

# 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 at Good Samaritan Hospital  
**Rev. Saji Jose, CM**, in Residence  
Chaplain at Our Lady of Consolation Nursing

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

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

## Parish Office

**Phone: 631.661.3224 (select option #2)**  
Monday-Thursday: 9:00am-7:30pm  
Friday: 9:00am-5:00pm  
Saturday: 9:00am-3:00pm  
Sunday: 10:30am-2:30pm  
E-mail: [ParishOffice@ollchurch.org](mailto:ParishOffice@ollchurch.org)  
Fax: 631.661.7143  
Website: [www.ollchurch.org](http://www.ollchurch.org)

## Religious Education Office

**Phone: 631.661.5440 (select option #3)**  
Monday-Friday: 9:00am-Noon,  
1:00pm-5:00pm, 7:00pm-9:00pm  
E-mail: [ReligiousEd@ollchurch.org](mailto:ReligiousEd@ollchurch.org)

## Parish Outreach Office

**Phone: 631.661.9262 (select option #4)**  
Monday-Friday: 9:30am-3:30pm

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

**Phone: 631.661.3224, Ext. 122**  
E-mail: [Sage@ollchurch.org](mailto:Sage@ollchurch.org)



## Liturgical Schedule

### Daily Mass

8:30am

### Weekend Masses

Saturday: 5:00pm

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

### Reconciliation/Confession

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

### Rosary

Daily at 8:00am

### Miraculous Medal Novena

Monday at 8:00am

## Sacraments

### Anointing of the Sick

Throughout the liturgical year. If needed sooner, please call the Parish Office.

### Baptism

Please contact the Parish Office to schedule an appointment.

### Marriage

Arranged at least six months in advance, please call the Parish Office.

### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

A process to be embraced by the Catholic Church. For non-Catholics and for Catholics who have never received formal religious education. If interested, please call the Parish Office.

*The Epiphany of the Lord • Sunday, January 8, 2023*



## Welcome to our Parish Family

New Parishioners are cordially invited to register as members of our Parish Family. Please call or visit our Parish Office.

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

*- Saint Teresa of Calcutta*

### Pastoral Council

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

### Mission Statement

As stewards of all that God has given us, the Parish Family of Our Lady of Lourdes serves and ministers to all who come to this place.

Regardless of a person's history, ethnicity, gender, orientation, age or race, we commit ourselves to open wide the doors of our Parish to provide a place of welcome and hospitality.

### Readings for the Week of January 8, 2023

**Sunday:** Js 60:1-6/ Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/ Mt 2:1-12  
**Monday:** Is 42:1-4, 6-7/ Acts 10:34-38/ Mt 3:13-17  
**Tuesday:** Heb 2:5-12/ Mk 1:21-28 or Heb 1:1-6 and 2:5-12/  
Mk 1:14-20 and 1:21-28  
**Wednesday:** Heb 2:14-18/ Mk 1:29-39  
**Thursday:** Heb 3:7-14/ Mk 1:40-45  
**Friday:** Heb 4:1-5, 11/ Mk 2:1-12  
**Saturday:** Heb 4:12-16/ Mk 2:13-17  
**Next Sunday:** Is 49:3, 5-6/ 1 Cor 1:1-3/ Jn 1:29-34

### Parish Staff

**Patti Anderson**  
Parish Office/Bulletin Editor

**Michael Buonaspina**  
Parish Organist

**Rosemary Cannarella**  
Parish Office

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

**Carol Grillo**  
Parish Office

**Rita Spera**  
Religious Education Office

### Financial Summary

<b><u>December 25, 2022</u></b>	
<b>Christmas Collection</b>	\$ 47,048.00
<b>Parish Ministry</b>	\$ 7,989.00
<b><u>January 1, 2023</u></b>	
Weekly Collection	\$ 13,924.00
Weekly Budget	- \$ 17,800.00
+/- for the week	\$ (3,876.00)
<b>Solemnity of Mary</b>	\$ 2,458.00

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

Dear Parishioners:

Because Christmas fell on Sunday this year, there have been a few changes liturgically. Usually, the Sunday after Christmas is the Feast of the Holy Family. But because Christmas fell on a Sunday, the Feast of the Holy Family was celebrated on December 30. In addition, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, normally celebrated on the Sunday after the Epiphany, will be celebrated on Monday, January 9.

But, this weekend, we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, the “manifestation” of the Christ-child to the whole world. This feast is also often referred to as “Little Christmas”. In Europe, this is the day gifts are exchanged because this is the day the Wise Men gave their gifts to the Christ-child.

This feast is celebrated more enthusiastically in most European countries. In Cologne, Germany, the relics of the Wise Men will be shown to the people at a Solemn Mass. In Spain, there will be parades complete with the Wise Men riding on camels into the various Cathedrals. In Poland, this is a traditional time for all the parish priests to visit every home in their parish and to bless the home for the coming year.

Today, members of the Greek Orthodox Church participate in the great “Blessing of the Waters”. After the Divine Liturgy, there is a procession from the Church to the beach, lake, etc. The Orthodox priest blesses the water by tossing a cross into the water. Men dive in to retrieve the cross. The person who finds the cross first and swims back receives a special blessing for the person and for his family.

Tomorrow, we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. It is the official end of the Christmas season, and now we will return to “ordinary time” until the start of the season of Lent. Before Vatican II, the Christmas season ended on February 2, which was called “Candlemas Day”. This was the day when all the candles that were to be used in the church in the coming year were blessed. Now we call February 2 the Feast of Presentation. The Feast of the Presentation was also a day when many religious sisters entered the convent for their novitiate formation.

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is an appropriate time to reflect upon our own baptisms. For the vast majority of us, we were baptized as infants. As infants, we could not choose to believe in Jesus or not; our parents and godparents made that choice on our behalf. However, as adults, we have to choose to live out the baptismal promises made by our parents and godparents. It is one of the reasons why everyone renews their baptismal promises on Easter Sunday. Each and every Easter, we are challenged to re-affirm, as adults, our baptismal promises. Baptism is not just an event in the past, but a challenge for the future for each one of us.

Baptism is not a simple ritual; baptism has actual, powerful effects! At our baptism, we were washed free from original sin, became a member of God’s family and became a temple of the Holy Spirit. As St. Paul reminds us as well: “So you are no longer a slave (to sin) but a child (of God) and if a son or daughter (of God), then also an heir” (Galatians 4:4-7). So, by virtue of our Baptism, we have an inheritance: heaven, eternal life, gazing upon the face of God and being reunited with all our other family and friends who have died and gone before us to be with God.

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

In Christ,

Fr. Brian

PS: Don’t forget our holiday raffle. Tickets are \$25 each or 6 tickets for \$100. You should have received tickets in the mail but if you did not, look just in the Bulletin (on page 8) or stop at the Parish Office. Remember: You have to be in it to win it!  
**The raffle drawing will take place in the All Purpose Room following the 12:30pm Mass next Sunday, January 15.**

## Altar Society

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

## Members in the Military

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

**Michael DiMatteo**-*US Marine Corps*      **Melissa Mockler**-*US Navy*  
**Michael Fantauzzi**-*US Air Force*      **Patric Mockler**-*US Navy*  
**Christopher Florca**-*US Marine Corps*      **Andrew Perniciaro**-*US Army*  
**Dominick Gennaro**-*US Army*      **Brandon Ranzie**-*US Army*  
**Patrick Harty**-*US Coast Guard*      **Stephen Rolston**-*US Army*  
**Ritchard Higham**-*US Army*      **Jack Shires**-*US Navy*  
**Colby Matthew Kelly**-*US Army*      **Raymond Sgambati**-*US Navy*  
**Luke Loftsgaarden**-*US Army*      **James Stultz**-*US Army*  
**Anthony Mannino**-*US Marine Corps*      **Jack Taffner**-*US Marine Corps*  
**Msgr. Brian McNamara**-*US Air Force*      **Michael Wilkinson**-*US Army*  
**Anthony Memoli**-*US Marine Corps*      **Peter Zaccaria**-*US Navy*  
**Timothy Milligan**-*US Marine Corps*

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



## Pastoral Care of Our Sick

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

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

## Pray for Our Sick

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

*Jon Ackerman, Connie Ambrosino, John Anitra, Baby Ellis, Thomas J. Calogero III, Susan Dedes, Dcn. John DeGuardi, Amanda DiTingo, Paula Edwards, Thomas Geraghty-USMC, William Hacker, Patrick Anthony Heffron, Henry Kahn, Shena Kahn, James Leung, Vincent Marinelli, Joseph Marrone, Jr., John McMahon, Zachary Melengic, Richard Meyer, Edward Pauciullo, Bob Petersen, John Posanti, Louise Posanti, Clifford Proctor, Dina Rajotte, Ida Schiavoni, Joseph J. Schiavoni, Vita Scorcica*

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

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



***Rest In Peace***

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

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***Upcoming Marriages***

***Gabrielle Mescia,  
St. Joseph, Babylon  
and  
Daniel Cameron, OLL***

***Barbara Ryan, OLL  
and  
Sebastian Montalvo,  
OLL, Queens Village***

***Mass Intentions***

**Monday, January 9**

*The Baptism of the Lord*

**8:30am Dorothy Proctor**

**Tuesday, January 10**

**8:30am S. Paul Marie Filippelli, CSJ**

**Wednesday, January 11**

**8:30am Louise Mangano**

**Thursday, January 12**

**8:30am Paul Rimmel**

**Friday, January 13**

*St. Hilary*

**8:30am Joanne Bovee**

**Saturday, January 14**

**8:30am People of the Parish**

**5:00pm**

**Frank Aparo, Gerard Millette, Janet Loehr,  
Louis Gargiulo, Dcn. & Mrs. Nilo DeLeon (Living)**

*Fr. Charles Mangano*

**Sunday, January 15**

*Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*

**8:00am Noreen Colgan**

*Fr. Charles Mangano*

**9:30am**

**Elaine Verna**

*Fr. Charles Mangano*

**11:00am**

**Deceased members of Sweeney & Primrose  
Families**

*Msgr. Brian McNamara*

**12:30pm**

**Tom Collins**

*Msgr. Brian McNamara*

**6:00pm**

**People of the Parish, Deborah Petralia, Billy Moon  
Elaine (Nonny) Hausie, Carlos Gonzalez,  
Sarah Porzio**

*Msgr. Brian McNamara*



## Now and at the Hour of Our Death

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

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

## Pregnant? Need Help?

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

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

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

## SAGE

Come join other mature parishioners as we walk through this chapter of our life journey. We share our experiences, our hopes, our laughter and our spirituality at our meetings. We will be meeting on January 10<sup>th</sup> and January 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am in the Parish Center. (The Parish Center is across from the playground.)

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

We will be having extended hours of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on this **Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> from 12:30pm to 7:30pm**. Come, spend some intimate time with Jesus during our Extended Adoration. Invite a family member or friend along too! In case of inclement weather, please call the parish office at 631-661-3224 ext. 0, or log onto the parish website([ollchurch.org](http://ollchurch.org)) to check if adoration has been canceled.

## Divine Mercy Prayer Group

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

## Donations to Outreach

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



Canned Mixed Vegetables  
Canned Beets  
Canned Fruit  
Hot Chocolate  
Shaving Items/Razors



## Thank you from the OLL Knights of Columbus

Our Lady Of Lourdes Knights Of Columbus would like to thank our amazing Parish Family. We sold out of the Christmas poinsettias and still had parishioners calling to see if we had more.

The Council is very grateful and appreciative of the support. We were excited to hear how all the plants from our previous sales thrived throughout the season.

The Council is eager to continue helping our Parish with the money we raise. We are all blessed to be part of Our Lady Of Lourdes.

Save up for our Easter and Mother's Day plant sales.

Hope you had a Merry Christmas and the poinsettias are still looking great. The Knights hope you, your families, and the Parish enjoy a Happy and Healthy New Year!

May God continue to bless us and those we love !

Erik Pauze



## Volunteers Needed at Maria Regina residence!

Maria Regina Residence, at 1725 Brentwood Rd., Brentwood, currently a sponsored ministry of and the Sisters of St. Joseph, is an 188-bed Skilled Nursing Facility. We are inviting compassionate, able and dedicated men and women who are willing to volunteer their time and talent in various service areas (usually for one or two mornings or afternoons per week.)

Current priority needs include: transporting residents in their wheelchairs within the building, serving as visitors or Eucharistic ministers and more. For more information, please contact Sister Mary Sheppard, CSJ and leave contact information at 631-299-3288.

*Is "reaching out to others" one of your New Year's resolutions?*



## Nocturnal Adoration

*"Come to me all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest."*

This is Jesus Christ's invitation every first Saturday of the month. The Blessed Sacrament is taken to the altar after the 5:00pm Mass and will be exposed up to 9:50pm. Everyone is invited to spend some time in front of the Blessed Sacrament to offer prayers, petitions and thanksgiving to Jesus.

Nocturnal Adoration will follow the 5:00pm Mass on **Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup>** concluding with Benediction at 9:50pm. Please come and pray with us. All are invited and welcome. Bring a friend!



## Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

*What's it all about?*

*IF* you are an adult *AND*

- ... you were never Baptized
- ... you were Baptized in another faith and would like to become a baptized Catholic
- ... you never received Holy Communion (Eucharist)
- ... you never received your Confirmation

*IF* you are an adult *AND* one or more of the circumstances above apply to you ...

*IF* you feel you would like to become a baptized Catholic or become more fully initiated into your Catholic faith... Our email address is [RCIA@ollchurch.org](mailto:RCIA@ollchurch.org) or call the Parish Office at 631-661-3224, and we would be happy to help you.





## *An Invitation from the Knights of Columbus*

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

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

**Our next meeting will be Monday, January 9, 2023 at 8:00pm in the Spiritual Life Center.**



*Christmas Flowers*

*All those who have touched my life since birth.  
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Wissing  
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Schaeffner  
Living & deceased members of the Ippolito Families  
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Sabella*

## Church Census Information

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

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

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

## **Christmas Raffle**



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

The drawing will take place on **Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup> in the All Purpose Room after the 12:30pm Mass.**

*Hopefully, the Wise Men will bring you a gift of a winning ticket!*

<p><b>CHRISTMAS RAFFLE</b></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>1 Ticket for \$25; 6 Tickets for \$100</p>	<p><b>CHRISTMAS RAFFLE</b></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>1 Ticket for \$25; 6 Tickets for \$100</p>	<p><b>CHRISTMAS RAFFLE</b></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>1 Ticket for \$25; 6 Tickets for \$100</p>
<p><b>CHRISTMAS RAFFLE</b></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>1 Ticket for \$25; 6 Tickets for \$100</p>	<p><b>CHRISTMAS RAFFLE</b></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>1 Ticket for \$25; 6 Tickets for \$100</p>	<p><b>CHRISTMAS RAFFLE</b></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>1 Ticket for \$25; 6 Tickets for \$100</p>



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

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

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

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

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

I hope you will prayerfully consider joining me.

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

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

Peace and blessings,

***Fr. Charles Mangano***

## For Those Who Have Far to Travel *An Epiphany Blessing*

If you could see  
the journey whole,  
you might never  
undertake it,  
might never dare  
the first step  
that propels you  
from the place  
you have known  
toward the place  
you know not.

Call it  
one of the mercies  
of the road:  
that we see it  
only by stages  
as it opens  
before us,  
as it comes into  
our keeping,  
step by  
single step.

There is nothing  
for it  
but to go,  
and by our going  
take the vows  
the pilgrim takes:

to be faithful to  
the next step;  
to rely on more  
than the map;  
to heed the signposts  
of intuition and dream;  
to follow the star  
that only you  
will recognize;

to keep an open eye  
for the wonders that  
attend the path;  
to press on  
beyond distractions,  
beyond fatigue,  
beyond what would  
tempt you  
from the way.

There are vows  
that only you  
will know:  
the secret promises  
for your particular path  
and the new ones  
you will need to make  
when the road  
is revealed  
by turns  
you could not  
have foreseen.

Keep them, break them,  
make them again;  
each promise becomes  
part of the path,  
each choice creates  
the road  
that will take you  
to the place  
where at last  
you will kneel

to offer the gift  
most needed—  
the gift that only you  
can give—  
before turning to go  
home by another way.



*~Poem and Art by Jan Richardson*

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

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

EVENINGS are being offered conveniently at THREE LOCATIONS:

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

St. Joseph Ronkonkoma, 45 Church Street

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

Maria Regina Seaford, 3945 Jerusalem Avenue

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

St. Aidan Williston Park, 505 Willis Avenue

EARLY WEEKEND option to be held at

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

St. John the Evangelist Center Moriches, 25 Ocean Avenue

RSVP to 631-423-0483 ext.179 or by e-mail to [diaconateformation@drvc.org](mailto:diaconateformation@drvc.org)

We thank you and look forward to being with you



## Dementia Caregiver Support Group Thursday, January 19, 2022

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

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

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



## Butterfly Memory Café - January 20<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-2:30pm

What is a Memory Café? It is a program designed for persons with mild to moderate cognitive impairment and their caregiver to promote social engagement with others navigating through dementia's journey. Activities include crafts, music, reminiscing, art or movement. Light refreshments will be served. Our next event will take place on Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup> from 1:30pm-2:30pm. There is no charge to participate, but space is limited and reservations are required. For more information or to register, please call Michele at A Gentle Touch Senior Care at: 631-647-7622 or e-mail: [michele@agentletouchseniorcare.com](mailto:michele@agentletouchseniorcare.com).



## Boy Scout Troop 179

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

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





## **Important Information for ALL Parish Volunteers**

The Diocese of Rockville Centre requires all clergy, employees, and volunteers (18 yrs. or older) to participate in the Safe Environment Guidelines as established by the Charter for the Protection of Children/ Young People (2002) and outlined in the Diocesan Child Protection Policy.

Note: If you already have a Virtus account ([www.Virtus.org](http://www.Virtus.org)), have signed the Code of Conduct and attended the Class, all you need to do is initiate the updated background screening through Sterling Volunteers.

### **Requirements are as follows:**

1. Attend a Virtus: Protecting God's Children class.
2. Undergo background screening.
3. Sign the Diocesan Code of Conduct.

### **Instructions to Complete the Safe Environment Requirements:**

- Log into the Virtus website: [www.Virtus.org](http://www.Virtus.org).
- Begin the registration process by creating a Virtus account. The first screen requests the location: Please select Rockville Centre from the drop down list.
- Follow directions on each page.
- During the registration process you will receive a copy of the Code of Conduct and Pastoral Code of Conduct. Please sign each Code electronically.
- Select the class you wish to attend.
- Complete the background screening application provided. Background screening is conducted by Sterling Volunteers.

When you complete the registration process, you will have a Virtus account and an account with Sterling Volunteers. Your Virtus account will contain the date you signed the Codes of Conduct; date you submitted the background screening application and date you will attend Virtus. Please keep your username and the password for both your Virtus account and Sterling account as these are required to access each account.

Please contact the Office for the Protection of Children/Young People if you have questions or require assistance. [cprotection@drvc.org](mailto:cprotection@drvc.org)



**Birthright of Islip**  
**533 Main Street, Islip, NY 11751**  
**631-277-3888**

*“It is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth... and the right of every child to be born.”*

**Do you need help with baby items?**  
(not including equipment)

**Please contact Birthright in Islip at 631-277-3888**  
**Monday - Friday 10:30am to 2:00pm**

What is Birthright?

*Birthright provides friendship, love, hope and listening ear and other help to girls/women who find themselves in and unplanned pregnancy. Our services are completely free, non-sectarian and confidential!*

**Information on:**

Pregnancy  
Childbirth  
Adoption  
Prenatal Care  
Community Programs  
Parenting Skills

Child Care

**Referrals for:**

Medical Support  
Financial Resources  
Housing  
Legal  
Social Assistance

Professional Counseling

**Free Resources:**

Pregnancy Tests  
Maternity Items  
Baby Clothes and Items  
24/7 Free Hotline

**24/7 HELPLINE WHERE YOU CAN SPEAK TO SOMEONE: 1-800-550-4900**

[islip@birthright.org](mailto:islip@birthright.org)

## Important DRVC Information

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

## The Sisters of St. Dominic of Amityville Celebrate Irish Night

Many of you know the Dominican Sisters of Amityville through our ministry in schools, health facilities, parish affiliations, etc. This year, we are happy to announce that we will once again celebrate, in person, our annual Irish Night event. This year's festivities will take place on Saturday, March 4, 2023 at St. Brigid's in Westbury, NY and offer us an opportunity to gather together for liturgy, followed by a joyful evening of music, dancing, and Irish spirit!



Please consider supporting our efforts by purchasing one or more of the following:

Take a chance book(s) and encourage many of your friends and family to buy chances. Booklets are \$10 each (12 chances per booklet). Please contact the Advancement Office at 631-842-6000 ext. 246 for more information.

Purchase a ticket online and attend the event. Tickets are \$45 per person or \$100 for 2 tickets & 1 raffle book.

For more information, please contact our Advancement Office at 631-842-6000 ext.246 or visit the event website: [www.sistersofstdominic.org/irishnight2023](http://www.sistersofstdominic.org/irishnight2023). As always, thank you for your continued support of the Congregation. We hope you will join us on March 4th and raise a glass to good health this coming year. Sláinte!

# Sign up for the **free** weekly diocesan E-Newsletter

Subscribe today!



[www.drvc.org/  
newsletter](http://www.drvc.org/newsletter)

POWERED BY OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS  
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE



In addition to our parish website ([olchurch.org](http://olchurch.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.

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

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

One Family in Mission – Building a Community of

FAITH

HOPE

& LOVE



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

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

Please remember that all pledges made by December 31, 2022  
need to be **paid in full by January 31, 2023.**

## Babylon Chorale Auditions

The Babylon Chorale will hold auditions on Monday, January 9, 2023, beginning with rehearsal at 7:30pm, at the Sisters of St. Joseph Brentwood Campus. All voice parts are welcomed. For further information and current protocols, visit: [www.babylonchorale.org](http://www.babylonchorale.org) or e-mail: [info@babylonchorale.org](mailto:info@babylonchorale.org)



### Come Join the Band!

We're currently looking for new and experienced bagpipers and drummers (snare, tenor and bass) to join our ranks! We meet on Thursday nights at 7:00pm at the A.O.H. Hall at 27 Locust Avenue in Babylon, NY.

Come down and say hello or e-mail us at: [pmsupb@gmail.com](mailto:pmsupb@gmail.com) for additional information. For more about us visit us at: [www.saffrinunited.org](http://www.saffrinunited.org)

### The "Moving On" Group

An 'After-Bereavement' Group for Widows and Widowers Presents:

#### Change Your Thinking/ Change Your Life

presented by: Glenn Poveromo

Friday, January 13, 2023 at 7:00pm

St. Joseph Parish Center

39 North Carll Avenue, Babylon, NY 11702

For further information please call:

Linda Sparaco at 631-225-9530 or Joyce Gangone at 631-813-9356



### *Retrouvaille Weekend - Marriage Struggling?*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## Preparing for Marriage?

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

Engaged Encounter is an effective Pre-Cana program designed to provide you with the tools for a successful marriage. Couples are provided with social-distancing during this time. Our next 2-day weekend will be held at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington on **March 18-19, 2023**. For information please call Lenny & Pat Walker at: 631-563-1032 or visit: [longisland.engagedencounter.com](http://longisland.engagedencounter.com).



## Worldwide Marriage Encounter

### Attention Married Couples & Priests

Are you ready for more growth and happiness in your marriage or priesthood? Uncover the secrets to a lasting, supportive, transformational marriage on a **World Wide Marriage Encounter Weekend**. The Magi followed the Star to find the newborn King. Make the same journey with your spouse to bring your relationship to Jesus. Sign up to attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience together on February 3-5, 2023 or June 23-25, 2023 at Immaculate Conception Seminary in Huntington, NY . Register at: [WWME.org](http://WWME.org) or contact: Chuck & Maria Reiss at: 631-486-8607. Deadline to register for the February weekend is January 20<sup>th</sup>.



## Anxiety Disorder Sufferers

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Families Anonymous Meetings

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

## Religion and Rock

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



## Sharing the Gospel

When Jesus was born, angels sang. I'll bet you never thought stars could sing for Jesus, too. But the stars in the sky sang in their own way, just by moving and twinkling in the sky. The Savior was born. Jesus was the King that God's people had been waiting for. Magi who had been watching the sky saw a star much brighter than the rest. They followed that star until they found Jesus, and they worshipped their new king.



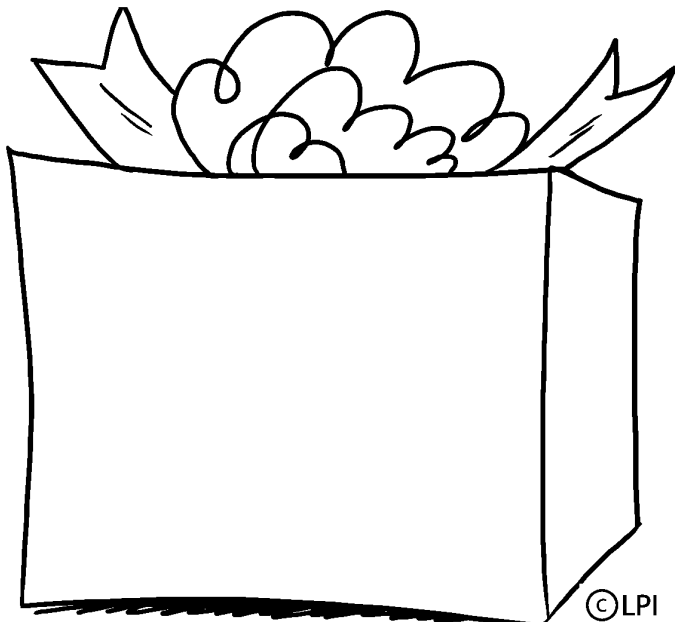
## Mission for the Week



Ask your family if you can visit a planetarium, or look through a special telescope, so you can see the stars God made.

### Puzzle

Inside the box, draw a gift that you would like to get someday.



### Prayer

Dear God,  
Thank you for making the stars move and twinkle in a special way, so that the Magi could find Jesus.



### Something to Draw

Draw a picture of the Magi following the brightest star.

