

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

455 Hunter Avenue, West Islip, NY 11795

Msgr. Brian McNamara, Pastor
Rev. Robert Scheckenback, Associate Pastor

**Deacon John De Guardi, Deacon Tom Lucie,
Deacon Jack Meehan, Deacon John Teufel**

Sr. Nancy Campkin CSJ, Director of Religious Ed
Trish Frodell, Director of Parish Social Ministry
Louise Jane Krol, School Principal
Sr. Diane Liona CSJ, Director of Religious Ed
Debbie Meyer, Business Manager
Robin Reynolds Brennan, Coordinator of
Worship and Choir Director
Vita Scorgia, Ministry Spiritual Director

Parish Office

Phone: 661.3224, press 1
Monday-Thursday: 9:00am-7:30pm
Friday: 9:00am-5:00pm
Saturday: 9:00am-3:00pm
Sunday: 9:00am-2:00pm
E-mail: ParishOffice@ollchurch.org
Fax: 661.7143
Website: www.ollchurch.org

Our Lady of Lourdes School

Phone: 587.7200, press 2
Monday-Friday: 9:00am-3:00pm
E-mail: lkrol@ollschool.org

Religious Education Office

Phone: 661.5440, press 3
Monday-Friday: 9:00am-Noon,
1:00pm-5:00pm, 7:00pm-9:00pm
E-mail: ReligiousEd@ollchurch.org

Parish Outreach Office

Phone: 661.9262, press 4
Monday-Friday: 9:30am-3:30pm

SAGE (*Senior Advocates for Growth and Enrichment*)

Phone: 661.3224, Ext. 122
E-mail: 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.

Second Sunday of Advent • December 7, 2014



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!

- Mother Theresa

Pastoral Council

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

Parish Staff

Patti Anderson
 Parish Office
AnnMarie Buonaspinna
 Director of Youth Choirs
Michael Buonaspinna
 Parish Organist
Anne Gregg
 School Office
Mary Anne Lettieri
 Parish Office
Rita Spera
 Religious Education Office
Lori Walsh
 Bulletin Editor/Website
Pat Young
 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.

Readings for the Week of December 7

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/ 2 Pt 3:8-14/ Mk 1:1-8
Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/ Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/ Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/ Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/ Mt 11:28-30
Thursday: Is 41:13-20/ Mt 11:11-15
Friday: Zec 2:14-17/ Lk 1:26-38
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/ Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/ 1 Thes 5:16-24/ Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Financial Summary

November 30, 2014

Weekly Collection	\$ 17,523.00
Weekly Budget	- \$ 18,200.00
+/- for the week	\$ (677.00)

<u>Thanksgiving</u>	\$ 3,485.00
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The estimated weekly collection needed to maintain and operate our parish buildings, ministries, programs and salaries is \$18,200.

Dear Parishioners:

Advent greetings from the rectory! I hope and trust that all goes well by you and that you are immersing yourself in the season of Advent. There are only 17 more “praying” days until Christmas. Don’t forget to take advantage of the various “**ADVENT OFFERINGS**” that are taking place here in the Parish. A list is located in the bulletin. They are for young and old, morning noon or night. Take advantage of these opportunities.

I don’t think it is a great leap to note that we are in an increasingly secular society. As Catholics, that means we have to go out of our way to make sure that the religious and spiritual meaning of Christmas is not lost, especially to our children and grandchildren. By taking advantage of these “**ADVENT OFFERINGS**”, I think we can keep our eyes on the birth of Christ, the true meaning of Christmas.

Also, if you send out Christmas cards, send out religious ones. It is a simple way to keep Christ in Christmas. We are inundated with the secularism of Christmas. Let’s try to push back that secularism.

As you may have noticed, we have re-done the front of the rectory: new windows, new doors, new paint, new lighting, etc. We also are working on the tall, outdoor lights as well to provide better lighting at night. We also still need to get the signage in place around the property. After that, the next major project is the doors in the Church and the platform/sidewalk in front of the main Church doors; the door project will take place next spring. This is all part of the Capital Campaign which was begun 3 years ago under the pastoral leadership of Fr. Mike Vetrano. Stay tuned as we move to complete and fulfill the goals and vision of the Capital Campaign.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Fr. Bob for sharing his *Camino pilgrimage* with the parish. As anyone who attended his presentations knows, the *Camino pilgrimage* was a very powerful experience for Fr. Bob and I thank him for sharing that experience with our parish family.

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

In Christ,

Fr. Brian

PS: Don’t forget to hand in your chances for our 50/50 drawing which will take place after Christmas. Send them in by mail or drop them off at the rectory. As the saying goes, you have to be in it to win it! So, be in it and win it! Think about giving the chances as a Christmas gift to your family and friends. It will be a nice way to help the parish at the same time.

Altar Society

Altar linens this week will be cared for by *Margaret Lehmann*. If you would like to help care for our altar needs, please call the Parish Office at 661.3224.

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.

Michael Fantauzzi-*US Air Force*
Christopher Florca-*US Marines*
Kyle Fouhy-*US Marines*
Christopher Jensen-*US Air Force*
Anthony Mannino-*US Marines*
James Rooney III-*US Marines*

... 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 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.

Parish Spiritual Care Companions

Do you know a parishioner who is homebound and would welcome a visit from one of our trained Parish Spiritual Care Companions? Please call Rick Danowski at 586.2192, Vita Scorcio at 669.4717 or Charlie Zeiss at 669.7189.

Pray for Our Sick

Please remember to keep in your thoughts and prayers ...

Salvatore Albanese, Anthony Anitra, Patricia Beni, Frank Biondo, Dorothy Blandino, Matilda Bontempo, Mary Breest, Robert Burnett, Thomas J. Calogero III, Patricia Carlson, Grace Ciccarello, Dolores DellaVecchia, Karen DellaVecchia, Andrew DiBlasi, Amanda DiTingo, Mark Dixon, Frank Edwards, Paula Edwards, Jake Feldman, Billy Fuchs, Kenneth Garretson, Robert Garretson, Donna Gerek, Tommy Haughney, Josephine Heffron, Patrick Anthony Heffron, Alexander Howe, Betty Infurno, Shena Kahn, Millie Kelly, Anne Kerrigan, Michael Kirshbaum, George Koehler, Kevin Kuchler, Frank Licciardi, Sean Lillis, Paul Martucci, Trisha Masiar, Vinny Meade, Richard Meyer, Ruth Murray, Alfred Musella, Evelyn Nonnon, Michele Nonnon List, Baby Joseph Onofrietti, Dorothy Proctor, Artie Petrino, Jimmy Reilly, Linda Anne Savino, Roseann Savino, Joseph J. Schiavoni, Ann Marie Schiraldi, Joseph Sepe, Carol Shinn, Roy Sorrese, Patricia Troiano, Joseph Visconti, Camille Watts



Rest In Peace

Margaret "Peggy" Hanrahan
Richard J. Holland

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



**Altar Bread
and Wine**

*In memory of
Josephine Ninivaggi*

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 8

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30am Evelyn Graf (*living*)

12:10pm Pat & Denise Ryan & family (*living*)

7:30pm Laura & Charles Abela

Tuesday, December 9

Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin

8:30am John Fortmuller

Wednesday, December 10

8:30am Living and Deceased Members of Potuzak Family

Thursday, December 11

Saint Damasus I

8:30am Living and Deceased Members of Potuzak Family

Friday, December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:30am Pat & Alma Ryan (*living*)

Saturday, December 13

Saint Lucy

8:30am Barbara McRory, Josephine Ninivaggi,
Lucila Gonzalez, Donald McClatchey

5:00pm Heartt & Guider Families

Msgr. Brian McNamara

Sunday, December 14

Third Sunday of Advent

8:00am John Lovari

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

9:30am Clare Donohue

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

11:00am Tony Squeo

Msgr. Brian McNamara

12:30pm Franklin Edwards V

Msgr. Brian McNamara

6:00pm People of the Parish, Dominick Stabile,
Liana Siebel, Carmela Nieroda,
Mamie & Mike Raia, Kenneth G. Shea,
Rose & Dominick Cocco & family,
Trudy Censoprano

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

Respect Life Ministry - Celebrating Advent



The Advent season is a time of preparation directing our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and also to the anniversary of the Lord's birth on Christmas. Below is a list of things you can do to make Advent a wonderful time for all in your family or parish.

Blessing Of An Advent Wreath: The use of the Advent Wreath is a traditional practice which has found its place in the Church as well as in the home. Traditionally, Advent wreaths are constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which four candles are inserted, representing the four weeks of Advent. Ideally, three candles are purple and one is rose, but white candles can also be used.

The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas.

The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of his second coming to judge the living and the dead.

The blessing of an Advent Wreath takes place on the First Sunday of Advent or on the evening before the First Sunday of Advent. When the blessing of the Advent Wreath is celebrated in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another member of the family.

Blessing Of A Christmas Tree: Christmas light or candle that symbolized Christ, the Light of the world. According to custom, the Christmas tree is set up just before Christmas and may remain in place until the Solemnity of Epiphany. The lights of the tree are illuminated after the prayer of blessing. In the home the Christmas tree may be blessed by a parent or another family member, in connection with the evening meal on the Vigil of Christmas or at another suitable time on Christmas Day.

Festival Of Lessons And Carols: The Festival of Lessons and Carols is a service of Scripture and song that dates to the late 19th century. We listen to nine Scripture lessons which recount the Fall, the promise of a Messiah, the Incarnation, and the Great Commission to preach the Good News. Each lesson is followed by a carol or other song that reflects on the lesson's message and a brief prayer.

The "O Antiphons" Of Advent: The Roman Church has been singing the "O" Antiphons since at least the eighth century. They are the antiphons that accompany the Magnificat canticle of Evening Prayer from December 17-23. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but present ones as well. Their repeated use of the imperative "Come!" embodies the longing of all for the Divine Messiah.

Our Lady of Lourdes **Respect Life Ministry** has a limited number of seats reserved for the January 22, 2015 **March for Life** event in Washington, D.C. For more information, contact Deacon Tom at 661.3224, Ext. 121 or email: DeaconTom@ollchurch.org

ADVENT OFFERINGS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8:

8:30am; 12:10pm; 7:30pm

9:00am

HOLY DAY: FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

CHURCH: Masses for the Holy Day

REFLECTIONS ON THE ADVENT SUNDAY READINGS

SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER: Deacon Tom will lead the reflection.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9:

7:30pm

ADVENT EVENING OF REFLECTION WITH SR. DIANE

Why were shepherds chosen to receive the news of Christ's birth?

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15:

9:00am

REFLECTIONS ON THE ADVENT SUNDAY READINGS

SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER: Deacon John will lead the reflection.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16:

7:30pm

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT: "THE NATIVITY"

PARISH CENTER: A great family movie that focuses on the life of Joseph and Mary up to the birth of Jesus.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19:

5:30pm & 8:00pm

ST. FRANCIS TELLS THE CHRISTMAS STORY

CHURCH: A musical for the entire family. It is the story of the Birth of Jesus through the eyes of the manger animals.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22:

3:00pm – 8:00pm

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONS

CHURCH: Confessors will be available throughout this time.

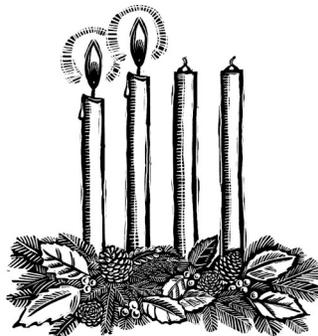
9:00am

REFLECTIONS ON THE CHRISTMAS READINGS

SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER: Deacon Jack will lead the reflection.

****DECEMBER 1 – DECEMBER 15: GIVING TREE GIFT PROGRAM FOR THE NEEDY****

****DECEMBER 8 – JANUARY 12: STOP BY & VISIT A COLLECTION OF NATIVITY SETS**





Feast of the Immaculate Conception Monday, December 8

(holy day of obligation)

Mass Schedule:

Mass at 8:30am, 12:10pm and 7:30pm

Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

Join us...

Wednesday, December 10 at 9:30am 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.



Holy Name Society

The Holy Name Society invites the men of our parish, young and old, to join us. We can use the wisdom of the older men and the energy and fresh ideas of our younger men. The Holy Name Society meets on the second Sunday of each month. Our next meeting will be on **Sunday, December 14**. We come together to pray the **Rosary at 7:40am in the Church** and the **meeting will follow the 8:00am Mass at 9:00am in Room 16**. Stop by - all are welcome!

The Giving Tree

In anticipation of the great event Christmas!

The Giving Tree has been decorated with tags so that you may help those in need this Christmas.

Please return your gift by **December 14** so that there is time to sort and distribute the gifts. We ask that the gifts are brought in *unwrapped* but we will gladly accept wrapping paper, bows and tags so that the families can wrap the gifts for their loved ones.

Thank you for all the support you give to Outreach.





Religious Education

ADVENT 2014

READY THE WAY

Come Be a Part of "THE SIX"

Sunday, 6:00pm Mass

ALL GRADE 5/6/7/8 and their FAMILIES in our Parish

Please join "THE SIX" with your grade...

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 7 -Grade 7 ... The message of John the Baptist has a lot to offer many of us!

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 14 -Grade 6 ... Prepare to be challenged to live your life in a different way!

4th Sunday of Advent

December 21 -Grade 5 ... Discover the unexpected ways of God!

COME AND BE A LECTOR / GREETER / USHER / Participate in the Presentation of the Gifts. We ask that you please bring an "un-food" item such as soap, shampoo, Kleenex, paper towels, etc. for our OLL Pantry.

Special K

If you have a child in Kindergarten, please consider coming to a wonderful program! Designed to gently lead your child into formal religious education, this format will introduce your children to many Church traditions, children's prayer experiences and some practical ways in which to participate in Mass on their age level. We meet monthly in Church from 4:30pm to approximately 5:10pm:

January 16, February 13, March 13, April 17, May 15

Please register at: sdiane@ollchurch.org. There is no fee for this program.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Our Family Grows

This past Sunday, November 30, at the 11:00am Mass, we had our Rite of Acceptance with our catechumens and our candidates of the RCIA-The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. They will be gathering every Sunday for the 11:00am Mass and will be "dismissed" after the Homily to pray and share on the Sunday readings. Every Monday, they will meet for catechesis and reflection. Please pray for them, by name, as they continue on this journey of new life and hope!

Our "Catechumens" (to be fully initiated into the Church) are:

*Keith Boykin
Lance Perez*

Our "Candidates" (to be received into the Church and those to receive Eucharist and / or Confirmation) are:

*Melissa Beeker
Adara Eklund
Susan Irizarry
Barry Seifken
Danielle Weiss*

To all the wonderful people of the Parish Family of Our Lady of Lourdes:

Thank you for all the prayers, love and kindness that you have given to me on the occasion of my 35th Anniversary. May God continue to bless us all — the best Parish in the Diocese of Rockville Centre!

Deacon Jack Teufel

St. Francis Tells the Christmas Story

Friday, December 19, 2014
5:30pm and 8:00pm (two shows)
Our Lady of Lourdes Church



Presented by your fellow parishioners, **St. Francis Tells the Christmas Story** is an entertaining and enjoyable musical portrayal of the birth of Christ as seen through the eyes of the animals at the nativity. Please join us in this heartwarming reminder of the simplicity of the Christmas story and re-discover the real “**reason for the season**” on **Friday, December 19 at 5:30pm or 8:00pm** in our lovely Church.



To make this event even more meaningful for the children in the audience, we are inviting them to participate in a procession during the musical to bring non-perishable food items (for our Outreach Pantry) and present them to the Baby Jesus, as their gift to feed the hungry. **Please be sure to wrap your child’s food item as a Christmas gift!**

A free-will offering will be taken up from the adults to help defray the cost of presenting this musical (i.e., costumes, lighting, etc.)

Advent “Great Expectations”

An Evening of Reflection

Tuesday, December 9

7:30pm

Parish Center



Join S. Diane and other members of our Parish Family as they reflect upon Advent “**Great Expectations.**”

Why were shepherds chosen to receive the news of Christ’s birth?

We invite you to join in our Advent “Great Expectations” and share with all in a spirit of joy, love, peace, and hope ... and hospitality with all ... sponsored by *Evangelization Ministry.*

Reflections on the Advent Sunday Readings

Monday Mornings during Advent

9:00am

Spiritual Life Center

Each Monday of Advent, at 9:00am, please join us as we gather in the Spiritual Life Center for coffee, rolls, and a talk, with some time for discussion and reflection.

Monday, December 8, 9:00am Deacon Tom Lucie will lead

Monday, December 15, 9:00am Deacon John De Guardi will lead

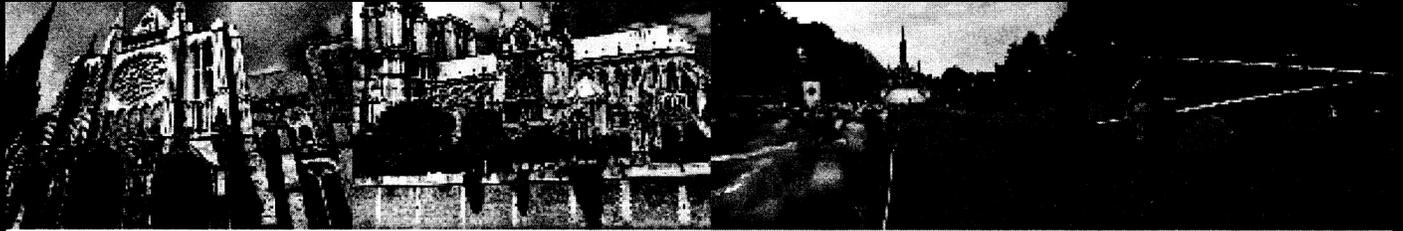
Monday, December 22, 9:00am Deacon Jack Meehan will lead (*Christmas readings*)



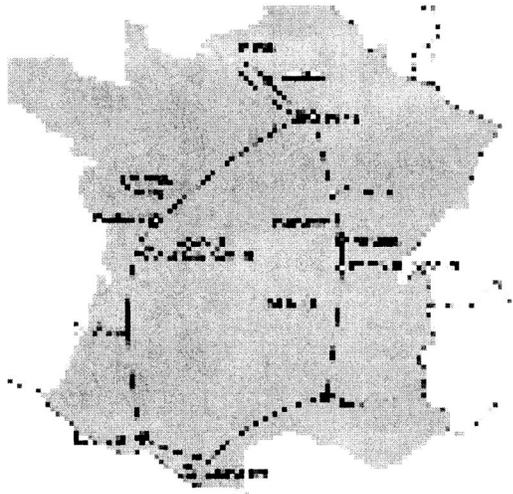
Christmas Flower Offerings

Christmas Flower offerings received by **Sunday, December 14** will be published in the December 28 bulletin. Offerings received after that date, will be published in subsequent bulletins.

Pilgrimage to France - August 26-September 7, 2015



Join Father Brian McNamara on a Spiritual Pilgrimage to THE SHRINES OF FRANCE & LOURDES



Air & Land \$3582
Land Only \$2149

August 26 - September 7, 2015
Paris to Paris (12 days)

Headsets throughout the tour

Sightseeing: Visits to Lisieux, Poitiers, Carcassonne, Avignon, Paray-le-Monial, Nevers, Chartres

Scenic Highlights: Château Country, Dordogne, Burgundy

Mass/Religious Service: Lisieux, Lourdes, Avignon

Guides: Local Guides for city sightseeing in Paris and Lourdes; services of a professional Tour Director while touring

PARIS Kyriad Bercy (ST)

POITIERS Ibis Centre (F)

LOURDES Quality Alliance (ST)

AVIGNON Mercure Cité des Papes (F) or Ibis Styles Avignon Sud (ST)

NEVERS Kyriad Centre (ST)

- **Buffet breakfasts; 5 dinners**

Vacation overview

Meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers in Paris, where guided sightseeing features all major sights and visits the Basilica of Sacre Coeur and Notre Dame Cathedral, where the relics of the Passion of the Christ can be seen on the first Fridays of the month (departures April 3 & July 31 only). During an excursion to Lisieux, visit Les Buissonnets, family home of St. Therese, and the basilica. Also visit St. Peter's Cathedral and the Carmelite Convent, where she lived as a nun. Back in Paris, special visits have been included to the Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Shrine, where the Virgin Mary appeared to St. Catherine Laboure in 1830, and the St. Vincent de Paul Shrine. Travel south to Poitiers and visit the baptistry of St. John, then arrive in Lourdes, one of the world's most famous places of pilgrimage, where you will stay for three nights. Visit the grotto where the Virgin Mary appeared to St. Bernadette in 1858, the Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, and St. Bernadette's birthplace and family home. You may wish to bathe in the healing waters, attend the "Blessing of the Sick," or join the evening's rosary and candlelight procession. A full day at leisure allows the chance to join an optional excursion to the nearby Pyrenees. Via medieval Carcassonne, travel to Avignon to see the Palace of the Popes and to attend Mass in the Cathedral of Avignon. Stop in Paray-le-Monial, home to the Chapel of the Apparitions, and visit the Basilica of the Sacred Heart before arriving in Nevers. Here, visit St. Gildard, then on to Chartres, where you visit the magnificent cathedral. Return to Paris for a final overnight.

Tour Price: \$2149 p/person (based on double occupancy; singles and triples available upon request)

Air from JFK: \$1433

Insurance, \$199, highly recommended to protect your vacation investment, **must be paid at time of deposit to cover pre-existing conditions.**

CruiseOne

Contact: Monica Colonna

631.539.9756 or mcolonna@cruiseone.com

COSMOS  **JOURNEYS YOU CAN BELIEVE IN**



Prepare A Place In Your Heart For Jesus

Make your heart a holy place for Jesus to come to at Christmas. As you perform the works below, cut out the strip and place it in the empty manger in front of the altar. Let's make a comfortable place for Jesus to rest when he arrives on Christmas Day.

1. Participate in the Giving Tree and offer a present to a needy boy or girl.

2. Say grace before meals from now until Christmas.

3. Come and celebrate Mass on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception – December 8th – a holy day in honor of Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

4. Attend the St. Francis Tells the Christmas Story musical on Friday, December 19th at 5:30pm or 8:00pm.

5. Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation with your family.

6. Prepare an Advent wreath for your home and light it at dinner time – *but always with your parents!*

7. Do a good deed for someone in your family.

8. Pray the “Our Father” every morning when you wake up and every night before you go to bed.

9. Light a candle in Church for someone you love.

10. Make a contribution from your allowance to help the poor.

Ministry of Praise

Members pray at home for the intentions of the Church and Parish; designed for the homebound, senior citizens, etc. Monthly calendar is available in the Narthex. Prayer requests can be left in the Ministry of Praise box along with the name and address of any homebound person who might want a copy of the calendar mailed to them (please print).

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 8:00pm until 10:00pm. All are welcome to experience singing, praying and fellowship.

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 1:30pm** before the Blessed Sacrament for about one half hour. For more information, call Charles Argento at 586.8528.



Boy Scout Troop 179

For more than 41 years, Our Lady of Lourdes has been sponsoring Boy Scout Troop 179 of West Islip. We meet every **Thursday** in the School Cafeteria from **7:30pm to 9:00pm**. If you are interested in joining Boy Scouts, check out our website and stop by a meeting!

Website: <http://witroop179.wix.com/bsatroop179#>

Email: WIBSATroop179@outlook.com

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

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

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

AA Day-by-Day/Girls Night Out: Thursday at 7:30pm.



In addition to our parish website, please visit us on *Facebook* at ***The Parish Family of Our Lady of Lourdes***. Click "Like" and you will receive the latest news on upcoming parish events and information.

Attention Ushers!

We are in need of usher volunteers for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses. There are sign-up sheets available in the sign-in room for all the scheduled Masses.

Thank you for your service to our Parish Family!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Timothy Kossegi and Katharine Scheid who made the first quarter Honor Roll at *Holy Trinity Diocesan High School*.

Congratulations to the following students who have made the Honor Roll at *St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School*.

Summa Cum Laude Honors (100+ weighted average)

Zachary Krulder, Lisa DeMotta, Rory Hannigan, Christina Natale, Amelia Virga

Magna Cum Laude Honors (95.00 to 99.99 weighted average)

Daniel, DiPietrantonio, Madison Hoffman, Jacqueline Pappas, Vincent Piazza, Stephanie Vizzini, Kathryn Antonawich, John (Jack) Natale, Emily Brierly, James Sanchez, Shelby Alanis, Connor Hatton, Joseph Christian La Carrubba, Theresa Maher, Mia Rogers, Jake Shapiro, Shannon Thomson, Nicholas Zotto

Cum Laude Honors (90.00 to 94.99 weighted average)

Thomas Roulette, Jack Scheid, Emily Zotto, Frank Anastasio, Daniel Bonge, Samantha Viola, Cole Amdur, Jessica Herbert, Londyn Hoffman, John Piazza, Jessica Trifoli, Joseph Vizzini, Daniel Antonawich, Krysta Flareau, Frank Pannacchione, James Schneider

OLL School 50th Anniversary Planning Meeting

Tuesday, December 9 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm in the Cafeteria

Please contact Richard Maher at 516.982.3487 or email Tipperar@aol.com.

Christmas at Sagtikos Holiday House Tours

Saturday, December 13

Sunday, December 14

11:00am - 3:00pm (last tour)

Take a trip into the past as the holidays are recalled from the works of well-known authors and poets. The tour will take you through the holiday decorated Manor, led by docents in period dress. After the tour, enjoy hot drinks and cookies, and you can do some holiday shopping in our gift shop. Also available for sale are fresh hand-made greenery items offered by the Friends of the Manor Gardens. Tours leave every 15 minutes beginning at 11:00am. Last tour is at 3:00pm. Adults \$20, Seniors & Students \$15 and Children (5-12) \$5 if reserved. Reservation must be sent in with check and received by Dec. 10th. The cost at the door is \$25, with the child price remaining at \$5 as space allows. Please keep in mind that tour slots are reserved in advance so if you pay at the door, there may be a wait. To download a form, go to web address: <http://sagtikosmanor.com/events.html>

Worldwide Marriage Encounter



Fifth Annual Search Begins for Longest Married Couples in United States

The fifth annual search for the longest married couple in the United States is under way as announced by Worldwide Marriage Encounter, the original faith-based marriage enrichment program in this country. Once again, we want to honor the longest married couple in the United States, as well as in each of the 50 states and territories. The national winners will be recognized during Valentine's Week 2015 which coincides with World Marriage Day which is the second Sunday of February (2/8/15). This marks the project's fifth consecutive year for the highly acclaimed activity recognizing couples for their long marriages. There have been over 1,200 couples nominated for the honors during the last four years. Winners are selected solely from nominations submitted. Local Long Island winner will be honored at a celebration on February 6, 2015.

The contact information for sending in a nomination, which simply requires the name of the couple, their wedding date and where they currently reside plus a contact phone or email address of the individual nominating the couple, is as follows: email wwmelmc2015@gmail.com, regular mail Dick & Diane Baumbach 8924 Puerto Del Rio Drive Suite 402, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920, and special phone number 321-613-5180. **Nominations must be received by January 10, 2015.** For more information visit our web site at <http://www.wwme.org>.

Animal Shelter Toy and Food Drive

Hope for the Holidays is an annual food drive for Long Island's local animal shelters. We are looking to collect pet food, old blankets, treats, toys and litter now until December 22. For more information and drop off locations, visit [Facebook.com/hopefortheholidaysshelterdrive](https://www.facebook.com/hopefortheholidaysshelterdrive). Help us make this holiday season a good one for these forgotten pets!

Religion and Rock

Tune into "Religion and Rock" with Msgr. Jim Vlaun on Sunday from 7am to 8am on WBAB 102.3 FM or 95.3 on the East End of Long Island. Listen on Saturdays at 11pm on Sirius Radio, Channel 159, the Catholic Channel and at 11pm on XM Satellite, Channel 117. Next Sunday's theme is "**Sharing Our Gifts.**"

Sharing the Gospel

John the Baptist had an important message. When you make sinful mistakes, and when you turn away from God, stop. Learn from your mistakes, and do things God's way. Were you bossy or rude? Be thoughtful and kind. Did you tell a lie? Be honest instead. God wants you to share his love with other people.



Mission for the Week

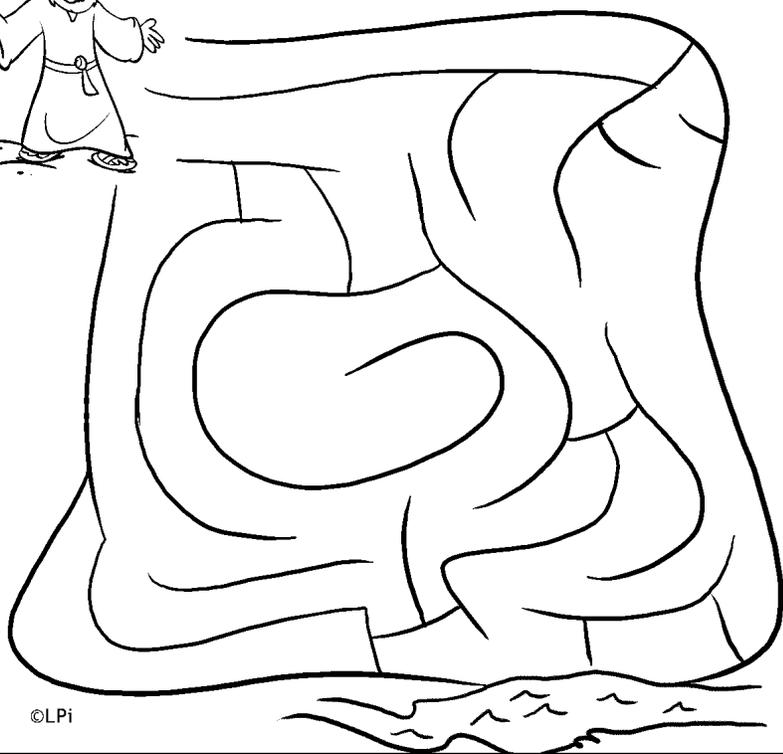


Ask your family if you have hurt their feelings. Ask them to forgive you.



Puzzle

Help John the Baptist find his way to the Jordan River.



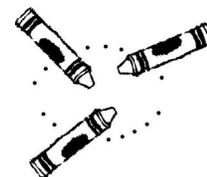
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Prayer



Jesus, help me to learn from my mistakes. Thank you for forgiving me.

Something to Draw



Draw a picture of yourself being kind to a friend.