

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

455 Hunter Avenue, West Islip, NY 11795

Msgr. Brian McNamara, Pastor
Rev. Andrew Garnett, Associate Pastor
Rev. Lawrence Maduewesi, in Residence
Chaplain, Southside Hospital

Deacon John De Guardi, **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
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 Scorcio, Ministry Spiritual Director

Parish Office

Phone: 631.661.3224, 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: 631.661.7143
Website: www.ollchurch.org

Our Lady of Lourdes School

Phone: 631.587.7200, press 2
Monday-Friday: 9:00am-3:00pm
E-mail: lkrol@ollschool.org

Religious Education Office

Phone: 631.661.5440, press 3
Monday-Friday: 9:00am-Noon,
1:00pm-5:00pm, 7:00pm-9:00pm
E-mail: ReligiousEd@ollchurch.org

Parish Outreach Office

Phone: 631.661.9262, press 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



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.

Third Sunday of Advent • December 11, 2016



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
 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 Buonaspina
 Director of Youth Choirs
Michael Buonaspina
 Parish Organist
Stacy Gordon
 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 11

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/ Jas 5:7-10/ Mt 11:2-11
Monday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/ Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 39-47
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/ Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25/ Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday: Is 54:1-10/ Lk 7:24-30
Friday: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8/ Jn 5:33-36
Saturday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/ Mt 1:1-17
Next Sunday: Is 7:10-14/ Rom 1:1-7/ Mt 1:18-24

Financial Summary

December 4, 2016

Weekly Collection	\$ 18,776.00
Weekly Budget	- \$ 17,800.00
+/- for the week	\$ 976.00

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

Dear Parishioners:

As you know, I spoke at all the Masses regarding Fr. Andrew. After a period of prayer and reflection, Fr. Andrew has decided to take a leave of absence from the priesthood. This is effective immediately. While this is a loss for our Parish family, I urge all of us to pray for Fr. Andrew during this time.

We are now half-way through the season of Advent. Today we light the pink candle. The lighting of the pink candle indicates a shift in our liturgical focus. For the past two weeks, we have been focusing on the coming of Christ at the end of time; now the readings focus on the coming of Christ at Christmas. This Sunday is often referred to as "Gaudete Sunday." "Gaudete" means rejoice. You may note that in our Second Reading today, St. Paul states: "Rejoice in the Lord always; I shall say it again: rejoice!" We still have 14 more "praying days" until Christmas but time is getting short.

As you know, our Parish family here at Our Lady of Lourdes has been offering a number of Advent Spiritual opportunities. This week is filled with important ones. On **Tuesday evening, December 13** in the Parish Center, we will have an evening of prayer focusing on the "Visitation", Mary visiting her cousin, Elizabeth. Also, next **Sunday, December 18 at 4:00pm**, we will have "**LESSONS AND CAROLS.**" We will have Scripture readings and respond in song.

As you may recall, the Diocese sponsored a fundraiser titled: "*EXERCISE FOR OTHERS SPIN EVENT.*" Half the money raised went to charities in the Diocese and the other half went to OLL Parish. I am happy to announce that the parish received a check for \$1,215. A special thank you to those involved in the event: Sr. Nancy, Maria Lucie, Sue Cosentino, William Davies and Rita Spera.

We are also in the last stages of our **Catholic Ministries Appeal**. As you know, this annual appeal is to support the good work of the Diocese. Monies raised are used to fund our seminaries, Catholic schools, Catholic Charities, etc. If you have already made a donation, thank you! If you have not, I encourage you to do so. We are at about 85% of our goal. I would like to get it up to 90%! I urge everyone to do their part! The money goes to a good cause.

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. Give them as Christmas gifts to your adult children!

Altar Society

Altar linens this week will be cared for by *Carol Grillo*. 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 in the Middle East conflict.

Michael DiMatteo-*US Marines*
Michael Fantauzzi-*US Air Force*
Christopher Florca-*US Marines*
Colby Matthew Kelly-*US Army*
Anthony Mannino-*US Marines*
James Rooney III-*US Marines*
Michael Wilkinson-*US Army*

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

Our whole parish family rejoices with the Barthel family in gratitude for the safe return of their son, **Brian Barthel** - *US Air Force*, from active duty. We thank you, Brian, for your generous service to our country.



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/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 ...

Sal Albanese, Mary Anne Anitra, Clare Buetow, Ann Calogero, Benjamin Calogero, Thomas J. Calogero III, Lisa Charron-Culloty, Grace Ciccarello, Dianne Cullen, Harold Deegan, Sal DePetro, Francine Dimino, Amanda Di Tingo, James Dobson, T. J. Ferrante, Nicole Funk, Charlene Grahn, Erik Hasenstab, Josephine Heffron, Patrick Anthony Heffron, Barbara Hennigar, Thomas Hicks, Jr., Msgr. William Jablonski, Anne Kerrigan, George Koehler, Patrick Lillis, Sean Lillis, Vinny Meade, Dotty Meloni, Ken Monroe, Phyllis Pasciuta, Peter Porzio, Dorothy Proctor, Nannette Proscia, June Quirino, Jimmy Reilly, Rose Rickey, Joseph Roccaro, Mary Scarpitta, Joseph J. Schiavoni, AnnMarie Schiraldi, Denise Stark, Ethel Sullivan, Loretta Sullivan, Laura Terryn, Barbara Ungrady, Andrew Velten, Pasquale Vollaro

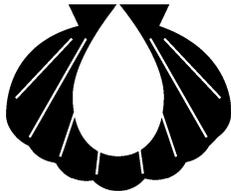
Names of the sick will be listed for **six weeks** for short-term requests and **six months** for long-term.



Rest In Peace

*Kenneth J. Boos
Maureen Borzell
Betty D'Lea
Cecilia Howrigan
John Sureau, Sr.*

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



Baptism

Serafina Ann Pisano

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:30am Gene Langan

Tuesday, December 13

St. Lucy

8:30am James Smith & family

Wednesday, December 14

St. John of the Cross

8:30am Delia & James Langan

Thursday, December 15

8:30am Bobby Boats - wife & son

Friday, December 16

8:30am Geralyn Leccese

Saturday, December 17

8:30am Jack Braddish (*living*), Thomas La Cascia, Ann Marie O'Shea, Alexis D'Elia, Salvatore Sciortino, Nadine Ann Murray

5:00pm Joseph Lehmann

Sunday, December 18

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00am Thomas Brando

9:30am Josephine Sabella & family

11:00am Fedele & Anne Aita

12:30pm Deceased & Living Members of the Sniadowski & Edwards Family

6:00pm People of the Parish, Helen Weissberg, Vito & Rosa Mastrococco, Hal Wolin, Kathryn DeLacy, Robert Kelleher, Domenica Mae Palminteri



Christmas Candles

This year, we are once again offering a *Loving Candle* which will be placed in the Tabernacle area and lit on Christmas Eve. This symbolic light will remain in the Tabernacle area for the life of the candle (approximately a week).

This is a beautiful way to remember our loved ones - both living and deceased. The *Loving Candles* will be available after all the Masses this weekend and next weekend and at the Parish Office (Rector) during the week for a donation of \$10. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 631.661.3224, ext. 121.

Religious Retirement Collection

Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others – educating the young, comforting the sick, seeking justice for the oppressed. Today, many are frail, elderly and in need of assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to furnish medications, nursing care and other necessities. Please give generously to **today's second collection**.



CHS's Gianna Center and Pregnancy Support Website

Catholic Health Services (CHS) now offers a dedicated, interactive website section for the Gianna Center and its pregnancy support services. The Gianna Center based at Good Samaritan Hospital Medical Center offers highly specialized restorative reproductive medicine in accordance with Catholic teaching, under the medical direction of Paul Carpentier, MD, CFCMC. Also, assistance is available for anyone with unexpected or crisis pregnancy through a one-call outreach program connecting to community resources.

The confidential, dedicated telephone number for this program is **1 (855) 301.4CHS**, supported by the availability of multilingual interpretive services. Anyone of any faith may call or refer to this support line, including representatives of parishes, colleges and crisis pregnancy centers, to facilitate safe, nonjudgmental companionship for women and couples in a crisis pregnancy. To speak to someone about pregnancy options immediately between 7:00pm and 7:30am Monday to Friday or on the weekend, please call **1 (800) 712.HELP (4357)**.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel!

ADVENT OFFERTINGS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13:

7:30pm (PARISH CENTER)

Mary Visits Her Cousin, Elizabeth

Journey with the Blessed Mother as she visits to care for her cousin, Elizabeth.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18:

4:00pm (CHURCH)

LESSONS AND CAROLS

St. Augustine said, "He who sings, prays twice." Come and listen to our choirs as we listen to God's plan for our salvation through the reading of the Scriptures and song.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20:

3:00pm – 8:00pm (CHURCH)

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONS

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**



Below please find a set of 3 chances. It is a 50-50 drawing. Chances are \$50 each or 3 chances for \$100. 1st place winner will win 35% of the money, 2nd place will win 10% of the money and 3rd place will win 5% of the money. You have to be in it to win it! The drawing will take place on **Sunday, January 8 after the 12:30pm Mass**. Hopefully, the Wise Men will bring you a gift of a winning ticket!

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Name _____

Phone _____

1 ticket for \$50; 3 tickets for \$100

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Name _____

Phone _____

1 ticket for \$50; 3 tickets for \$100

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Name _____

Phone _____

1 ticket for \$50; 3 tickets for \$100

Mary's Visit to her Cousin, Elizabeth

Let us journey with Mary ...

+ as she travels to Bethany

+ as we witness

her faith

her courage

her strength

+ as we prepare for the birth of Jesus

Let us open our minds and hearts during this Advent Season

Please join us for an Advent Evening of Reflection

Tuesday, December 13 at 7:30pm in the Parish Center

Presented by the Evangelization Ministry



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 18** 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.

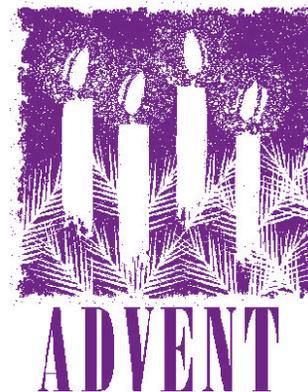
Thank you for all the support you give to Outreach.

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.



Canned pasta
Macaroni and cheese
Pasta sauce
Rice
Instant potatoes



Religious Education

ADVENT 2016

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 ...

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 11 - Grade 6 ... Prepare to be challenged to live your life in a different way!

4th Sunday of Advent

December 18 - 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 the OLL Pantry.

SPECIAL *Keys* ...

Religious Education Kindergarten Program!!!!

We started this program a few years ago and have expanded it so that we have a session each month:

January 13, February 10, March 10, April 7, May 12 and June 2

We meet in the Church at 4:30pm on Friday ... and the program lasts about 40 minutes. Come and see what wonderful opportunities we have for your kindergarten children to learn about their faith!

E-mail to register: sdiane@ollchurch.org



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 or call the Parish Office at 631.661.3224, option 1, and we would be happy to help you.

SAGE

The SAGE Group (*Senior Advocates for Growth and Enrichment*) will meet on **Tuesday, December 13 in the Parish Center at 9:00am.**

Men's Prayer Group-*morning*

We invite all men of the parish to meet for prayer and reflection after the 8:30am Mass on **Thursday, December 15 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. Call Jack Fitzgerald at 631.587.5548 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 7:30pm until 8:30pm.** The next meeting will be on **Tuesday night, December 20 in the Spiritual Life Center.** Come with your ideas. We'll read and discuss the Liturgy for the following Sunday Mass. For more information, call Clifford Proctor at 631.669.3198.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following students who have achieved Honor Roll status for the first quarter of the 2016-17 school year at *Holy Trinity Diocesan High School*:

Timothy Kossegi
Joseph Ortiz

Great job - keep up the good work!

Christmas Flower Offerings

Christmas Flower offerings received by **Sunday, December 11** will be published in the December 25 bulletin. Offerings received after that date will be published in subsequent bulletins.





DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

OFFICE FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

As the Church community enters into this Advent season, we are called to a period of watchful longing and preparation in anticipation of the birth of Jesus on Christmas day. I liken Advent to an extended vigil period wherein we wait, we pray and we are aware - aware of the subtle movements of grace in our hearts. A characteristic of a vigil is that of protection. We do this often - perhaps not even aware we are sitting vigil. Parents who wait through the night with a child who is ill; those who sit at the bedside of a loved one who is preparing for the greatest of transitions - to eternal life after death; I suggest the many times we help our children prepare the night before for a test is a vigil. And, what of the expectant parents? Is not their wait one of vigil? Praying and protecting the new life within? And so, vigils are intentional, purposeful and prayerful.

As we prepare to welcome the infant Jesus on Christmas day, it is important to consider the measures the Church has implemented, and continues to enforce, in order to keep safe those most vulnerable among us - the children. We have learned from the tragic mistakes of the past - and now we are called to maintain a vigil - to insure the safety of children in our community. To this end, in 2005, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has written The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. The Charter, approved by the full body of bishops, outlines the policies and procedures all Dioceses are to implement in their efforts to protect children. Copies of The Charter are available in the rectory or by contacting the Office for the Protection of Children and Young People (516.678.5800 x. 507). In response to the directives set forth in The Charter, the Diocese of Rockville Centre has implemented programs, policies and procedures which every parish, throughout the Diocese, must adhere to. It is important to remember these regulations were established by the USCCB, and it is our obligation, as faithful members of the community, to abide by these. Some of these directives may be familiar to you:

- All employees and volunteers must attend the Virtus program: **Protecting God's Children.**
- All employees and volunteers must sign Codes of Conduct-which outline expected behaviors of those in ministry.
- Volunteers complete a Volunteer Application / Employees complete an Employment Application.
- Consent to be background screened - with this the USCCB acknowledged that historical information is important to the protection of children.
- Established a 24 hour confidential hotline number: 516.594.9063. Anyone suspecting abuse by someone affiliated with the Church is urged to call the hotline. Calls are confidential and responded to within 24 hours.

We were reminded that a vigil is characterized by waiting, by protecting and by prayer. Let us remember that the vigil to keep all children safe is on-going and requires the diligence of all.

Mary McMahan, LCSW
Office for the Protection of Children/Young People

Our Lady of Lourdes School

Growing in Wisdom and Grace



Dedication to Education

Elementary school years are a critical time of development for students and families alike. We promise to continue our commitment to our students' education and to make every year even more successful than the last. We bring a firm commitment to students and families as well as a love of learning and problem solving.

Our focus is on providing each child with new challenges that will result in a rewarding school experience. Academic emphasis on the Common-Core Curriculum areas in reading, language arts, science, social studies, and math will continue to be a priority as well as providing a learning program that builds on each year to reach local and state standards. Instruction in fine arts, foreign language, technology, and physical education complete our program providing each student with the opportunity to develop areas of interest and skill.

- ▶ Early Childhood Program
- ▶ Elementary School Program
- ▶ Middle School Program

We are a school based in the Gospel

Tours: Monday - Friday during the school day

When: Open enrollment

Contact: Principal, Louise Jane Krol

LKrol@ollschool.org

631.587.7200 ext. 100

We have room in our heart and in our school for your children. Come and see what we have built and nourished.

Colegio Nuestra Señora de Lourdes

Creciendo en Sabiduría y Gracia.



Dedicados a la Educación

Los años de escuela elemental son un tiempo crítico de desarrollo tanto para los estudiantes como para las familias, y nosotros prometemos continuar con el compromiso de la educación de nuestros estudiantes y esperamos hacer de este año mucho más exitoso que el anterior. Traemos un compromiso firme con los estudiantes y sus familias además de amor por el aprendizaje y resolución de problemas.

Nuestro enfoque es en proveer a cada niño con nuevos desafíos que van a resultar en una gratificante experiencia escolar. Énfasis académico en el currículum de áreas centrales comunes como lectura, artes del lenguaje, ciencias, estudios sociales y matemáticas continúan siendo nuestra prioridad. Ofrecemos un programa de aprendizaje que se construye cada año para alcanzar los estándares locales y de estado. Instrucción en artes finas, lenguaje exterior, tecnología y educación física completa nuestro programa ofreciendo a cada estudiante la oportunidad de desarrollarse en áreas de interés y destreza.

Programa de Educación Temprana.
Programa de Educación Elemental
Programa de Educación Media

Somos un colegio basado en los valores del Evangelio

Tours: En Inglés y Español

Cuándo: Inscripciones Abiertas

Contacto:

Principal, Louise Jane Krol LKrol@ollschool.org
631.587.7200 ext. 100

Asistencia en Español:

Andres Y Dora Martinez

latinoparents@ollschool.org

Nosotros tenemos espacio en nuestros corazones y nuestro colegio para sus hijos. Acérquese y vea lo que nosotros hemos construido y alimentado.



In addition to our parish website (ollchurch.org), 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.

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 over 40 years, Our Lady of Lourdes has been sponsoring Boy Scout Troop 179 of West Islip. We meet every **Thursday during the school year** 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.

Advent Lessons and Carols: Prepare the Way

Sunday, December 11 at 7:30pm

Christ the King RC Church, 2 Indian Head Road, Commack NY

Free will offering collected at the doors of the Church. For more information, please call 631.864.1623 or email: jmaldino@ctkrcc.org.

Volunteers Needed

Birthright provides counseling, positive alternatives to abortion and other help to girls/women distressed by a pregnancy. We are a non-profit, non-sectarian volunteer service, offering free of charge: pregnancy test kits, layettes, maternity clothes and referrals for medical care and other community resources.

Would you consider helping **Birthright** in their pro-life work? Please call our Islip office at 631.277.3888 Monday to Friday from 10:30am to 2:00pm. Training will be provided. We are also in need of Thrift Shop volunteers. Our shop is open Monday to Friday from 10:30am to 2:00pm.

In *The Long Island Catholic Magazine* – December Edition

The December edition of *The Long Island Catholic Magazine* features the Church of the Good Shepherd, Holbrook; a profile of recently ordained priest, Fr. Sean Magaldi; a feature on the Diocesan Choir and a cover story on Catholic Charities' Regina Residence providing hope to mothers who face an unexpected pregnancy. *The Long Island Catholic* depends upon your subscription to continue to bring these positive stories about our Church to its people. Subscribe today at licatholic.org or call 1.800.443.2155. One year of 10 issues for \$20.

Catholic Ministries Appeal

ONE FAITH – FAMILY – COMMUNITY

**Thank you for your generous support of the
2016 Catholic Ministries Appeal.**

Completing your 2016 pledge ensures that our Parish
will benefit by receiving our full rebate.

There's still time to make a gift.

Please remember that all new pledges must be in
by December 31, 2016
and paid in full by January 31, 2017.

For more information, please call 516.678.5800, ext 296 or visit: drvc.org/CMA

Part-Time Rectory Cook Position

St. Joseph Parish in Babylon is seeking a part-time cook to work in the rectory for 16.5 hours, Thursdays and Fridays from 1:30pm to 7:00pm and Saturdays from 2:30pm to 8:00pm. This individual, reporting directly to Pastor, will shop and meal-plan, placing emphasis on nutritious meals and dietary needs. Will also work with Pastor to organize and facilitate special events, such as Confirmation and luncheons. Suitable organizational and cleanliness skills essential. Must have a valid driver's license and own transportation. Interested and qualified candidates are asked to call Jane at 631.669-0068 x110.

Candlelight Carol Sing

The Parish of Saint William the Abbot in Seaford, NY will be holding it's 5th Candlelight Carol Sing on **Wednesday, December 14 beginning at 7:30pm.**

A wonderful event sure to become a holiday family tradition, attendees participate in singing familiar Christmas favorites as well as being entertained with the sounds of beautiful music provided by professional musicians, handbells and a wonderful group of singers. A featured moment of the evening is the singing of the familiar "Silent Night" carol with the church illuminated only by candlelight.

Arriving early is recommended. Those arriving early (on or before 7:00pm) will enjoy warm cider or hot chocolate on the front plaza around a fire while a brass quintet serenades them. Admission is free, although free-will offerings are accepted. Please bring your family and friends for an unforgettable event. For more information, please call our music office at 516.781.3253 or email: stwilliamsmusic@gmail.com.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

The 2017 search is underway for the Longest Married Couple in the U.S.

Do you think you know who they are? Maybe it's your parents ... grandparents ... that nice couple who live down the street ... Nominating a couple is easy! Just send their names, wedding date and where they live and your contact information to: wwwmelmc2017@gmail.com. Nominations accepted until January 10, 2017. Winners will be announced February 2017 to celebrate World Marriage Day. Nominate a couple you know today!

The Messiah Benefits the Mercy INN Soup Kitchen, Wyandanch

Through the generosity of the Church of St. Joseph, the renowned St. Joseph's Choir will present a free concert at St. Joseph's Church on Sunday, December 11 at 7:00pm. They will perform selections from Handel's **Messiah** and Pergolesi's **Magnificat** directed by Dr. Marie Drohan. The concert will include other beautiful choral selections and will be preceded by a moving candlelight procession. St. Joseph's Church is located on North Carll Avenue in Babylon Village, one block north of Main Street. Early arrival is recommended as the church is put in complete darkness promptly at 7:00pm. Free-will offerings of cash or checks made payable to: **The Mercy INN** will be most appreciated. Suggested donation: \$15 pp or \$30 per family.

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, "Being Prepared."

Sharing the Gospel

Name someone that you think is very important. Jesus said that John the Baptist was the greatest man ever born. John the Baptist did not live in a big house or wear nice clothes. He was not the president, and he did not own a huge company. You would probably think he was very poor. But John the Baptist was truly great because he loved and trusted God with his whole heart. He helped other people follow God, too.



Mission for the Week



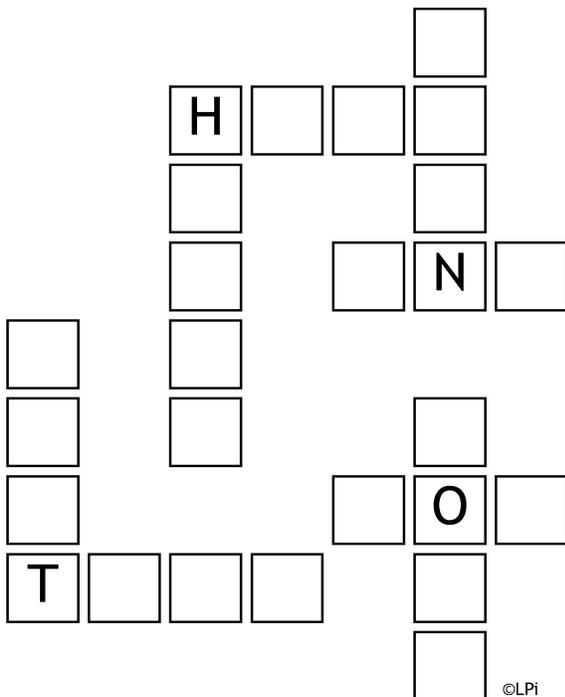
If you have any videos that tell Bible stories, watch one or two together with your family.



Puzzle

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

Tell John what you have heard and seen.



Prayer

Dear God,
show me
ways to
help my
friends
follow
God, too.



Something to Draw

Draw a
picture
of the
greatest
man ever
born.

