

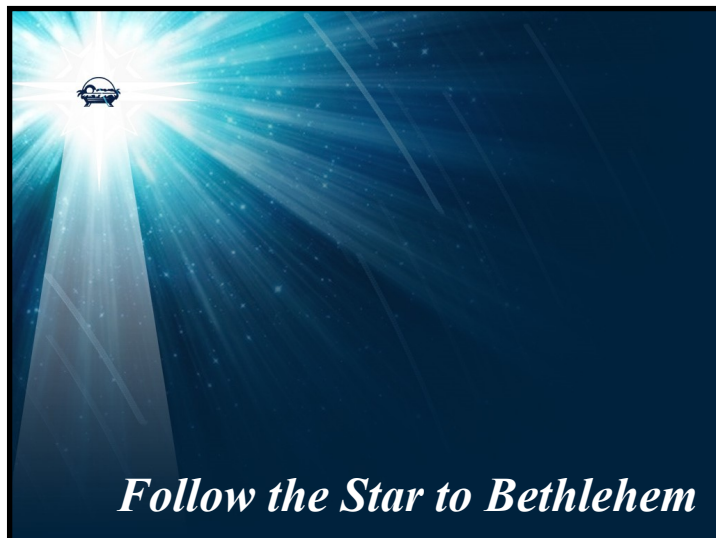
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

455 Hunter Avenue, West Islip, NY 11795

Rev. Dennis A. Suglia, Pastor
Rev. Charles Mangano, Associate Pastor

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

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 Scorcio, 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
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

Rosary

Daily at 8:00am

Miraculous Medal Novena

Monday at 8:00am

Sacraments

Anointing of the Sick

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

Baptism

Please contact the Parish Office to schedule an appointment.

Marriage

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

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

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

Second Sunday of Advent • Sunday, December 10, 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

Fr. Dennis A. Suglia
Eileen Rega
Mary Borgs
Sonia DaSilva
Dcn. Nilo DeLeon
Jerry Esposito
Trish Frodell
Deborah Lamb
Rosalie Mangels
John Muldoon
Dottie Perdue
Vita Scorcia
Phil Ambrosino

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 10, 2023

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: Zec2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab/ Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
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: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/ Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/ 1 Thes 5:16-24/ Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Parish Staff

Patti Anderson
Parish Office/Bulletin Editor

Maryanne Buonaspina
Parish Organist

Rosemary Cannarella
Parish Office

Amy Danowski
Parish Office

Carol Grillo
Parish Office

Rita Spera
Religious Education Office

Financial Summary

December 3, 2023

Weekly Collection	\$ 19,678.00
Weekly Budget	- \$ 17,800.00
+/- for the week	\$ 1,878.00

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

Advent-A Time to Slow Down and Focus

Advent is a time of waiting and hope. It is a time to stop, listen and refocus our lives on Jesus. A time to pay attention to what is going on around us and what is going on within us. Matthew Kelly, a Catholic author and speaker, states that “we from time-to-time, need to step back and look at what we are doing. We must check our connection because when we get disconnected from God, we get disconnected from ourselves”.

In our fast-paced society, it is difficult to enter a state of peacefulness and silence so we can hear God’s voice. In a Newsday article that appeared on Friday December 1st, 2023, under the heading “Survey: Drivers admit to dangerous or distracted driving”, 60% of drivers in an anonymous national survey done by AAA said they engaged in risky behavior including speeding, driving aggressively, distracted driving which included texting behind the wheel, or driving impaired. It went on to say that 36% of fatal crashes in New York were speed-related in 2021, but fewer drivers in the study considered speeding as dangerous behavior. Most, if not all of us, have had the experience of seeing a car speed past us only to find them sitting beside us at the next red traffic light. Although speeding is counterproductive in so many ways, we still seem to not be able to slow down, even if it risks the lives of ourselves and others around us.

Fr. Ron Rolheiser, an author and speaker, wrote an article about Advent titled, “Advent-A time to learn how to wait”. In this article, he related a story shared by Annie Dillard, an American author, about the benefits and necessity to wait. Ms. Dillard described how she had been watching a butterfly emerge from its cocoon and was fascinated by the process until she grew impatient with how long it was taking. To speed things up, she took a candle and heated the cocoon very gently. The experiment worked, but it was a mistake in the long run. The butterfly emerged more quickly; however, because adding heat violated something within the natural process, the butterfly was born with wings too weak to fly. Haste and prematurity had stunted and deformed a natural process.

In three out of four Sundays in Advent, our first reading comes from the Prophet Isaiah for good reason. Isaiah reminds us that Advent is a Penitential time. We are reminded that we, like Israel, wander and grow distant from God. By quieting ourselves, being prayerful, hopeful and vigilant during Advent, it is an opportunity to hear God welcoming and calling us back into relationship with Him. The prophet Isaiah reminds us that God wants to comfort us and offers us a new beginning. Advent is also a season of joy because of God’s graciousness and new life that He offers us. As Fr. Victor Cancino, a Jesuit priest who writes for America Media says, “Advent is a time to awaken the soul of anticipation. It is a time to pay attention and focus ourselves as we move slowly towards the mystery of incarnation”.

The first two weeks of the Advent season focuses our attention on Christ’s second coming at the end of time. The last two weeks reminds us of the birth of Jesus on Christmas. The entire season is a time to step back from our busyness to focus on God’s presence in our lives. It is a time to reflect on what God is asking of us. To do this, we need to slow down, pray and most of all, listen. To take advantage of the gift of the season, we need to celebrate Advent before we celebrate Christmas. Yes, this is a challenge for us because of the fast-paced consumer-oriented society we live in. It is up to us, with God’s help, to carve out space for this. As Sister Barbara Reid, a Dominican nun and scripture scholar reminds us, “this is not the time to solve the mystery of God, rather it is simply a time to dwell in God’s mystery”.

In Christ,

Deacon Tom

Altar Society

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

Members in the Military

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

Maria Caputo -US Army	Anthony Memoli -US Marine Corps
Drew Carleton -US Air Force	Timothy Milligan -US Marine Corps
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	Jack Shires -US Navy
Ritchard Higham -US Army	Raymond Sgambati -US Navy
Keith Horyczun -US Army	James Stultz -US Army
Colby Matthew Kelly -US Army	Alvaro Suarez -US Army
Luke Loftsgaarden -US Army	Jack Taffner -US Marine Corps
Anthony Mannino -US Marine Corps	Michael Wilkinson -US Army
Msgr. Brian McNamara -US Air Force	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 ...

Joe Amadeo, Sandra Amberg, Connie Ambrosino, Baby Maya, Jeanette Battista, Michael Battista, Teresa Breyer, Thomas J. Calogero III, Dennis Cavanagh, Grace Ciccarello, Lisa Crowe, Susan Dedes, Joseph Dilegame, Charles DiPalma, Amanda DiTingo, Joanne Egan, Paula Edwards, Ana Ferrante, Helen Ferrante, Mike Ferrante, Christopher Gargiulo, Thomas Geraghty-USMC, William Hacker, Kevin Hahn, Patrick Anthony Heffron, Paul Johnson, Henry Kahn, Shena Kahn, Margaret Kavoures, Dave Kegel, Michael Kegel, Toni Kreamer, Vincent Lichioveri, Peter Lies, Joseph Marco, Vincent Marinelli, Seamus Martin, Lorraine Mockler, Dennis Morgan, Mary Murphy, Peter O'Connor, Amanda O'Malley, Edward Pauciullo, Frank Petersen, Cameron Pillitteri, John Posanti, Louise Posanti, Clifford Proctor, William Rivers, Fabian Rojas, John Savona, Joseph J. Schiavoni, Vita Scorgia, Diana Smiloff, Special Intention/Healing, Celestine Stewart, Louise Sturgeon

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



Rest In Peace

Theresa McCarthy,
Lorraine Tessar
John Vieni

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



Upcoming Marriages



Baptism

Aiden Hunter Kirchoff
Delilah Rose Lundin-Familia

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

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 11

St. Damasus I

8:30am Eugene Langan

Tuesday, December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:30am Dcn. John Teufel

Wednesday, December 13

St. Lucy

8:30am Pedro C. Deroxas

Thursday, December 14

St. John of the Cross

8:30am Edward Boyd

Friday, December 15

8:30am Annette Yao (Living)

Saturday, December 16

**8:30am Tom J. Hoefflerle, Arthur Beccaris,
Carol Jankowski, Christopher Scalone**

**5:00pm Matt & Anna Lattanzio, Barbara & Louie Argento,
John Patrick Lilly, Vincent Procita, Jr.,
Tony Squeo, Massimo Ferro (Living),
Mary Zezeski & Timothy Deegan,
James G. Johnson**

Fr. Charles Mangano

Sunday, December 17

Third Sunday of Advent - Gaudete Sunday

8:00am Richard Jensen

Fr. Charles Mangano

9:30am Debra Morch

Fr. Charles Mangano

11:00am Paul & Francis Rimmel

Fr. Dennis A. Suglia

12:30pm Charles & Louise Mangano

Fr. Dennis A. Suglia

**6:00pm People of the Parish, Scafuro, Wexler, Riccio &
Lombardo Families (Living & Deceased)**

**Carolina Herrera, Sebastino Norello,
Kathleen M. Trebing, Thomas & John Higham**

Fr. Dennis A. Suglia

Christmas at Outreach

Once again, we will be requesting gift cards for Christmas. We are asking that you take a tag from the **Giving Tree** with a specific gift card request for one of the families we will be assisting. The families will be able to use the gift cards for Christmas. In order for them to have time to use them before Christmas, they will need to get them earlier, so **we are requesting that any donation of gift cards be brought in by December 10th**. We are requesting gift cards to **Target, Walmart, Amazon, Kohl's, Macy's, and Old Navy**.



Thank you for all the support you have given throughout the year. Your generosity is such a blessing to the families who come to us. Hopefully, their celebration of Christmas will be a bright spot in their lives that are many times filled with difficulty.



Christmas Flower Offerings Christmas Flower offerings received by **Sunday, December 10th** will be published in the December 25th bulletin. Offerings received after that date will be published in subsequent bulletins.



Our Parish Advent Wreath

A family from the parish will be lighting a candle on our Parish Advent Wreath at the beginning of each Mass for each week of Advent. This is a meaningful way to be part of our preparation for Christmas during this Advent. If you wish to be one of the families to light a candle, please speak to Robin or one of the ushers at Mass.

Christmas Candles

We are once again offering a **Loving Candle**. This symbolic light is a beautiful way to remember our loved ones, both living and deceased. It will remain lit throughout the life of the candle (approximately a week). The candles will be available for a donation of \$10.00 and will be sold after all weekend Masses on December 9-10 and December 16-17, The candles are also available in the Parish Office.



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

We will be having Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on this **Tuesday, December 12th from 12:30pm to 7:30pm**. Come, spend some intimate time with Jesus. 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) 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.

Hours for Outreach: Monday - Wednesday - Friday from 9:30am - 3:30pm ONLY



Pancake Mix
Oatmeal
Crushed Tomatoes
Ketchup
Laundry Detergent

Our Lady of Lourdes Knights of Columbus *Annual Christmas Poinsettia Sale*

AFTER ALL MASSES
on
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9
and
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

*Select a beautiful plant to decorate your home
or as gifts for family members and friends,
while also supporting our Parish!*



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.

Our next meeting will be Monday, January 8, 2024 in the Parish Center.

Religious Education - ADVENT 2023

Please JOIN the 6:00pm Mass with your family and your grade

2nd Sunday of Advent: December 10...Grade 7 *The message of John the Baptist has a lot to offer many of us!*

3rd Sunday of Advent: December 17...Grade 6 *Prepare to be challenged to live your life in a different way!*

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.





Mobile Outreach Bus

Free Health Screenings and Flu Vaccinations

The Community Outreach team is pleased to offer free health screenings and flu vaccinations in your community by a Catholic Health registered nurse.



Services for adults (18 and older):

- Brief cardiac history
- Blood pressure screening
- BMI screening
- Simple blood test for cholesterol and glucose
- Health education
- Referrals as needed
- Resources for those without insurance
- Free flu vaccination (senior dose available)

Our Lady of Lourdes Church
455 Hunter Avenue
West Islip, NY

Monday, December 11th
10A-2P

chsll.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. 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 14th in the All Purpose Room after the 12:30pm Mass.**

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

<p align="center">CHRISTMAS RAFFLE</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>1 Ticket for \$25; 6 Tickets for \$100</p>	<p align="center">CHRISTMAS RAFFLE</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>1 Ticket for \$25; 6 Tickets for \$100</p>	<p align="center">CHRISTMAS RAFFLE</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>1 Ticket for \$25; 6 Tickets for \$100</p>
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O Come, O Come Emmanuel!

ADVENT OFFERINGS

All Advent

9:30 Mass

Childrens Liturgy of the Word

Children will be celebrating Advent Scriptures with a special program called **OPEN BEFORE CHRISTMAS**.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17:

8:30am – 2:00pm (APR)

BETHLEHEM VILLAGE

Stop by and visit a busy Bethlehem village, just as it was on the night Jesus was born. Invite your friends and neighbors as well!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17:

At all Masses

BLESSING OF THE CHRIST-INFANT

Bring the infant from your family Nativity scene for a special blessing.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18:

3:00pm – 8:00pm in the Church

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONS

Confessors will be available throughout this time.

*****NOVEMBER 23 – DECEMBER 10: GIVING TREE GIFT PROGRAM FOR THE NEEDY*****

***** PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO 6:00PM EVENING MASS ON DECEMBER 31st *****

****SUNDAY, JANUARY 14:**

Christmas Raffle Drawing (following the 12:30pm Mass in the All Purpose Room)

PLEASE SEE THE BULLETIN/WEBSITE (ollchurch.org) FOR DETAILED DESCRIPTIONS

A Walk Through Bethlehem *December 17th after all the Morning Masses*



Join Abram, the Inn Keeper, as he wanders through Bethlehem on the night Jesus was born. Meet and talk with the villagers, shepherds and angels. Hear Abram's story as he visits the stable and invites you to his Inn.



Follow the Star to Bethlehem

Week 2 - Second Sunday of Advent

*How are you hearing God this week?
Is it in the words from scripture or in the words from those around us?
OPEN YOUR EARS and really listen.*



Follow the Star to Bethlehem

Week 1 - First Sunday of Advent

*What gifts from God do you see along the way to Bethlehem this week?
Not only material things, but in the people around us.
OPEN YOUR EYES and look around.*



View from the Kuwaiti Towers.

Our Lady of Arabia, the Patroness of Kuwait.

Six trees grafted together like at Disneyworld!



My living quarters when I was in Iraq. This base in Iraq has been bombed over 12 times since I left.



Msgr. Eugene Marin Nugent, the Vatican Ambassador to Kuwait, Fr. Brian, Fr. Paul the Italian Chaplain, and Fr. Fernando Grande Frias, the Deputy Head of Mission.



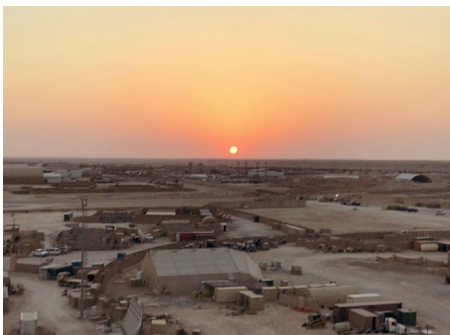
Water Towers in Kuwait. They're flat because it never rains.

Fr. Brian and Fr. Chris Yakkel, his priest replacement. Fr. Yakkel was ordained by Bishop Brennan while bishop of Youngstown, OH.

Kuwait 2023



Selling ice cream on a highway...imagine pulling over on the LIE for a cone!!



Sunset at the Base.



Only blooming bush I saw in Kuwait.

Dear Parishioners:

Greetings from Smithtown! I arrived home on Saturday, Oct 21. Fr. Dennis graciously allowed me to stay at OLL and I arrived at St. Patrick on Nov 1. When I left Kuwait, it was still hot (but only 105 degrees); after 2 months of 120 degrees, it seemed almost cool! But it was still very windy.

I just wanted to thank you for your incredible generosity in responding to my request for Care Packages for the troops. The Parish sent 187 Care Packages! Since the Care Packages were addressed to me, the Post Office wanted to know who this “Ch Brian McNamara” was and where were all these boxes coming from!

We have about 1,400 Air Force Service Members, as well as a small group of Army soldiers and a very small group of Navy and Marines. In addition, we have almost 600 Italian troops, plus, Canadian troops, and even Danish troops (who knew they had an Air Force!). Your “Care Packages” go a long way in helping morale. Many of the troops work 12-hour shifts, 6 days a week. So, Care Packages are a great morale booster!

We just had a joint coalition Mass here at the Chapel: American, Italian, and Canadian troops. The Italian troops brought their own choir, and we had readings in English and Italian. Interestingly enough, the Catholic Canadian chaplain is not a priest; he is a layperson with an advanced degree in theology. In the USA and in Italy, this would never be allowed. Only a priest, because they can perform the sacraments, can be a chaplain. In the Italian military, in fact, only priests can be chaplains; they do not have Protestant or Muslim chaplains – only Catholic priests.

In addition, before I left, we also had a Coalition concert which was very well attended: hymns in English, Italian and even a French hymn (thank you, Canadians!). They are planning a Christmas concert in December.

I flew to Iraq a few times to celebrate Mass. One of the bases I went to has been in the news because it has suffered a number of drone attacks but, thankfully, only minor injuries. I went before the war broke out, so it was relatively peaceful and safe. I was also on the compound in Bagdad which was very heavily watched and guarded.

I met the Vatican Ambassador to Kuwait, Bahrain, and the United Arab Emirates. He is from Ireland, Archbishop Eugene Nugent.

As you may recall, the base was “fixing” the pool. The pool was not fixed before I left! It was supposed to be done by mid-August, but major complications developed.

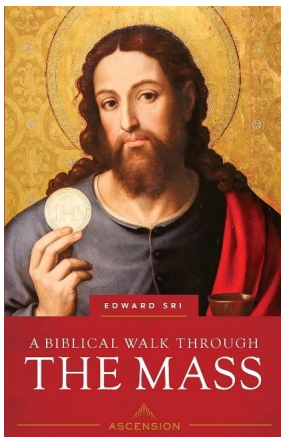
In addition to thanking you for your generosity, I also wanted to highlight a few other “thank you’s.” I wanted to thank **Ann R., Ann Munkewitz and Gloria Monaco**. They were the “Holy Trinity” who did a fantastic job of assembling a small army of volunteers to put all the materials and to put the donated items into the proper size boxes for shipping. That was a very long, time-consuming task. The packing was assisted by Boy Scouts Troop 179 and Troop 1 from Babylon. The LAOH division 2 also helped with the packing. It was truly a team effort. Ann R’s friend, Jerry, also helped transport everything to the Post Office.

In addition, financial donations came from: The Manley Family, Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) & the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians (LAOH) Babylon Division 2, AOH & LAOH Suffolk County, LAOH Division 8 & 9, LAOH Division 3, Chris Jensen, Pamela Griffin Hansen, Meg McConnell, Gerry Belmont, and Bill Reilly. The AOH is a great fraternal and charitable organization; I encourage anyone of Irish ancestry to consider joining these great group of men and women.

Also, I would like to thank the Knights of Columbus (our parish), American Legion West Islip, Chapey Funeral Home & Angie Carpenter. They are always so generous to our Parish, and they were generous to our troops as well. They are the best!

Thank you again for all your generosity and your prayers for me and the troops.

Fr. Brian



2024 Spring Bible Study “A Biblical Walk Through the Mass”

We are advertising early for our next Bible Study because it fills up very quickly and we want to give our parishioners who go away for the winter months a chance to sign-up before they leave.

This next study is entitled *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass*. This will help us to see where the elements of the Mass are rooted in the bible. A Biblical Walk Through the Mass is a scriptural tour through the prayers, hymns, and rituals of the Liturgy. Practically every part of the Mass finds its inspiration in Scripture, as Pope Benedict XVI has noted. Therefore, the more we understand the biblical background to the *Kyrie*, the *Gloria*, and other prayers of the Liturgy, the more we will be able to enter into all that we say and do in the Mass.

After providing a general overview of the Liturgy, this study devotes a session to each of the major sections of the Mass: **the Introductory Rites, the Liturgy of the Word, the Liturgy of the Eucharist, and the Concluding Rites**. Between each class, readings from the Bible, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) will be given to participants for their review. This is to deepen their understanding of the prayers and other elements of the Mass. During this study each person will receive a workbook and text book by Dr. Edward Sri which is based on the 2011 translation of the Mass.

The Study will be six consecutive Tuesdays: April 30, May 7, 14, 21, 28, June 4. There will be a DVD presentation by Dr. Edward Sri each week and group facilitators will be assisting our weekly discussion. The last session will be a Mass and hospitality. There will be two sessions each Tuesday, 1:00pm (*limited to 116 people*) and 7:30pm (*limited to 184 people*). You can sign up for whichever session is most convenient. The cost of the bible study is \$ 30.00 per person to cover the cost of the books and supplies. If you cannot afford that amount, feel free to give whatever you can afford. Please don't let the cost keep you away.

To register please call the Parish Office (Rector) at 631-661-3224 ext. 2. All are welcome.



Your Trip Includes:

- Round-trip Airfare from New York
- All Airport Taxes & Fuel Surcharges
- 7 Nights: Dragicevic Family Home with Private Baths & Air Conditioning in Double Occupancy Only (No Single Rooms)
- Breakfast and Dinner Daily
- Wine with Dinners
- Transfers by Private Motor Coach
- Escorted by Professional Local Christian Guides
- Sightseeing and Spiritual Activities
- Mass Daily & Spiritual Activities (English at 10:00 am & Croatian at 6:00 pm)
- Special Times of Prayer and Group Meetings
- Unlimited Use of the Private Home Chapel Books and Tapes
- Luggage Handling (1 Piece per Person)

**\$3,398 per person
from New York (JFK)**

**Pick the dates that work
best for you!**

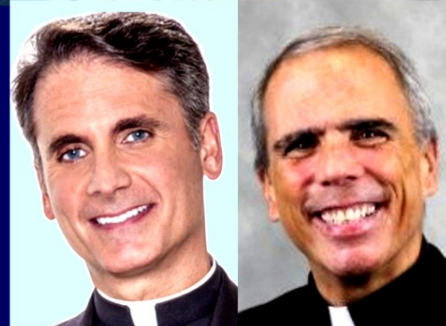
August 12-20, 2024

or

August 19-27, 2024



SCAN HERE



PILGRIMAGE WITH SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS

**Fr. Charles Mangano &
Fr. Tony Stanganelli**

For Details or to Book Now Visit:
www.pilgrimages.com/frmangano
Booking Code: CM100158



Butterfly Memory Café - December 15, 2023 from 1:30pm-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, December 15th 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 Hannah at A Gentle Touch Senior Care at: 631-647-7622 or e-mail: hannah@agentletoauchseniorcare.com.*

Dementia Caregiver Support Group Thursday, December 21, 2023



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 3rd Thursday of each month from 5:30pm-7:00pm in the Parish Center
There is no charge to participate, but please contact Cassandra at 631-647-7622 or via email at: cassandra@gentletouchseniorcare.com to reserve your place.

YOUNG ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY

Join us with fellowship and fun to celebrate the Christmas season

Christmas Karaoke

Viewing of 'The Chosen' Christmas episode

Ugly sweater contest

Please come with snacks to share

Tuesday December 19 at 7:30 p.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Center



21-39 year olds

Pornography Addiction

Many people have found themselves suffering with an addiction to pornography. God says, "My saving power will rise on you like the sun and bring healing like the sun's rays." Malachi 4:2. Overcome pornography and other unhealthy sexual behaviors with a professional, science-based Catholic program. It is called: **RECLAIM Sexual Health**. Visit www.ReclaimsexualHealth.com. Get help or help others. Private and anonymous Online Help 24/7. The latest brain science cutting-edge technology. Personalized support and faith focused. The Brain Science of Change and Theology of the Body is God's way out. In 1 Corinthians 10:13 it says, "No trial has come to you but what is human. God is faithful and will not let you be tried beyond your strength; but with the trial, He will also provide a way out, so that you may be able to bear it." Pornography is an addiction. Porn enslaves the soul and deep shame is connected to it but healing and recovery is possible. If you or someone you know has a porn addiction please log onto the website above.

You can also visit www.IntegrityRestored.com. This site is also designed for those who struggle with pornography use and those who may know of someone who struggles. Here you will learn about the pornography epidemic in America and how porn affects men, women, children and teens. You will learn about the addictiveness of pornography and the recovery process. Wives will learn how to help their husbands and vice versa as well as how to find healing for their own emotional pain (*feelings of hurt, betrayal, etc.*). The website takes a unique approach by incorporating Catholic spirituality into the recovery process. Porn reduces the human person to an object for one's selfish pleasure. This is in direct opposition to the beauty of the whole human person that God created in His image and likeness, never to be lusted after but to be loved as a whole person: *body, mind and soul*.

Do you like to sing? New choir members are always welcome!!

Choir Mass: Sundays at 11:00am

Rehearsals: Thursdays at 7:00pm to 8:00pm in the church

Season: September to June

Interested singers are invited to come to a rehearsal and try it out!



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 check out our website: <https://witroop179.wixsite.com/bsatroop179> or contact us at: troop179cc@yahoo.com.

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.

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 19-21, 2024**, please visit our website at:

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

THE CHRISTMAS MIRACLE
— A FAMILY WALK THROUGH —
at St. Joseph's O'Connell Room

Join us for a magical Christmas experience!

THURSDAY - FRIDAY - SATURDAY
5:00pm - 8:30pm
Now through December 23rd

15 min time slots available
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044DAAEA2EA5F58-45414875-christmas>

Pictures & Personal Experience with Santa Claus

Mrs. Claus Kitchen serving cookies & hot cocoa

Raffles & Good Will Offering benefits our School, Outreach & Religious Ed. Program

Sign Up Online

Hope House Ministries Presents Andy Cooney's Christmas Celebration Monday, December 18, 2023 - 7:30pm at Patchogue Theatre

For more information or for tickets please call the Patchogue Theatre Box Office at 631-207-1313 or online at: <https://www.patchoguetheatre.org/events>.

The Babylon Chorale presents:

JOY!

Ring in the winter season with a concert of holiday music.

Featuring 4-hand piano accompaniment.

Sunday, December 10, 2023 at 4:00pm at St. Peter's By-The-Sea Episcopal Church
500 South Country Rd., Bay Shore, NY

Advance Sale: \$20 / Adults; \$14 / Students & Seniors 60+

Door Sale: \$25 / Adults, \$19 / Students & Seniors 60+

\$10 / Children 10 and under at all times

To purchase tickets online or for further information, visit our website at www.babylonchorale.org
or e-mail info@babylonchorale.org.



Advent Night of Prayer at the Cradle Taizé Style

Sponsored by the Living Bread Prayer Group

Please join us for our Advent celebration of waiting for Jesus in peace and prayer.

Thursday, December 14, 2023, at 7:30pm

Rosary starts at 7:00pm, before the service.

St. John Nepomucene Catholic Church, 1140 Locust Avenue, Bohemia, NY 11716



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.

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. Our next 2-day weekend will be held at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington on **Feb. 3-4, 2024**. For information please call Lenny & Pat Walker at: 631-563-1032 or visit: longisland.engagedencounter.com.



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Attention married couples & priests, want to make this an **EXPERIENCE** to remember?

Fall in love again. Here's a chance to get away for the weekend and focus on your spouse to renew and refresh your relationship. To help your good marriage be great!! Are you ready for

more growth and happiness in your marriage or priesthood? Uncover the secrets to a supportive, transformational marriage on a World Wide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Every relationship is a journey. The grind of everyday life can cause you to lose touch with your spouse. This experience will help you listen, share and connect more deeply. **Our next weekend experience will be on February 9-11, 2024** at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington. Register at WWME.org or contact: Kevin & Regina Hickson at 516-554-3835.



Anxiety Disorder Sufferers

The group, led by a trained and certified Anxiety Disorder Group Leader, meets 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 Bob at 631-235-2229.

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, and Sunday at 9:30am.

ALANON: Wednesday at 10:00am. Beginner's meeting at 9:30am. Free babysitting available. 2nd and 4th Wednesday meetings are via Zoom. For more meeting info visit: al-anon.org.

Families Anonymous Meetings

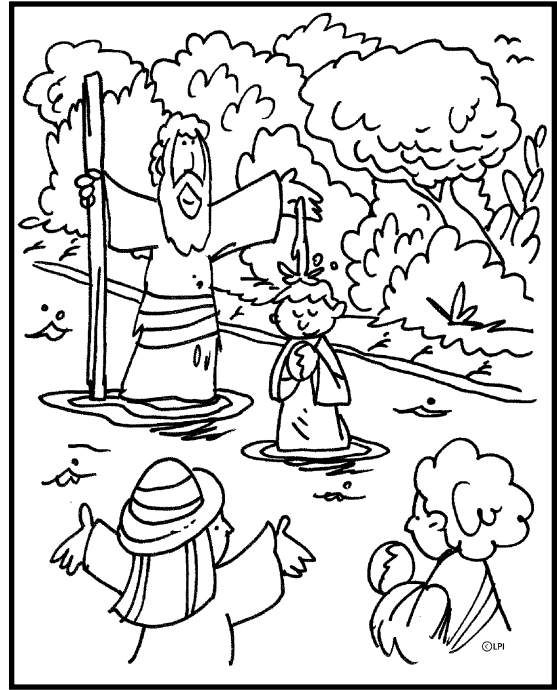
12-Step support group giving Hope & Strength to parents, family and friends concerned with a loved one's destructive behavior caused by Alcohol, Drugs or Related Behavioral Problems will meet virtually and in person. For additional information e-mail: Donna526@aol.com or call Diane at: 631-587-0966 or Donna at: 631-589-3790. Website: 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 “**Control in Life**”. To listen online or for more information, visit: www.ReligionandRock.com.

Sharing the Gospel

Have you ever played a game where you asked for a "do-over" so you could try again? When John told his neighbors to be baptized, he wanted them to have a second chance, A "do-over." He wanted to give them a fresh, clean start with God.



Mission for the Week - do you know the answers...?



What gifts did the Wise Men bring to Jesus?
 In the song "We Three Kings", where are the Kings from?
 How were the Wise Men warned not to go back to Herod?



Puzzle

Circle the picture that is the **same** as the **first** one. Then color in all the pictures.



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Prayer

Dear God,
 When I find myself doing
 or saying things that
 You would not like,
 help me to stop
 and start over.
 Amen.



Something to Draw

Draw a picture of John washing someone in a river.

