerings** Christmas Flower offerings received by **Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>** will be published in the December 25<sup>th</sup> bulletin. Offerings received after that date will be published in subsequent bulletins.

### Christmas Raffle



Below please find a set of 6 chances. It is a 50-50 drawing. Chances are \$25 each or 6 chances for \$100. 1<sup>st</sup> place winner will win 35% of the money, 2<sup>nd</sup> place will win 10% of the money and 3<sup>rd</sup> place will win 5% of the money. You have to be in it to win it!

The drawing will take place on **Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup> in the All Purpose Room after the 12:30pm Mass.**  
*Hopefully, the Wise Men will bring you a gift of a winning ticket!*

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHRISTMAS RAFFLE</b></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>1 Ticket for \$25; 6 Tickets for \$100</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHRISTMAS RAFFLE</b></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>1 Ticket for \$25; 6 Tickets for \$100</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHRISTMAS RAFFLE</b></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>1 Ticket for \$25; 6 Tickets for \$100</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHRISTMAS RAFFLE</b></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>1 Ticket for \$25; 6 Tickets for \$100</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHRISTMAS RAFFLE</b></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>1 Ticket for \$25; 6 Tickets for \$100</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHRISTMAS RAFFLE</b></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>1 Ticket for \$25; 6 Tickets for \$100</p>

# *O Come, O Come Emmanuel!*

## ADVENT OFFERINGS

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18:

### FAMILY CHRISTMAS FAIR

10:30am – 2:00pm (Parish Center) Come join us for a fun Christmas festival with St. Nicholas!

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18:

### BLESSING OF THE CHRIST-INFANT

At all the MASSES

Bring the infant from your family Nativity scene for a special blessing.

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 19:

### RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONS

3:00pm – 8:00pm (PARISH CENTER) Confessors will be available throughout this time.

**\*\*\*NOVEMBER 27 – DECEMBER 18: GIVING TREE GIFT PROGRAM FOR THE NEEDY\*\*\***

**\*\*DECEMBER 11 – JANUARY 15: STOP BY & VISIT A COLLECTION OF NATIVITY SETS IN THE PARISH CENTER**

**\*\*JANUARY 15: Christmas Raffle Drawing (following the 12:30pm Mass in the All-Purpose Room)**

***\*PLEASE SEE THE BULLETIN/WEBSITE ([ollchurch.org](http://ollchurch.org)) FOR DETAILED DESCRIPTIONS\****



## *Our Parish Advent Wreath*

A family from the parish will be lighting a candle on our Parish Advent Wreath at the beginning of each Mass for each week of Advent. This is a meaningful way to be part of our preparation for Christmas during this Advent. If you wish to be one of the families to light a candle, please speak to Robin or one of the ushers at Mass.

## **Needed: Eucharistic Ministers and Ushers for Christmas Masses**

Additional Eucharistic Ministers will be needed to serve at the Christmas Masses. If you are an EM and would like to help, please add your name, contact information and the Mass you can assist with to the Christmas Eucharistic Minister sheet posted in the Sign-in Room.

Anyone who would like to assist as an Usher at Christmas Masses is requested to add their name, contact information and the Mass they will help with to the Volunteer Usher list, also in the Sign-in Room.

## Christmas Gifts

Christmas is a busy, magical time of year. We begin to have hustle and bustle around us. One of the first things we think of at Christmas is GIFTS or PRESENTS. What shall we get for everyone on our list or what shall we get as a present? At Christmas we receive the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ our Lord, born as a baby in Bethlehem. While He is the greatest gift, He comes bearing other gifts for each of us. He brings gifts that we can treasure and nurture all year long. This Advent we will look at one of these special gifts each week to help us prepare for Jesus' coming into our hearts at Christmas.



**Our Gift this First Week of Advent is HOPE.** For the children of Israel, it seemed as if all HOPE for the coming of the Savior that had been promised had passed. When the Christ Child was born, the gift of HOPE came with Him. All HOPE was restored in the promises of God. We receive the gift of HOPE that Christ will come into our hearts and His teachings will spread throughout the world this Christmas.



**Our Gift this Second Week of Advent is JOY.** The angel told the shepherds that the Good News was of GREAT JOY. The gift of JOY helps us recognize that we are blessed in every way by having Jesus in our lives. Jesus is among us to comfort and guide us at all times, even when times are hard. We continue to have Good News in our lives every day. Take JOY in knowing that God is with you.



**Our Gift for the Third Week of Advent is PEACE.** The angels announced the wonderful gift of PEACE to the shepherds on the first Christmas. Our world, more than ever, is in need of PEACE right now. The Peace that Jesus brings flows to each of us if we open our hearts. This PEACE allows us to be calm and know that we are in God's hands.



**Our Gift for the Fourth and Final Week of Advent is LOVE.** Our gift on this fourth and final week of Advent is LOVE. Jesus came as God's LOVE in human form. Jesus teaches us God's great LOVE for us and tells us to LOVE God with our whole heart and to love each other. Let us remember this great LOVE each and every day.



### Boy Scout Troop 179

For 50 years, Our Lady of Lourdes has been sponsoring Boy Scout Troop 179 of West Islip. Troop meetings are held every Thursday at 7:30pm.

If you are interested in learning more about Boy Scouts and our Troop, please visit our website: <https://witroop179.wixsite.com/bsatroop179> or contact us at: [troop179cc@yahoo.com](mailto:troop179cc@yahoo.com).

## **CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION/PENANCE)**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 19:**                      3:00pm – 8:00pm  
(2 Priests will be hearing confession for the entire time)

### **CHRISTMAS MASSES**

**December 24:      Christmas Eve:**

4:00pm	Church	Msgr. Brian
4:00pm	School Cafeteria	Fr. Charles
6:00pm	Church	Msgr. Brian
11:00pm (Midnight Mass)	Church	Fr. Charles

(Choir will sing 30 minutes before the start of Mass)

**December 25:      Christmas Day:**

8:00am	Church	Fr. Sylvester
9:30am	Church	Fr. Charles
11:00am	Church	Msgr. Brian
12:30pm	Church	Msgr. Brian

### **NEW YEAR'S EVE/DAY: FEAST OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD:**

**December 31: New Year's Eve:**

5:00pm                      Church

**January 1: New Year's Day:**

8:00am	Church
9:30am	Church
11:00am	Church
12:30pm	Church

Don't forget our Christmas Raffle. The tickets are \$25 each or six (6) tickets for \$100: You have to be in it to win it! Maybe you can give them as Christmas gifts, especially to your adult children. The drawing will take place on Sunday, Jan. 15 after the 12:30pm Mass. The Raffle is a 50-50, so the more people who enter, the greater the winnings. Check the bulletin for tickets.

## Are You Being Called to Serve as a Deacon?

Come to any one of these meetings prepared  
to LISTEN - to PRAY- to REFLECT- to DISCERN where God is calling you!

EVENINGS are being offered conveniently at THREE LOCATIONS:

**7:00pm, Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**

St. Joseph Ronkonkoma, 45 Church Street

**7:00pm, Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>**

Maria Regina Seaford, 3945 Jerusalem Avenue

**7:00pm, Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>**

St. Aidan Williston Park, 505 Willis Avenue

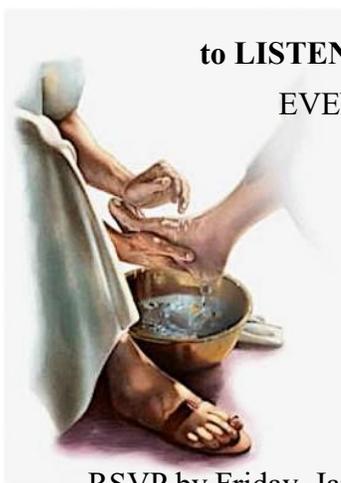
EARLY WEEKEND option to be held at

**1:00pm, Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>**

St. John the Evangelist Center Moriches, 25 Ocean Avenue

RSVP by Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup> to 631-423-0483 ext.179 or by e-mail to [diaconateformation@drvc.org](mailto:diaconateformation@drvc.org)

We thank you and look forward to being with you



## *An Invitation from the Knights of Columbus*



Men of the Parish (18 years and older), are you interested in serving your Faith, your Church, and your Community? If so, then you are invited to join the Knights of Columbus, Our Lady of Lourdes Council 17379. Joining the Knights will make you part of a 129 year old Catholic Fraternal Order that exemplifies the high ideals of our faith and has contributed to our communities through charitable works and community outreach. We meet on the second and fourth Monday of each month in the Parish Center. The fourth Monday is an Officers' meeting, but members are welcome to attend. Meetings begin at 8:00pm. So begin your journey of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism by becoming a Knight!

Online membership is also available at: [www.KofC.org](http://www.KofC.org).

**Our next meeting will be Monday, December 26, 2022 at 8:00pm in the Parish Center.**

## **Dementia Caregiver Support Group Thursday, December 15, 2022**



Caregiving for someone with Alzheimer's or a related dementia can cause frustration, fear, anger, sadness and other emotions. Our support group can provide emotional, social, and educational help to caregivers whose lives are affected by dementia.

**Join us on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month from 5:30pm-7:00pm in the Parish Center.**

*There is no charge to participate, but please contact Michele at 631-647-7622, ext. 2006 or via email at: [michele@agentletouchseniorcare.com](mailto:michele@agentletouchseniorcare.com) to reserve your place.*

## **Butterfly Memory Café - December 16<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-2:30pm**



What is a Memory Café? It is a program designed for persons with mild to moderate cognitive impairment and their caregiver to promote social engagement with others navigating through dementia's journey. Activities include crafts, music, reminiscing, art or movement. Light refreshments will be served. Our next event will take place on Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup> from 1:30pm-2:30pm. There is no charge to participate, but space is limited and reservations are required. For more information or to register, please call Michele at A Gentle Touch Senior Care at: 631-647-7622 or e-mail: [michele@agentletouchseniorcare.com](mailto:michele@agentletouchseniorcare.com).

## **Mark Your Calendar: Bible Study** ***Do you want to hear God speak to you?***

For most of us, prayer becomes a source of frustration as we struggle to calm our minds to find even a few minutes to pray. In our busy lives, prayer is seen as a luxury, when in reality it is essential and fortifies the foundation of our lives. Do you pray and therefore have a healthy spiritual life? The good news is that you can overcome your difficulties with prayer, and it is easier than you might think. Therefore, join me as I will be leading an eight-week series entitled **Oremus** (*In latin it means, "Let us pray"*). If you are feeling the Lord prompting you to be a part of this bible study, mark your calendar and call the parish office to register at (631) 661-3224 Ext. 2. We want to make sure there will be enough chairs and workbooks for everyone. The seating is limited to 108 people. Over the eight weeks, the Oremus Study program will teach you the essentials of an effective and fruitful prayer life. This is what Oremus can do for you:

- Become more deeply aware of God's presence in your life
- Discover the simple yet profound steps to Catholic prayer
- Learn how to respond to God and express yourself in prayer
- Discover how to hear God's voice in Scripture, in your heart, and in ordinary moments
- Learn how to overcome frustrations, distractions, and dryness in prayer
- Grow in your relationship with God and those around you, and much more....

Every class meets from 7:30pm to 9:15pm in the Parish Center. The eight dates are: **Tuesday**, April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, June 6 & 13. The evening will consist of an opening prayer, a song and watching an excellent 30 minute video presentation by Fr. Mark Toups, a wonderful speaker from Louisiana. Then there will be a group discussion through small sharing groups with the workbook provided, closing announcements and a closing prayer. There is no set fee for the course but a free-will offering would be graciously accepted to help defray the cost of the workbooks. We will also be using the bible during this study. If you need a Catholic bible, the owner of the Advent Religious Store in Massapequa, Sarah Ryan, will bring bibles to Oremus for purchase.

As Fr. Mark has assisted me in my own prayer life through Oremus, I know he can assist you with yours. I highly recommend Oremus. I have been blessed to have been on several retreats where Fr. Mark was my spiritual director. He is the best at what he does. Fr. Mark was ordained in 2001 and is a priest for the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux, Louisiana. He is presently the Pastor of Our Lady of the Isle parish in Grand Isle, Louisiana. He is also Vicar General and Director of the Office of Parish Support in his diocese and an adjunct faculty member for the Institute of Priestly Formation, specializing in communications, development and spiritual direction. Fr. Mark served for several years as Chancellor of his Diocese, the Pastor of two other parishes and Director of Seminarians. He received his Masters of Divinity degree from Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans. Fr. Mark is the author of Ascension Press resources: Oremus: A Catholic Guide to Prayer \ Rejoice! Advent Meditations with Mary \ Rejoice! Advent Meditations with Joseph. He brings a wide range of experience to this bible study.

I hope you will prayerfully consider joining me.

**Calling all facilitators:** we need facilitators for our small sharing groups during the 8 weeks of the Oremus bible study. It's not difficult, I will train you. The facilitator helps the sharing group to remain on topic during the time of discussion. The training session is set for Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm in the Parish Center. Please RSVP to the parish office so we can make sure we have enough facilitators. Thank you so much.

I am looking forward to this time of journeying with you through Oremus.

Peace and blessings,

***Fr. Charles Mangano***

## A Few Bethlehem Boulevard Memories



*See our Parish Website for more photos*

**20 Catholic Ministries Appeal**  
**22** DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

*"God's love calls us to move beyond fear. We ask God for the courage to put on faith, hope and love as we go out into the world and become the Word in body as well as spirit."  
- Pope Francis*

One Family in Mission - Building a Community of  
**FAITH HOPE & LOVE**

**Thank you for your generous support of the  
2022 Catholic Ministries Appeal.**

Completing your 2022 pledge ensures that our Parish  
will benefit by receiving our full rebate.

*There's still time to make a gift.*

If you have not yet had the opportunity to give, please prayerfully consider making a donation to the Appeal  
To give securely online, please go to: <https://www.drvc.org/donate/cma/>

Please remember that all new pledges must be in by December 31, 2022  
and paid in full by January 31, 2023.



## Our Newly Installed Altar Servers

Eight new Altar Servers were installed by Father Charles and Deacon Rich at the 6:00pm Mass Saturday evening. Our thanks to Clara Nam for assisting Fr. Charles in training the new Servers. We congratulate the following new Altar Servers: Evelyn Hicks, Thomas Hicks, John Mendes, Pedro Mendes, Joseph Di Palma, Xavier Di Palma, Owen Okurowski and Lucas Hernandez. Aria Isoldi, who could not be present, will be installed at a later date. We are all very proud of you and will keep you in our prayers as you begin your new ministry.

## Church Census Information

### **Has your contact information changed, or are you moving?**

The process of updating our Parish Data System information is an ongoing process. We ask that you please submit any recent changes -- address, family members, phone numbers, etc. With your help, our parish data information will be more accurate, and receipt of Parish Offering Envelopes and other church information can be processed more efficiently.

Please mail the information to the Parish Office, or email to: [parishoffice@ollchurch.org](mailto:parishoffice@ollchurch.org).

### ***Retrouvaille Weekend - Marriage Struggling?***

**Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other?**

**Do you argue or have you just stopped talking to each other?**

**Does talking about it only make it worse?**

**Are you separated or divorced or *thinking about separation or divorce?***

The Retrouvaille Program helps couples through difficult times in their marriages.

*Long Island/Metro Retrouvaille is a 5013c non-profit, peer ministry. Couples of all faiths, or no faith, are encouraged to attend, and no one is ever turned away for lack of funds.*

For confidential information about the Retrouvaille program, or to register for the next weekend

**January 27-29, 2023**, please visit our website at: [www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org)

or call: **1-800-470-2230** and you will be connected directly and confidentially to a couple from Long Island/Metro Retrouvaille who can help.

Weekend Location: Immaculate Conception Seminary  
440 West Neck Road, Huntington, NY 11743



## Preparing for Marriage?

### Do you need to fulfill your Marriage Prep Requirement?

Engaged Encounter is an effective Pre-Cana program designed to provide you with the tools for a successful marriage. Couples are provided with social-distancing during this time.

Our next 2-day weekend will be held at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington on **March 18-19, 2023**. For information please call Lenny & Pat Walker at: 631-563-1032 or visit:

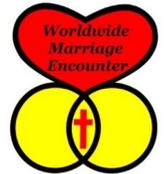
[longisland.engagedencounter.com](http://longisland.engagedencounter.com).



## Worldwide Marriage Encounter

### Attention Married Couples & Priests

Are you ready for more growth and happiness in your marriage or priesthood? Uncover the secrets to a lasting, supportive, transformational marriage on a **World Wide Marriage Encounter Weekend**. If you're thinking forward towards the New Year, think about thanking the special person in your life, your spouse. Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience together: **February 3-5, 2023** at Immaculate Conception Seminary in Huntington. Register at: [WWME.org](http://WWME.org) or contact: Chuck & Maria Reiss at: 631-486-8607. Deadline for registration is January 20<sup>th</sup>.



## Anxiety Disorder Sufferers

The group, led by a trained and certified Anxiety Disorder Group Leader, will meet every Tuesday from 2:00pm-4:00pm in the Parish Center (located across from the playground and to the right of Outreach). For more information and to register, please call Michael at 631-968-9154.

*Everyone is encouraged to wear a mask, regardless of vaccination status.*

## Support Groups *(all meetings are in Lourdes Hall - lower level of Convent)*

**Alcoholics Anonymous:** Monday and Tuesday at 8:00pm and Saturday at 11:00am and 7:00pm.

**ALANON:** Wednesday at 10:00am. Beginner's meeting at 9:30am. Free babysitting available.

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday meetings are via Zoom. For more meeting info visit: [al-anon.org](http://al-anon.org).

## Important DRVC Information

Information regarding a new deadline to file proofs of claim for victims of sexual abuse who were over 18 or older when the alleged conduct occurred and the forms to use, can be found by clicking on the following link to the Diocese's bankruptcy website and scrolling down the page: <https://dm.epiq11.com/drvc>.

## Families Anonymous Meetings

12-Step support group giving Hope & Strength to parents, family and friends concerned with a loved one's destructive behavior caused by Alcohol, Drugs or Related Behavioral Problems will meet virtually and in person. For additional information e-mail: [Donna526@aol.com](mailto:Donna526@aol.com) or call Diane at: 631-587-0966 or Donna at: 631-589-3790. Website: [FamiliesAnonymous.org](http://FamiliesAnonymous.org).

## Religion and Rock

Tune into "Religion and Rock" with Msgr. Jim Vlaun on Sunday from 7:00am to 8:00am on WBAB 102.3 FM or 95.3 on the East End of Long Island. Listen on Saturdays at 11:00pm on Sirius Radio, Channel 159, the Catholic Channel and at 11:00pm on XM Satellite, Channel 117. Next Sunday's theme is "Christmas Special". To listen online or for more information, visit: [www.ReligionandRock.com](http://www.ReligionandRock.com).

## Sharing the Gospel

God brought Jesus into the world as a tiny baby. Jesus was God's Son. He was so powerful that he could have gotten anything he wanted. But Jesus did not come to earth to be a rich, selfish ruler. He did not need a palace or fancy clothes. Jesus came to show you that God is with you all the time. He was born to be the king over your life. He gave up his own life to rescue you from your sins, so that you could be close to God forever.



## Mission for the Week

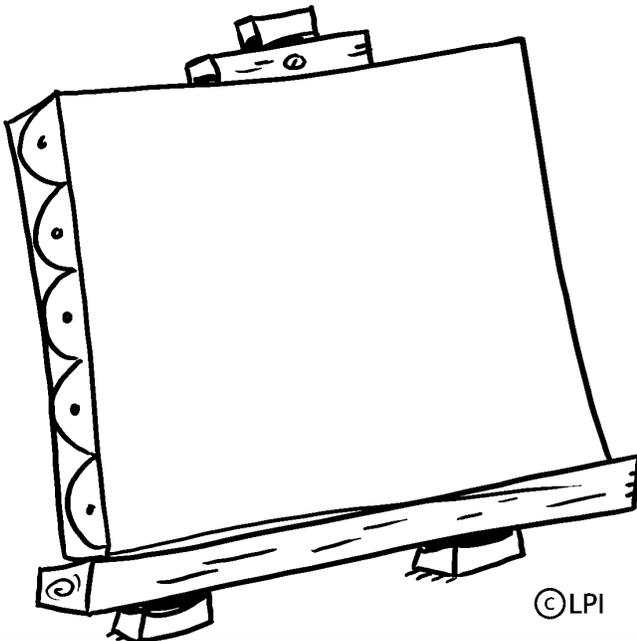


Tonight after dinner, ask your family to light some candles, turn off the lights, and sing some of your favorite Christmas songs about Jesus.



### Puzzle

Draw a picture of yourself when you were a baby.



### Prayer

Dear God,  
Thank You for  
sending Jesus  
to rescue me.



### Something to Draw

Draw a picture  
of baby Jesus.

