

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 Scorcia, 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.

Fourth Sunday of Advent • December 18, 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 18

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: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/ Lk 1:57-66
Saturday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/ Lk 1:67-79
Next Sunday: Is 52:7-10/ Heb 1:1-6/ Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Financial Summary

December 11, 2016

Weekly Collection	\$ 21,065.00
Weekly Budget	- \$ 17,800.00
+/- for the week	\$ 3,265.00

Immaculate Conc. \$ 3,689.00

Religious Retirement \$ 5,157.00

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

Dear Parishioners:

Well, Christmas is upon us; only seven more “praying days” before we celebrate God’s gift of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. I especially want to encourage everyone to go to **Confession** and celebrate the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**. On **Tuesday, December 20**, a priest will be in the Church from 3:00pm – 8:00pm for confessions. Come by and prepare your heart for Christmas by allowing God to remove your sins.

I would like to thank **Vita Scorgia, our Coordinator of Adult Faith Formation**, who planned a wonderful series of Advent events. Our Parish offered opportunities for all ages, and I appreciate her hard work and effort to make Advent a time of preparation for the coming of Christ.

I would like to thank the **Family Liturgy Committee** under the **leadership of Cathy Danowski** for a lovely, family-centered celebration of St. Nicholas Day. We also have a collection of Nativities on display in the Parish Center. If you have not seen the **Nativity sets** yet, stop by the Parish Center and see them. They will be there until the end of the Christmas season (January 9, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord).

St. John reminds us that, “God so loved the world that He gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him may not die but may have eternal life (John 3:16).” 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 and by participating in the life of the Parish family of Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

As you know, Christmas is a time of 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: 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 *Elizabeth Netska*. 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.



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, Mary Guerrera, 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, Peter Murray, Phyllis Pasciuta, Peter Porzio, Dorothy Proctor, Nannette Proscia, June Quirino, Jimmy Reilly, Rose Rickey, Joseph Roccaro, Mary Scarpitta, Joseph J. Schiavoni, AnnMarie Schiraldi, 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

*Angelina Bonora
Helen Hildreth*

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



Baptism

Shane Patrick Dudley

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 19

8:30am Kenneth Garretson

Tuesday, December 20

8:30am James Amend

Wednesday, December 21

St. Peter Canisius

8:30am Kevin Patrick Brosnham

Thursday, December 22

8:30am Roger D. Desmond

Friday, December 23

St. John of Kanty

8:30am John Pollock

Saturday, December 24

8:30am People of the Parish

Vigil of Christmas

4:00pm Christmas Novena

6:00pm Christmas Novena

8:00pm Christmas Novena

11:00pm Christmas Novena

Sunday, December 25

Nativity of the Lord - Christmas Day

8:00am Christmas Novena

9:30am Christmas Novena

11:00am Christmas Novena

12:30pm Christmas Novena

Please note: There is no 6:00pm Mass on Christmas Day

Church Census Information

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 distributed more efficiently. Please mail the information to the Parish Office or email to parishoffice@ollchurch.org.

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 at the Parish Office (Rectory) 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

Thank you for supporting senior religious. A sister from Indiana writes, “Because of your kindness, our elderly sisters will have the comfort, security, and joy of living out their remaining years here in their home. You truly honor them and their many years of service by your generosity.” Religious across the United States offer sincere thanks for your generosity to last week’s collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious.



Gabriel’s Courage Perinatal Support Program

Gabriel’s Courage is a family centered program for families who receive a life-limiting prenatal diagnosis during their pregnancy. The program offers a multidisciplinary team approach to care and support throughout pregnancy, birth and post birth. Gabriel’s Courage is a program of Catholic Health Services and Good Shepherd Hospice. This program offers hope, affirms life and provides an opportunity for the family to welcome their baby, as well as assisting in saying good-bye. Gabriel’s Courage is seeking financial support to continue this important program. If you are interested in making a donation to

Gabriel’s Courage, please contact Good Shepherd Hospice Development Office at 631.465.6350.

At times, infant burial can be challenging financially. Gabriel’s Courage seeks to honor the lives of these babies and support parents in their wishes to bury their child. A burial is the last act of parenting for some of our families. We ask that you consider donating resources for burials which could include financial support or donation of an available grave. If you are interested in making a donation, please contact Peter Ryan, Director of Catholic Cemeteries, at 516.334.7990, Ext. 109. Thank you for your support of this special program and the recipients in its care.

ADVENT FAMILY EVENTS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18: 4:00PM LESSONS & CAROLS: Join us as we listen to God's holy Word and respond in song with our choirs.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION/PENANCE)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17: 4:00pm - 4:45pm

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20: 3:00pm – 8:00pm

CHRISTMAS MASSES

December 24: Christmas Eve:

4:00pm	Church	Msgr. Brian
4:00pm	School Cafeteria	Fr. Visitor
6:00pm	Church	Msgr. Brian <i>Posada Procession</i>
8:00pm	Church	Fr. Visitor <i>Posada Procession</i>
11:00pm (Midnight Mass)	Church	Msgr. Brian

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

December 25: Christmas Day:

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

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

<u>December 31:</u>	<u>New Year's Eve:</u>	<u>January 1:</u>	<u>New Year's Day</u>
5:00pm	Church	8:00am	Church
		9:30am	Church
		11:00am	Church
		12:30pm	Church
		6:00pm	Church

Outreach Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations:

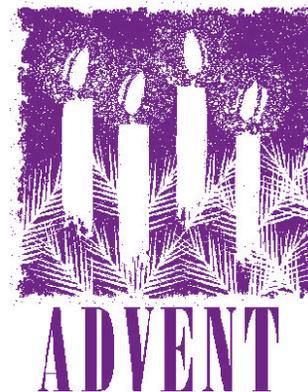
- Donations In Memory of John Sureau, Sr. were received from *Pat & Bill Young, Joe & Barbara Catuosco, Josie Melton* and *Jimmy & Tessie Reilly*.
- The Outreach Office received Thanksgiving donations from *Elsie & Robert Gades, Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Gafforio, Catherine & Michael Duca, Michela Farrauto, Lois & Michael Popp, Sue Castonguay, Bob & Joyce Petersen, the Rao Family, Joseph & Mary Carbone, Phil & Connie Ambrosino* and *Domenica Ruocco*.
- A donation was made by *Doris & Richard Shaddock* In Thanksgiving for God's Blessings.
- *Doris Greco* donated a Thanksgiving dinner In Memory of Dolores & William Knoblich.
- Gift Cards for Thanksgiving were donated by *the Boland Family* and *the Calves Family*.
- *Terry & Ed Terribile* made a donation In Memory of Betty D'Alia, sister of Vita Scorcia.
- Outreach received a donation from *the Acquaviva Family* In Memory of Wyatt Cooper D'Amato.
- *Laura & Edward Clayton* made a donation In Memory of Elvera Vieni.
- A donation of Gift Cards was made by *Richard Flynn*.
- The Outreach Office received donations from *Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Nonnon, Christina Cafarelli, Veronica Keane, Mike Abbruscato, Muriel & Vinnie Meade* and *Phil & Connie Ambrosino*.
- *Barbara Kittner* made a donation In Memory of Roy George, Cecilia George, Alan Kittner and Frederick Zimmerman, Jr.
- A donation from *Joe & Barbara Catuosco* was made In Memory of John Rega and Betty D'Alia.
- *Frank Curry* made a donation In Memory of Pat Curry.
- A donation In Memory of Robert Keith Fisher was received from *Jean C. Fisher*.
- *Laura & Edward Clayton* made a donation In Memory of Jenny Rocchio.
- *Joseph Vieni* made a donation In Memory of Elvera Vieni and Rose Genna.
- A donation was received at Outreach from *Marie Nappo* In Memory of Joseph M. Pacifico.
- A Christmas donation was received from *Barbara Kittner*.

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.



Laundry detergent
 Personal care products
 Soap
 Toilet paper
 Toothpaste



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 ...

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.



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.

Always Our Children

We are gay and lesbian Catholics, their family members and friends who meet once a month to pray, support each other and discuss how God is present in our lives. We look forward to meeting this month on **Thursday, December 22 at 7:30pm in the Spiritual Life Center**. Each month, a relevant different topic is discussed and reflected upon. Come join us; 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 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.

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



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.

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.

The Gift of Hope this Christmas

for couples struggling with infertility and miscarriage

The Gianna Center for Women's Health & Fertility at Good Samaritan Hospital provides general gynecological care, FertilityCare education, and infertility services – all with a deep commitment to honoring a woman's dignity and the sanctity of human life. Comprehensive gynecologic primary care and specialized fertility and family planning techniques are used to unmask the causes of infertility for all women, regardless of faith. We are pleased to be the first medical practice in the community to feature two new women's health services:

FertilityCare Services
NaProTechnology

These two unique services allow us to provide you with a natural, restorative, scientifically based approach to monitoring your health and managing your fertility. Please call today 631.376.3232.

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

Westminster United Presbyterian Church, 109 Udall Road, West Islip, NY

Annual Snowball Dinner

Saturday, January 7, 2017

5:30pm – 8:30pm

Choice of Spaghetti and Meatball or Sausage Dinner

Dessert, Coffee and Tea

Raffles and Door Prizes | “Snowball” Fight & Plenty of Laughs

Admission: Adults (13 and over) ~ \$10 | Children (ages 6 to 12) ~ \$5 | 5 and under are free!

Advance purchase only – No tickets will be sold at the door

Please call the church office for more information: Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday **between** the hours of 9:30am and 1:30pm at 631.661.6740.

Cub Scout Fun and Faith Day

Saturday, January 21, 2017

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Church, Melville, New York

10:00am – 2:00pm

A day of prayer, crafts, games, and fun. For information, contact the Catholic Scouting Office at 516.678.5800, ext. 245 or email scouting@drvc.org

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.

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: wwmelmc2017@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!

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, “**Christmas Special.**”

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.



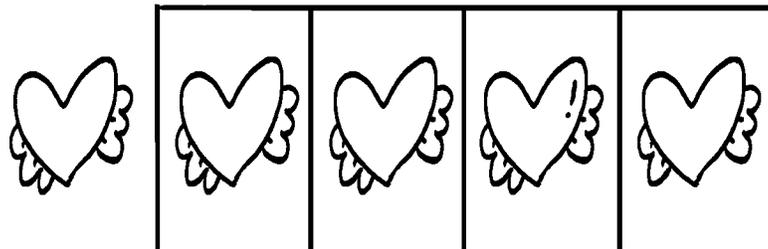
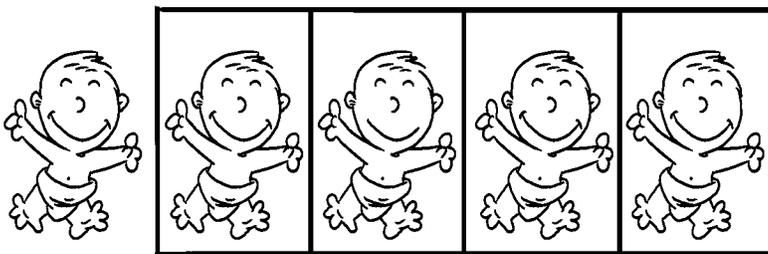
Mission for the Week



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

In each series color the image within the box that is identical to the one outside the box. Make sure to notice all the details.



© LPI

Prayer

Dear God,
thank you
for sending
Jesus to
rescue me.



Something to

Draw

Draw a
picture
of baby
Jesus.

