# Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

455 Hunter Avenue, West Islip, NY 11795

Msgr. Brian McNamara, Pastor

Rev. Charles Mangano, Associate Pastor Rev. Sylvester Chukwumalume, in Residence Chaplain, South Shore University Hospital (Southside)

Rev. Freddy Lozano, in Residence

Deacon Tom Lucie, Deacon Rich Maher, Deacon Jack Meehan, Deacon John Teufel

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



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

## **Religious Education Office**

Phone: 631.661.5440 (select option #3)

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

#### **Parish Outreach Office**

Phone: 631.661.9262 (select option #4)

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

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

**Phone: 631.661.3224, Ext. 122** E-mail: Sage@ollchurch.org



## **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

Rosarv

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 • Sunday, December 6, 2020



# 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/Bulletin Editor

#### **AnnMarie Buonaspina**

Director of Youth Choirs

#### Michael Buonaspina

Parish Organist

#### S. Kathleen Carberry, CSJ

Parish Office

#### Maggie Frodell

Parish Office

#### Carol Grillo

Parish Office

#### Rita Spera

Religious Education 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 6

**Sunday:** Is 40:1-5, 9-11/2 Pt 3:8-14/ Mk 1:1-8

**Monday:** Is 35:1-10/ Lk 5:17-26

**Tuesday:** Gn 3:9-15, 20/ Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/ Lk 1:26-38

**Wednesday:** Is 40: 25-31/ Mt 11:28-30 **Thursday:** Is 41:13-20/ Mt 11:11-15 **Friday:** Is 48:17-19/ Mt 11:16-19

**Saturday:** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/ Lk 1:26-38 or

Lk 1:39-47

**Next Sunday** Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

# **Financial Summary**

#### November 29, 2020

Weekly Collection \$ 14,267.00 Weekly Budget - \$ 17,800.00 +/- for the week \$ (3,533.00)

Thanksgiving \$ 3,418.00

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

#### Dear Parishioners:

This weekend we are publishing the annual Financial Report of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. In addition, there is a Statement of our Parish Ministries which reflects our sacramental and ministerial activity over the past year. Our Parish Fiscal year goes from September 1, 2019 – August 31, 2020. I recently met with the Parish Finance Council to go over and discuss these figures. The Financial Statement reflects broad categories. If you have more specific questions, please feel free to contact me and we can sit down and I will answer any more specific questions you might have.

I wish I could simply talk about all the wonderful spiritual and ministerial programs of our parish and all the great things that have happened in the parish over the past year, even in the midst of the pandemic. However, we are able to accomplish these things precisely because of the financial component. I am very aware of the common complaint that "the Church is always talking about money". But we always need to talk about money in terms of **mission**. The only reason for fund-raising, etc. is to further the **mission** of our Parish. Unfortunately, we can't be a community of welcome unless we have the finances to do so. Money pays the utilities, the salaries/benefits of our employees, the maintenance of our parish buildings, etc.

Overall, the Parish is in good shape and we ended the year "in the black". On the "expense side" of the ledger, we have kept expenses in check and, in fact, we had less expenses this year as compared to last fiscal year. However, we have had some "extraordinary" expenses (convent roof) that needed to be done.

On the **"income side"** of the ledger, collections have diminished a bit. As you know, the COVID-19 pandemic hit us in early March and we did not get back to Mass until late June. Collection-wise, the parish is down \$70,000 from the prior fiscal year. Rental to the *HEADSTART* program greatly helped our "bottom line".

I am also worried because, as you know, we had to cancel our annual Parish Feast in September. Since the Feast is in September, that will be a \$62,000 loss for this current fiscal year. As you may recall, last fall, we engaged in an Increased Offertory Stewardship Campaign. We were doing well and then the pandemic struck. If you are able, I ask that you continue your financial support for our Parish Family.

Perhaps our families are more financially stressed and have cut back on their donations to the parish. Perhaps fewer people are attending Mass. As you look at the Spiritual Report, we have less First Holy Communions and Confirmations. Nation-wide, families have been having fewer children since the financial crisis in 2008. But we still have a significant number of children in our parish. How can we encourage them to return to Mass and to our Parish? Our parish is well-known for being very welcoming. Whenever friends of mine from outside the parish come to Mass here, they always comment on how welcoming Our Lady of Lourdes Parish is. Having said that, is there anything else we can do to make people feel more valued, more welcomed or more loved?

Please take home a copy of the Financial and Spiritual Report. Please discuss it as a family. We need to educate our children about these matters as well. If you have any ideas or suggestions, feel free to call, write or e-mail me to let me know how we can work together to resolve this challenge. Our Lady of Lourdes Parish is <u>our</u> Parish and together <u>we</u> need to take responsibility for the parish's financial and spiritual health.

Thank you for your generosity to the parish over the years; for some of you that has been from the start (back in 1956)! I am confident you will continue to respond to the needs of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish.

Remember: together, we can something beautiful for God.

Fr. Brian

## **Glossary of Terms**

### Income

**Collection Revenue:** Includes Sundays, Holy Days, Christmas, Easter, Christmas Flowers, Easter Flowers.

Fundraising (net): Includes Italian Family Feast, Christmas Raffle.

**Parish Programs:** Religious Education fees, Parish Social Ministry donations, CYO, etc.

**Auxiliary Revenue:** Perquisites, candles, poor box, convent rent, bulletin commission, donations and the rental

of the school building during the day for the HEADSTART. (Perquisites are the monies collected for

weddings, funerals, baptisms, multiple Mass intentions.)

**Diocesan Collections:** The "second collections" that are taken up for various needs in the country or the diocese. (The

parish does not keep these monies.)

## **Expenses**

Salaries: Includes salaries and religious stipends of all employees-full time and part time.

**Fringe Benefits:** Medical insurance, dental insurance, FICA taxes, worker's compensation, pension, etc.

**Parish Programs:** Includes Religious Education, Parish Social Ministry expenses, CYO expenses, Ministry of

Consolation, etc.

School Subsidy: All parishes are mandated to give a percentage of their collection income to help support

Catholic Education in the Diocese. Normally, this is 12% of the regular collection.

Printing/Office Supplies: Includes postage, printing, computer fees and support, bank fees, telephone, internet,

contracted services, professional fees, equipment.

Auxiliary: Candles, liturgical expenses, CD Rack, missalettes, Diocesan Assessment.

**Rectory Household:** Food, laundry, supplies.

**Diocesan Collections:** This is money received from the "Second Collections" that are taken up for various needs in the

country or diocese. (It is equal to the money in Income: Diocesan Collections.)

Gas, water, electric, contracted maintenance services, ordinary maintenance supplies,

**Buildings/Utilities** 

Maintenance: building insurance, landscaping.

# Fiscal Year End Report: 2018

	<u>2020</u>	<u> 2019</u>
	9/2019 -8/2020	9/2018-8/2019
	Actual	Actual
Income:		
Collection Revenue	\$ 893,067	\$ 963,885
Fundraising: Net	82,951	76,256
Parish Programs	218,573	265,659
Auxiliary Revenue	433,794*	140,015
Diocesan collections	47,800	47,327
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	\$ 1,676,185	\$ 1,493,142
Expenses:		
Salaries	\$ 461,789	\$ 487,438
Fringe Benefits	171,903	158,882
Parish Programs	70,632	113,219
School Subsidy	115,666	86,037
Printing/office	79,447	60,069
Auxiliary	130,119	138,894
Rectory Household	4,647	3,863
Diocesan Collections	47,800	47,327
Buildings/Utilities/Maintenance	385,568**	227,886
NET OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 1,467,571	\$ 1,323,615

<sup>\*</sup> includes HeadStart Rent

<sup>\*\*</sup> major plumbing/mechanical repairs

## **Statement of Spiritual Report**

During the year, in our parish, we celebrated:

	<u>9/2019- 8/2020</u>	9/2018-8/2019
Infant Baptisms:	121	141
First Communions:	120	128
Confirmations:	155	194
Marriages:	11	9
Funerals:	121	123
Average Mass Attendance:	1700	1750

Parish Outreach helped approximately 1,750 families in need.

Our RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM educated 1,240 children (kindergarten through 9th grade)

# Second Collection on December 12-13 - Retired Religious Support our Religious.

The second collection next weekend (December 12-13) is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little or no pay. Today, religious communities often do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your gift helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders. As always, thank you for your generosity!



## Christmas at Outreach

This year, because of COVID-19, we will be doing Christmas a little differently. We want to make sure that everyone is safe so we are asking for donations of gift cards that will be given to the families we are assisting. The families will be able to use them for gifts for Christmas. Since they will need them earlier in order to have time to use them before Christmas, we are asking that any donations of gift cards be brought in by December 10<sup>th</sup>.

We are requesting gift cards from **Target**, **Walmart**, **Amazon**, **Kohl's**, **Macy's and Old Navy**. Thank you for all the support that you have given to Outreach during this year that has been difficult for many. Your generosity at this time will be a blessing to the families who come to us and will make their celebration of Christmas a bright spot in lives that are many times filled with anxiety and fear.



# Feast of the Immaculate Conception Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> - Holy Day of Obligation

**Mass Schedule:** 

Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup> - Vigil Mass at 5:00pm Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> - Mass at 8:30am, 12:10pm and 7:30pm



## **Christmas Candles**

This year, we are once again offering a *Loving Candle*. This symbolic light is a beautiful way to remember our loved ones - both living and deceased - and will remain lit throughout the life of the candle (approximately a week). The candles will be available for a donation of \$10.00. They will be sold after the Sunday Masses and will be available in the Parish Office. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 631.661.3224, ext. 121.



# **Christmas Flower Offerings**

Christmas Flower offerings received by this Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> will be published in the December 25<sup>th</sup> bulletin. Offerings received after that date will be published in subsequent bulletins.







# **ADVENT OFFERINGS**

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONS **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19:** 

4:00pm - 5:00pmCHURCH: Confessors will be available.

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 21:** RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONS

3:00pm - 8:00pmCHURCH: Confessors will be available throughout this time.

## **Christmas Raffle**

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 17 after the 12:30pm Mass. Hopefully, the Wise Men will bring you a gift of a winning ticket!



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE Name	CHRISTMAS RAFFLE Name	CHRISTMAS RAFFLE Name
Phone1 ticket for \$50; 3 tickets for \$100	Phone	Phone 1 ticket for \$50; 3 tickets for \$100

## **Altar Society**

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

## **Members in the Military**

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

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

Anthony Memoli-US Marines Timothy Milligan-US Marines Melissa Mockler-US Navy Andrew Perniciaro-US Army Brandon Ranzie-US Army Stephen Rolston-US Army Jack Shires-US Navy Jack Taffner-US Marines Michael Wilkinson-US Army Peter Zaccaria-US Navy

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



## **Pastoral Care of Our Sick**

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

- Are homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist.
- Are in Good Samaritan Hospital and/or a local nursing home and would like to be visited by a member of our Pastoral Care Ministry.
- Would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick.

# **Pray for Our Sick**

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

Rebecca Budriss, Thomas J. Calogero III, Thomas Chisari, Cosimo Ciocia, Dcn. John DeGuardi, Amanda DiTingo, Paula Edwards, Anna Ferrante, Mike Ferrante, Ted Gladkowski, Tyler Gossweiler, Denis Heffron, Patrick Anthony Heffron, James Leung, Anne Kerrigan, Marty Kerrigan, Michael F. Maher, Vivian Patterson, Edward Pauciullo, Connie Polik, Fred Polik, Matthew Roopchandsingh, Joseph J. Schiavoni, Natalie Stone, Roger Welden, Marie Wilson

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



## Rest In Peace

Nicholas Argiro Margaret DeLuca Edmund Lee Michael Toohig Nancy Toscani

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

# A Prayer for Persons Suffering from the Coronavirus

Merciful God, hear our fervent prayer for all who suffer from the coronavirus.

May those who are infected receive the proper treatment and the comfort of your healing presence.

May their caregivers, families and neighbors be shielded from the onslaught of the virus.

Give solace to those who grieve the loss of loved ones.

Protect and guide those who strive to find a cure, that their work may conquer the disease and restore communities to wholeness and health.

Help us to rise above fear.
We ask all this through
the intercession of
Our Lady of Lourdes,
and in the name of your Son,
Jesus, and the Holy Spirit,
now and forever. Amen.

Our priests will be celebrating Mass via live-stream on our parish website and will remember the Mass Intentions for each day. Please join us by visiting our website at: ollchurch.org.

## Mass Intentions

Monday, December 7

St. Ambrose

8:30am Corazon Smith (Living)

**5:00pm** Michael Small

**Tuesday, December 8** 

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30am Henry Hein

**12:10pm** Karen Epp & Vincent M. Sepe

7:30pm Irene Moschetti

Wednesday, December 9

St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

**8:30am** Mario Skinder

Thursday, December 10

**8:30am** Priscilla Ornelas

Friday, December 11

St. Damasus I

**8:30am** Gene Langan

Saturday, December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:30am Daniel Garcia, Felix & Reneida Rivera,

Joseph Dehler, John Sullivan Jr., Alice Corrigan

Diane Mercadante

**5:00pm** Carl Falco

Msgr. Brian McNamara

Sunday, December 13

Third Sunday of Advent

8:00am Bernard & Stella Lamb & Bill Smith

Fr. Charles Mangano

9:30am Pedro De Roxas

Fr. Charles Mangano

11:00am Mario Frallicciardi

Msgr. Brian McNamara

12:30pm Living & Deceased members of Sniadowski &

**Edwards Families** 

Msgr. Brian McNamara

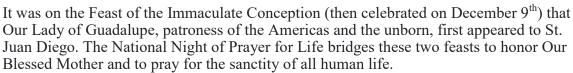
**6:00pm** People of the Parish, Lena Buscemi,

Richard Augeri, Charles Scarcella, Eileen Burns &

Eleanor Carrano

Fr. Charles Mangano

## National Night of Prayer for Life December 8, 2020 - 8:30pm - 10:30pm





The National Night of Prayer for Life is a pro-life prayer service consisting of exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 20 decades of the Rosary, prayer to St. Michael, silent prayer and hymns. Please join us in the Church as we join with other parishes throughout the nation for the Night of Prayer.

# **Pregnant?** Need Help?

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

Islip: 631-277-3888 - Hampton Bays: 631-728-8900 - Rocky Point: 631-821-9727 Southold: 631-876-5138 - Wantagh 516-785-4070

## **Meeting Cancellations**

Due to prescribed social distancing, all meetings are cancelled until further notice. Please watch the bulletin and our parish website (ollchurch.org) for updates.

## **Church Census Information**

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

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

Please mail the information to the Parish Office, or email to: parishoffice@ollchurch.org.

## **Religion and Rock**

Tune into "Religion and Rock" with Msgr. Jim Vlaun on Sunday from 7:00am to 8:00am on WBAB 102.3 FM or 95.3 on the East End of Long Island. Listen on Saturdays at 11:00pm on Sirius Radio, Channel 159, the Catholic Channel and at 11:00pm on XM Satellite, Channel 117.

Next Sunday's theme is "Being Prepared".

To listen online or for more information, visit: <a href="www.ReligionandRock.com">www.ReligionandRock.com</a>.

## **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.



Oatmeal Hamburger Helper Cereal White Rice Laundry Detergent

## **RSVP Procedure for Christmas Masses**

As we all know, certain Christmas Mass times can be very crowded. With that, and safe social distancing in mind, we have placed an RSVP function on our Parish Website (ollchurch.org.) Please visit our website, scroll down, and you will find a graph on the front page showing how many people plan to attend our various Masses. This will assist you in choosing which Mass to attend. When you are ready to RSVP, click on the red "Christmas Mass Sign Up" button. Enter your name, select the Mass you have chosen to attend, and then enter the number of people attending. When you hit the "Submit" button, the graph will automatically update to reflect the new amount of people coming to that Mass. Please remember, everyone over the age of two must wear a mask. If you have any questions or do not have internet access, please contact the Parish Office (631-661-3224, ext.121) for assistance in processing your RSVP.

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

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

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







## **Confirmation 2020**

On Wednesday, November 4, Friday, November 6 and Friday, November 13 the Sacrament of Confirmation was administered by Fr. Brian in our Parish. In the midst of this pandemic, nine classes of grade 9 students were confirmed. They are sent forth now to live out their Catholic faith with even greater enthusiasm and conviction. In accordance with the Diocese of Rockville Centre guidelines and New York State guidelines regarding COVID safety precautions, we mandated masks be worn by all present and social distancing norms were followed. Please pray for our Confirmation Candidates as they embrace this very important commitment in their faith journey and that they will continue to be strengthened, loved and supported by YOU... their Parish family.

# **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, and we would be happy to help you.

# Diocese of Rockville Centre - Background Screening Update The Office for the Protection of Children and Young People:

The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (The Charter) promulgated by the Bishops of the United States in 2002 outlines specific practices and guidelines providing standards of safety in parishes and dioceses throughout the United States. As directed in The Charter, the Diocese of Rockville Centre requires all employees, clergy, and volunteers to complete three requirements within thirty days of employment or volunteering:

- 1. Attend Protecting God's Children Program (Virtus)
- 2. Sign the Codes of Conduct;
- 3. Complete a background screen application. The Diocese requires all those who remain in active ministry be rescreened at 5 yr. intervals. volunteers/employees.

#### A Word on Background Screening of Volunteers:

The Office for the Protection of Children and Young People (OFPCYP) has streamlined the volunteer application process enabling volunteers to complete the three safe environment requirements in one step. Individuals wishing to volunteer in a parish or school:

- 1. Register to attend a Protecting God's Children class and create a Virtus account on the Virtus website: www.Virtus.org
- 2. Electronically acknowledge the Diocesan Code of Conduct provided during the Virtus registration process.
- 3. Follow the instructions to complete the Sterling Volunteers background screening application background offered during the Virtus registration process.

#### **Active Volunteers:**

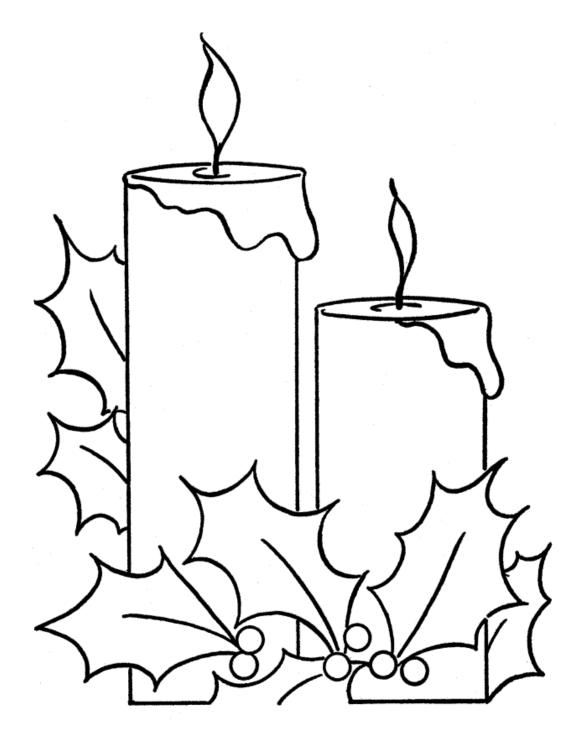
If you are active in a parish ministry, have already attended Virtus and have been background screened you may be at — or beyond - the *5 year rescreening requirement*. If this is the case, you will receive an email from *Sterling Volunteers* asking you to complete the background screening application online. You may access the background screening application by following the prompt in the email or logging into your Virtus account. *Please be aware - this is not a scam nor has your e-mail been hacked.* The OFPCYP has been working with your parish to update the Safe Environment records and noted it is time for you to be rescreened. You may also be prompted to electronically resign the Code of Conduct when you log into your Virtus account.

#### **Edit Your Virtus Account:**

To access your Virtus account: <a href="www.Virtus.org">www.Virtus.org</a>. You will need your Username and Password. If you need assistance, please contact Virtus: 1-888-847-8870 or <a href="helpdesk@virtus.org">helpdesk@virtus.org</a>. Once in your account, review your account information - particularly your e-mail address. If your account requires updating, please hit the TOOLBOX tab at the top of the screen. On the left side of your screen in the green column click "Update My Account". You will be able to make the necessary changes - please remember to hit the SAVE button at the bottom of the screen.

Questions or concerns: <a href="mmcmahon@drvc.org">mmcmahon@drvc.org</a>; <a href="mmcmahon@drvc.org">amendoza-cantos@drvc.org</a>; <a href="mmcmahon@drvc.org">jwinter@drvc.org</a>; <a href="mmcma

Thank you to all who continue to serve in a ministry during these extremely challenging days.



## SHARE THE LIGHT - The Candle of Peace

In our church the candle is a symbol of the *Light of Christ*. We receive a candle at our baptism when we are called to walk as a child of the *Light* each day of our life.

These past few months have been difficult for all the world. A pandemic, financial stress, and isolation have clouded our lives. Yet, we are still called to keep our faith, *our light*, burning brightly and to share the *Light of Christ* with others.

As we light this Candle of Peace may we pray for inner peace and peace with others. Let us put aside our differences.

Let us use the weeks of Advent to share the *Light of Christ*. Embrace your *light*, show your *light* to others as we prepare for God's Son, *The Light of the World* to fill our hearts at Christmas.

CUT OUT THIS CANDLE. COLOR IT IN AND PLACE IT IN YOUR WINDOW. LET OUR PARISH FAMILY SHOW THE WORLD THAT THE *LIGHT OF CHRIST* IS STILL SHINING BRIGHTLY.