

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our Lady of Lourdes · January 17, 2010

*"As a groom rejoices
in his bride,*



Isaiah 62:5

*so shall your God
rejoice in you."*



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.

Our Lady of Lourdes

*455 Hunter Avenue
West Islip, New York 11795*

Daily Mass
8 AM

Weekend Masses
Saturday: 5 PM
Sunday: 8 AM, 9:30 AM,
11 AM, 12:30 PM and 6 PM

Reconciliation
Saturday: 4 PM - 4:45 PM

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.

Vision...

so that all may know that they are a vital part of the Body of Christ, we further recommit and challenge ourselves to...

Live out our Baptismal call passionately by caring for all of God's people with justice.

Grow in an understanding of God's role in each of our lives.

Respond to the Gospel in a radical way, inviting and inspiring all to form the Kingdom of God in every moment of life.

Acknowledge we are not complete without the willingness to grow, discern and discover the Spirit who moves and guides us.

Pastoral Team

Rev. Michael A. Vetrano
Pastor

Rev. Patsy Amabile
Associate Pastor

Rev. Robert Scheckenback
Associate Pastor

Rev. Ambrose Cabildo
In Residence

Deacon John DeGuardi

Deacon Tom Lucie

Deacon Jack Meehan

Coordinator of Stewardship

Deacon John Teufel

Sr. Margaret Bickar

Senior Ministry-SAGE

Sr. Nancy Campkin

Director of Religious Education

Allegra D'Alo

Youth Minister/Social Action

Jennifer Gallagher

Childrens' Choir/Women's Chorale

Summer Program Director

Carol M. Goetz

Parish Music Director

Louise Jane Krol

School Principal

Sr. Diane Liona

Director of Religious Education

Mary McMahan

Director of Parish Social Ministry

Robin Reynolds-Brennan

Coordinator of Worship

Vita Scorcio

Ministry Spiritual Director

Sr. Betty Toohig

Senior Ministry-SAGE

Anthony Trombino

Business Manager

Pastoral Council

Stacie Baltrusitis

Lisa Cantalino

Sonia DaSilva

Nilo DeLeon

Jane Desthers

Jerry Esposito

Deacon Jack Meehan

John Muldoon

Bob Natale

Eileen Rega

Vita Scorcio

Mary Steck

Fr. Mike Vetrano

Christine Volk

Parish Staff

Barbara Catuosco

Religious Education Office

Mary Anne Lettieri

Parish Office

Debbie Meyer

Bulletin Editor/Parish Office

Rosemary Multer

School Office

Rex Muro

Organist

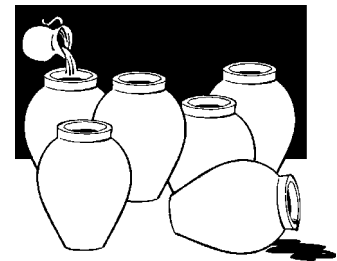
Rita Spera

Religious Education Office

Lori Walsh

Parish Office

WATER
into
WINE



Parish Office

661.3224

Monday-Friday: 9 AM - 7:30 PM

Saturday: 9 AM - 3 PM

Sunday: 9 AM - 2 PM

email: ParishOffice@ollchurch.org

fax: 661.7143

website: www.ollchurch.org

Our Lady of Lourdes School

587.7200

Monday-Friday: 9 AM - 3 PM

email: lkrol@ollschool.org

Religious Education Office

661.5440

Monday-Friday: 9 AM - Noon

1 PM - 5 PM

7 PM - 9 PM

email: ReligiousEd@ollchurch.org

Parish Outreach Office

661.9262

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:

9:30 AM - 3 PM

S.A.G.E.

661.3224

(Senior Advocates for Growth
and Enrichment)

email: Sage@ollchurch.org

Welcome...

to Our Lady of Lourdes!

We are so happy to welcome everyone who has come to worship with us today! Whether you have come a long distance or you live locally, we are glad that you have decided to spend some time with us as we worship our Lord together. Please know that your presence today is a blessing to our parish family.

Would you like to know more about our parish family?

All are welcome at Our Lady of Lourdes and we do our best to reach out to everyone.

If you would like more information about our parish or if you would like one of our team to be in touch with you, please fill this form out and place it in any collection or offering basket, mail it to us, or send an email to parishoffice@ollchurch.org

Welcome...

to Our Lady of Lourdes!



I would like information about:

Religious Education of my Children Becoming a Catholic or Adult Confirmation
 Marriage or Annulment / Remarriage Spiritual Direction or Counseling
 Our Parish Catholic School Adult Education Senior Services
 Joining the Parish Baptizing my Children Other _____

I would prefer to be contacted by:

Phone at: _____ Email at: _____

Mail at: _____

Your Name: _____

Adult Faith Formation

Images of Mercy

*Icons of Justice**

**applicable for Advance Certificate*

Presenter: Tom Petriano, St. Joseph's College, Patchogue

Tuesdays, January 19, 26 and February 2, 9, 23, 2010

7:30 - 9:30 PM

Parish Center

The witness of the lives of prophetic figures from various cultures and traditions can be iconic for us, and studying their lives can be both illuminating and transformative. This course will look specifically at the lives of Mother Teresa, Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin, Mohandas Gandhi, Oscar Romero and the Jesuit martyrs of El Salvador, and Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks as examples of modern day prophets. Their writings, sermons, letters, speeches and the witness of their lives will be examined in order to understand the spirituality and theology that was the source of their prophetic witness.

Mark your calendars...

Embrace the Challenge

Embrace the Love

Something to think, pray and talk about

Fr. Pat Amabile

Tuesdays, March 2, 16, and 23

7:30 - 9:30 PM

Parish Center

This series will lead us to new depth in our spirituality.

Each week we will explore one of the following...

- What do you call God?
- Who is Jesus Christ?
- Living in the Lord.

Why We Pray the Way We Do

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

Tuesdays, April 6, 13, 20, 27 and May 4

7:30 - 9:30 PM

Parish Center

What's really happening when we go to Church on Sunday? Understand the liturgy and its role in your life and the life of the Church. Does God need the Sacraments? Understand the sacramental principle of Roman Catholicism and how we believe God communicates with us.

There is a \$5 fee for each session. No fee is required for those who have paid the Religious Education Family Fee or Our Lady of Lourdes School tuition. Registration is necessary and helpful. This will enable us to have enough reading material and refreshments for all those attending. To register, please call the Religious Education Office at 661.5440, option 3 or email to religioused@ollchurch.org.

Religious Education

Do all that you can in 2010...

Look at those 7th Graders

These kids Know when they can !!!... more in '10

The 7th Graders in our parish family know how to love and serve... and feel that sense of belonging. As part of their Service Projects they help and learn more about our Ministries at OLL...

- Hosting refreshments for Mass of Remembrance with Ministry of Consolation
- Packaged and gave Bread out on Thanksgiving Day with our Liturgy Committee
- Organized our missalettes/music issues for our Parish Family
- Helped our 2nd graders with their Sacrament of Reconciliation nights
- Helped put Advent Tags on our Parish Giving Tree and helped organize the presents for Parish Outreach
- Hosted refreshments for our Bereavement Ministry, Christmas Concert and Christmas Pageant
- Helped Art and Environment Ministry decorate our Church and All-Purpose Room

Grade 8... in '10... Here's When.....

All Grade 8 Confirmation Candidates will meet with their Sponsors for **RESCUE** – *“Religious Education Sponsor Candidate United Effort”*—with a kick-off every Sunday afternoon in January '10. This night of prayer and reflection will provide them with an opportunity to learn about their new roles as sponsors and candidates, hear personal reflections about what it means to be a sponsor and commit to take a more active role in this process. Each evening will conclude with Sunday's 6 PM Mass. Look for them Sundays, January 24, and 31. Sponsors and candidates plan to meet together three times on their own, including doing some service together. Sponsors and candidates work together at a soup kitchen or cook a meal for a soup kitchen, help an elder adult, help with Parish Outreach, Stewardship, Art & Environment, etc. Let's continue to pray for our parish's Confirmation Candidates.

GRADES 6/7/8 Hang Out Nites

BE THERE ...DON'T MISS IT

Fridays in 2010

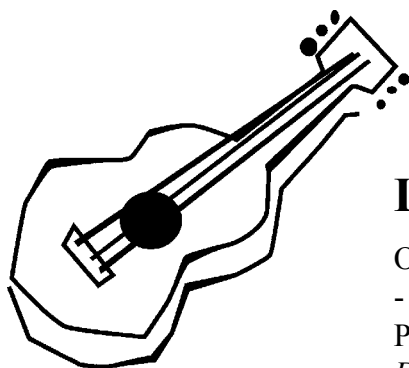
February 12, April 16, May 21, June 18

- Guitar Hero III is here at OLL
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- American Idol is here, too...

PLUS some new additions!

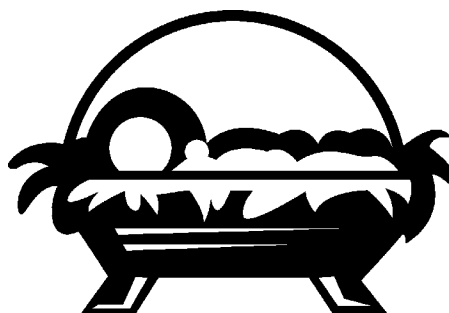
- PRIZES
- RAFFLES

They continue to serve those in need... they care. Every month Grade 6/7/8 bring food/ paper goods/and or \$1 for our Parish Food Pantry. They have contributed over \$200 since October '09. Wreaths, decorated by our Hang Out Kids, were given to our families who received “Giving Tree Gifts.” Over 100 kids come each month – be ONE of them.



Lights! Camera! Action!

Our guitar students will be featured on the Telecare Telethon - channel 29 Sunday, January 17, 2010, at 6 PM. Please tune in and share our pride in *Allison Brown, Daniel Brown, Robert Buonasina, Michael Golden, Christopher McDonald, and Jake Natale*.



Christmas Theme Poster Contest

The OLL Holy Name Society would like to thank Ms. Louise Krol, Principal and Mr. Vincent Montella, Art Teacher and the students of OLL School for their participation in the annual 2009 Christmas Theme Poster Contest - "Christmas is Jesus' Birthday" sponsored on behalf of the Diocesan Union Of Holy Name Societies Of Rockville Centre.

There were one hundred sixteen (116) posters submitted from the students in the various grades. One (1) poster from each grade was selected and submitted to represent OLL School in the judging among the other parish schools from Nassau and Suffolk counties in the Diocesan Union contest held at Christ the King Parish, Commack in early December.

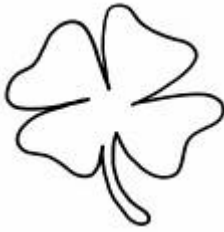
Of the wonderful and talented posters submitted on behalf of OLL School, there were four (4) winners, *Natalia Khoury* and *Danielle Mehlberg* each received a second (2nd) place red ribbon in the second grade and sixth (6th) grade categories respectively, *Eva Gallegos* received a first (1st) place gold ribbon in the seventh (7th) grade category, and *Bethany Hammer* received a third (3rd) place navy blue ribbon in the eighth (8th) grade category.

The following students each received Honorable Mention green ribbons in their grade categories, *Amanda Kleva*, first (1st) grade, *Sean Daniel E. Johnson*, third (3rd) grade, *Ethan Lin*, fourth (4th) grade, and *Grace Shapiro*, fifth (5th) grade.

All of the winners along with their families will be invited to attend the Diocesan Union Awards ceremony to be held at SS. Cyril and Methodius parish, Deer Park, on Sunday January 24th beginning at 2 PM. OLL Holy Name Society provided a Certificate of Achievement to all student participants from OLL School that submitted a poster.

Mark Your Calendar....

**Our Lady of Lourdes
2nd Annual St. Patrick's/St. Joseph's
Day Celebration**



**Saturday, March 20
8 PM until midnight
All-Purpose Room**



The evening will include music, dancing, Italian and Irish buffet, beer, wine and soda.

The event is hosted by OLL Holy Name Society, OLL Rosary Christian Mothers and Parish Outreach. Proceeds to benefit OLL Parish Outreach.

watch future bulletins for more details...

**OLL Golf Outing
Coming July 2010**

Do you miss the outdoors? Do you miss the warm feeling of sunshine? Join us and swing ahead to summer!

We are in need of committee members, volunteers, golfers, and donations (Local Merchants and Materials). For more information contact Rich Maher at rmaher@ollschoo.org.

**Adult Bowling Night
Saturday, March 13**

The holidays are over and it's time to schedule some adult fun. This event is open to the public so pick your crowd and create your own party. Tickets are \$25 a person, the kitchen and bar will be open and ready to serve. Visit the OLL website, click on the "OLL School" link and go to "In the Backpack" for details.

Committee Members Needed Contact: kharris@ollschoo.org or lkennedy@ollschoo.org if you can help.



SAGE

The SAGE Group (Senior Advocates for Growth and Enrichment) will meet on **Tuesday, January 19**, in the **Parish Center at 9 AM**.

Men's Group

An Invitation to all men from OLL and beyond...

We invite all men of the parish to meet for prayer and reflection after 8 AM Mass on **Thursday, January 21, in the Parish Center**. We meet once a month to read and discuss the Scriptures for the following Sunday. Come with your ideas and suggestions. We'll gather for conversation and fellowship. Join us in this pioneering experience for men. Call Jack Fitzgerald at 587.5548 for more information.

Senior Circle

The Senior Circle meets on the last Monday of each month. The next meeting will be held on **Monday, January 25, 2010** at **12:30 PM in the Parish Center**.

Jesus, King of All Nations Prayer Group

The Jesus, King of All Nations Prayer Group meets each **Thursday afternoon** in the **Church**. The meeting is from **3 PM until 4 PM in front of the Blessed Sacrament**.

Good Samaritan Prayer Group of L.I.

The Good Samaritan Prayer Group of Long Island holds their **meetings every Friday** (*except the first Friday of the month*) at **OLL School in Room 16 from 8 PM until 10 PM**. All are welcome to experience singing, praying and fellowship each evening.

Shaking things up with OLL Youth Ministry!

*There are now a few ways for young people to have fun and to learn at Our Lady of Lourdes...
Now is the time when you decide who you will be. So who are you?*



Open Mic Night

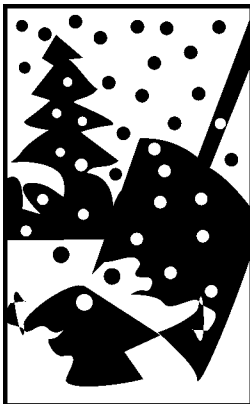
Once a month, **Open Mic Night**, is a great way for students to come and express themselves through music or poetry. It is also a fun and safe way to hang out with your friends and spend a Friday night. We will also begin our **Movie Nights** once a month, which is another way to relax and have fun, even when school gets really crazy. Middle School Big Question Night 2 -Monday, January 18th!

Peace and Justice Club

Peace and Justice Club is another opportunity for young people to get involved. Through Peace and Justice, parishioners are invited to learn and discuss many social justice issues that are prominent in today's world. This club also discusses ways that we might get involved with service work at Our Lady of Lourdes. This club meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 PM in the School Media Center.

Young Women's Prayer Group

Young Women's Prayer Group is the new way that young women and new mothers can come together to reflect on their faith, even in the midst of their busy lives. When you were a student, everyone was trying to get you involved and now it seems like you don't get a chance for anything but work! We meet on the second Thursday of each month and talk about what it is to be a Catholic Woman.



Saint Bernard League

If you're in need of help when it snows, members of our parish community will come to your home and shovel you out! If you think you can use our help, please call the Parish Office at 661.3224, ext. 135 or e-mail to Allegra@ollchurch.org and you will be added to our list. PLEASE SIGN UP AGAIN- even if you signed up last year. We also need Saint Bernards...*(those who help people in bad weather)*. Can you and/or your family shovel, snow blow or clear out another family in need within our parish community? If you can help with this call the Parish Office at 661.3224, x. 135 or e-mail to Allegra@ollchurch.org. This is a great way to help those in need and do some tremendous community service!



Our Lady of Lourdes Mission Awareness Trip 2010

As many of you know, this past July, a team of 28 OLL parishioners traveled to El Salvador to pray and work with the communities of Mogotes and Tacuba. It is in keeping with Catholic Social teaching that we help others and share our faith with Catholics everywhere.

With the help of the parishioners here at home, the El Salvador Team has been raising money through our CASA project to build homes for those belonging to our sister parishes. Through the support of Our Lady of Lourdes, our young people have been able to experience another culture and help people in need. Thank you OLL!

If you want to be a part of this year's mission trip to South America then come on down! **Tuesday, January 19:**

Team El Salvador meets at 7 PM in the Spiritual Life Center.

Big Question Night

Youth "Big Question Nights" will begin in January!
High School students will meet Thursday, January 21 in Room 16 of the school. All students are welcome to come and share what's on their minds! As always, food will be served and fun will be had.



Youth Group Meeting Schedule

Middle School

- January 4th, 25th (Parish Center)
- February 1st, 22nd (PC)
- March 1st, 15th (PC)
- April 5th, 19th (PC)
- May 3rd, 17th (PC)
- June 7th

High School

- Jan. 7th, 21st
- Feb. 4th, 18th (PC)
- March 4th, 18th (PC)
- April 8th (PC), 22nd
- May 6th, 20th
- June 3rd

**All meetings will be in Room 16 of the school unless otherwise specified.*

Support Groups

Alcoholics Anonymous:

Monday and Tuesday at
8 PM and Saturday at 2 PM
and 7 PM in Lourdes Hall-
convent lower level.

ALANON:

Each Wednesday at
10 AM in Lourdes Hall-
convent lower level.
(Free babysitting available)



Rest In Peace

Ronald Mowris died on December 28 and the Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on December 31. We extend our prayers to his children, grandchildren, and entire family.

Gertrude Teufel died on December 28 and the Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on December 31 in Unioindale. We extend our prayers to her brother, Deacon Jack Teufel and entire family.

Doris M. Brewer died on January 5 and the Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on January 9. We extend our prayers to her husband, Edwin, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and entire family.

Julia DeGregorio died on January 8 and the Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on January 12 at Ss. Cyril & Methodius, Deer Park. We extend our prayers to her son Anthony, usher at the 8 AM Mass here at OLL, children, grandchildren, great-grandson and entire family.

Rosary/Novena

Rosary

Daily after 8 AM Mass

Miraculous Medal Novena

Monday after 8 AM Mass

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.

Remembering . . .

Monday, January 18

8:00 AM People of the Parish

Tuesday, January 19

8:00 AM Connie Sasso

Wednesday, January 20

Saint Fabian, pope and martyr;

Saint Sebastian, martyr

8:00 AM Tom Malcolm

Thursday, January 21

Saint Agnes, virgin and martyr

8:00 AM Kevin Clyde

Friday, January 22

Saint Vincent, deacon and martyr

8:00 AM Rudolph Tammaro

Saturday, January 23

8:00 AM John & Mamie Carbone, John A. Reyes, Eugene Sullivan,
Anthony Lombardi, Robert Gross, Claudio Srica

5:00 PM Loretta Yankel

Fr. Mike Vetrano

Sunday, January 24

8:00 AM Nancy Proctor

Fr. Bob Scheckenback

9:30 AM Domenica Prudente

Fr. Pat Amabile

11:00 AM Henery Riedemann

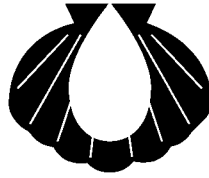
Fr. Mike Vetrano

12:30 PM Jean Cilluffo

Fr. Ambrose Cabildo

6:00 PM People of the Parish, George Prygocki, John Timmer, Sr.,
Alice Farinella, Joseph Musco, Dan Domingo, Peter Reehil,
Harold Buck

Fr. Bob Scheckenback



Baptisms

Miley Carmen Atienza Cajigal

Noel and Rochelle

Jasmine Alexis Kelleher

Steven and Katy

Emma Grace Morici

Christopher and Jamie

Brynley Morgan Walsh

Michael and Julie



©LPI

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

It's the miracle that always captures the attention! Sight restored. Lame limbs healed. Hearing brought back. The dead raised. Water changed into wine. When you think about it, the first four are often routine today. Granted, the miracle doesn't happen every time. But many have their sight restored through cataract surgery. Broken bones that would have led to incapacitation are mended. Cochlear implants help some who did not hear. And even some people who were in cardiac arrest have been brought back. These medical miracles happen so regularly that we don't even advert to them as "miracles" anymore. They are "procedures." It's when things don't work that we get disappointed-and maybe even pray for a miracle.

Of course, we still haven't been able to crack that water-into-wine thing. It is still a bona fide miracle. Relying on the miraculous misses the point that John is trying to make in today's Gospel. The "sign" is not about how much wine we can get out of Jesus, but rather that he was revealing his glory, leading his disciples to belief. The signs in John's Gospel are again and again about faith, about coming to believe in Jesus.

Praying for the miraculous can lead to an increase of faith. But we can't let the miracle-or lack thereof-get in the way of faith. Instead, we can let our faith uncover the miraculous that already takes place each day: the healing that goes on in hospitals; the amazing production of food that feeds so many; the growing ability of humankind to understand this created world; the wonder of a child who grows from just a few cells to an adult in the span of two decades. It's these miracles that can capture our attention and deepen our faith!

2009 Liturgical Publications Inc

Readings for the Week of January 17, 2010

Sunday:	Is 62:1-5/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11
Monday:	1 Sm 15:16-23/Mk 2:18-22
Tuesday:	1 Sm 16:1-13/Mk 2:23-28
Wednesday:	1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/Mk 3:1-6
Thursday:	1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Mk 3:7-12
Friday:	1 Sm 24:3-21/Mk 3:13-19
Saturday:	2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/Mk 3:20-21
Next Sunday:	Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

God-With-Us

Before the Christmas Season becomes a distant memory, there are some beautiful stories of the Incarnation "God-With-Us" from the Outreach Office.

If you came to the Outreach office any day in December, to drop off a gift, make a donation or just offer words of encouragement, you can attest to the fact that there was one small path through the office! We received gifts in abundance!

The official distribution of gifts from the Advent Tree was Monday, December 20th; however, we continued to distribute gifts to a steady stream of families through Wednesday afternoon. Finally, late on Wednesday I made my way to my desk-piled high with cards and donations. As I sorted through the cards I came upon two identical envelopes-both sealed. I opened one envelope and found a card inscribed with simple note: "In memory of my mother and father. Merry Christmas." Folded inside the card were five one hundred dollar bills. The second envelope contained the same message and gift. As I continued to sort through the mail, there was a knock at the door. A 'guest' of Outreach-a single mother of two-was standing in the lobby, crying. In October, monies from Outreach helped her defray the funeral costs for her husband's burial. He had died suddenly. On this Wednesday before Christmas, she lost her job. She wouldn't be able to pay the rent for January. She was so frightened. How, she asked, was she going to manage? She didn't qualify for unemployment. She left Outreach that afternoon with gifts for her children, food and an envelope! "God-With-Us"!~

The second envelope was safely locked away. I was confident that the person this second card 'belonged too' would come to Outreach.

On January 4th (the feast of Elizabeth Ann Seton), Outreach was particularly busy. A woman, whom we have known for several years, came by. She didn't want anything-she just wanted to talk. She was holding a plastic card-a memorial card from a funeral. Hers is a story of raw courage in the face of a life-long debilitating illness, unemployment, a child requiring chemotherapy treatments and now, home foreclosure. She carries all this with grace, dignity and a very deep faith. One of six children, she was particularly close to one sister, speaking with her on the phone several times a day. Christmas Day, our client received a phone call

that her sister had died, alone in the room she rented in a boarding house. In order to avoid burying their sister in Potters Field, each sibling contributed \$500.00 to pay for her funeral. This woman's share of the expense was taken from monies she had put aside to pay toward her own and her son's medical expenses. On this day, she did not ask for assistance from Outreach. She came to the office to tell us of her sister's death because we had spoken to her sister on the phone many times offering support and counsel. By now, I am sure you know who the second Christmas card belonged to-"God-With-Us."

Thank you to the child who donated a shopping bag filled with children's purses-each containing a handwritten note and some coins. Thank you to Chris Heine and "Flight Docs" for the generous contribution of McDonalds Gift Cards which were used as 'stocking stuffers' for children. Thank you to all who gave of their time to help with the enormous task of sorting and bagging the gifts. Thank you to the many anonymous donors who so generously gave to Outreach during this season-rest assured that your gifts will be given to those in need.

Thanks to S. Nancy's Middle and High School students who attend Hang-Out Night-your donations was 'over the top'!

A heartfelt thank you to the faculty and students at OLL School. They adopted an Outreach Family with nine children. Each grade 'adopted' a child, selecting presents for their child. Thank you for making some children very happy!

Finally, in answer to several questions concerning the distribution of the gift cards donated to Outreach. These cards are used when we are asked for assistance with the purchase of diapers, medications or when a child is having a birthday and the family is unable to purchase a gift. Cards are also distributed to families when food stamp allotments run out-usually toward the end of the month. This enables families to purchase meat, dairy or other necessities which we may not have in our pantry.

I sincerely hope these stories of "God With Us" allow all to linger a bit longer in the fading glow of the Christmas Season. Outreach could not exist without the love and support of this Parish. Thank you all and Blessings in the New Year!

-Mary McMahan

Director, Parish Social Ministry

Financial Summary

January 10, 2010

Weekly Collection	\$ 17,546.00
Weekly Budget	-\$ 19,000.00
+/- for the week	\$ (1,454.00)

The estimated weekly collection needed to maintain and operate our parish buildings, ministries, programs and salaries is \$19,000.

Members in the Military

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

They are:

Bryan R. Dempsey-*US Marines*

Christopher Florca-*US Marines*

Michael Mallimo- *US Army*

Anthony Mannino-*US Marines*

JD Montefuso-*US Marines*

Peter Provenzano-*US Army*

Frank Sliva-*US Army*

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

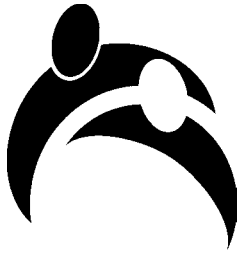


Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

The Parish Office will be **closed on Monday, January 18** in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. the Parish Office will reopen on Tuesday at 9 AM.

Altar Society

Altar linens this week will be cared for by *Rose Grant*.
If you would like to help care for our altar needs,
please call the Parish Office at 661.3224.



Pastoral Care of Our Sick

Please call the Parish Office at 661.3224 to leave the names of parishioners who:

- are homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist
- are in Good Samaritan Hospital and 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 ...

Phil Ambrosino, Roy Anderson, Susan Aviza, Matthew Badamo, Deacon Dick Barry, Ben Bellotti, Antoinette Bongiorno, Theresa Buffa, Nicholas Buscemi, Jr., Howard Campkin, Frances Ceribelli, Nicholas Cibelli, Michael Ciotkosz, Regina Cranor, Tom Courtney, Jeanne DellaRagione, Ann Donlon, Justina Eck, Susan Ferguson, Edward Herger, Brian Hinkelman, Lili Hinkelman, Robert Kaminski, Mary Kaval, Veronica Kenny, Kathleen Kerrigan, Joseph Lehmann, Kara Lobasso, Vicky Massaro, Michele McCann, Peter McCann, Sr., Dorothy Meloni, Rick Mirabella, Brenden Muldoon, Evelyn Nonnon, John O'Brien, Frances Parine, Robert Petersen, Joanne Popper, Laura Prichard, Theresa Quinn, Joe Radosti, Carol Randazzo-Hopkins, Domenica Ruocco, Michael Savino, Ann Marie Schiraldi, Jayna Schmidt, Dorothy Shiavone, Joe Shields, Derek Stahl, Mary Clair Stephen, Stephen Straub, Sr., John Tramazzo, Nancy Turano, Vera Vieni, Pat Wallace, Joseph Walsh, Sr., Kyle Williams, Flo Worysz

Carrying Our Solitude at a High Level

by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

In an autobiographical novel, *My First Loves*, Czech writer, Ivan Klima, shares how as a young man he struggled with a particular ambivalence. At one level, he wanted to be as free as his friends to act out sexually, but another part of him made him reticent to do that. This left him with the question: Was his hesitancy rooted in an unhealthy timidity or in a noble desire, a desire to carry his solitude at a high level. In the end, he decided it was the latter.

To carry one's solitude at a high level is not easy to do, especially inside a culture where most everything invites us take a path of less resistance. Our society, like the one within which Klima was raised, mostly invites us in the opposite direction, to take the road more travelled. Even among people with faith, the idea is prevalent that it is not worth the cost, if the cost is high, to hold out, to retain a high ideal. Rather our culture suggests: Sooner lower your standards than live in pain. Sooner let your soul endure an indignity than end up being alone. Sooner sell yourself short than be lonely.

I recently received a letter from a woman who expressed frustration in finding support, even among her church friends, for living out a high ideal. Here is how she expresses this: "It's been seven years now that I have lived widowhood, bringing me to lots of desolation and loneliness. I recall comments that were made to me shortly after my husband died, by good Christian friends: 'You'll marry again.' 'Why get married, just live with someone.' 'Why live with someone, just have the occasional Saturday night sleep over.' This attitude is very prevalent in my age group. And yet I never hear spiritual writers comment on this. You have a large audience. Could you?"

Her letter goes on to help spell out what that ideal is: "There is something amazing and wonderful that widows, male and female, can bring to the world that is not happening at the moment. Everyone is promoting performance and good looks, from medical intervention for sexual dysfunction, to glamorous lifestyles traveling, to being in beautiful homes (always young, good-looking, always in pairs), to anti-aging interventions of all kinds from face-lifts, cellulite reduction, etc. We need another voice! Where do we hear of the joys of surrendering to a life larger than ours, to entering the barren landscape of breaking bodies and minds, where the

spirit can finally fly free, unencumbered, through cracks and wrinkles?"

Perhaps it's not as much that we have lost the ideal as that we have personally despaired that it can be there for us. In the end, we all still want to guard the dignity of our souls and we all still seek someone to meet and honor us there, with full respect for who we are. But, as one journalist reviewing a book on chastity recently put it, that ideal makes more sense when you're young and still have dreams of what you're waiting for than it does when you're in midlife and have long given up hope that what's best will ever happen for you. She speaks for our culture which believes, as the popular song puts it, that even a bad love is better than (what seems to be) no love at all. But, as Doris Lessing once put it: There is only one real sin and that is calling second-best by anything other than what it really is, second-best!

A lot of people struggle with this. Here's how another woman, also a widow, writes: "And with deepest respect and honor we may have to call upon our courage to walk away from anything and everything that does not resonate with our soul's truth as we struggle to know ourselves in the deepest ways. And if in the end we stand alone with the presence of God perhaps that is the way it was always meant to be. In other words, I'm setting my limits and it's mighty lonely!"

That's a pretty accurate description of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. The gospels, in describing his passion, never dwell on the physical pain (the scourging and the nails) but focus instead on his moral loneliness, his radical aloneness, on what it felt like being "unanimity-minus-one". And this, his refusal to compromise, was his great gift to us. He paid the price, in blood and loneliness, of entering that barren landscape of broken bodies and minds so as to carry solitude at a high level. Despite every kind of pain, humiliation, and loneliness he refused to compromise his ideals. And it left him mighty lonely.

Inside of everything that's best in us, we hear an invitation to join him there: To live in pain rather than lower our standards, to risk being alone rather than compromise who we really are, and to be lonely, mighty lonely even, rather than to sell ourselves short.

Used with permission of the author, Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser. Father Rolheiser is a theologian, teacher, and award-winning author and is currently the President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, TX. He can be contacted through his website-www.ronrolheiser.com.

Dominican Village

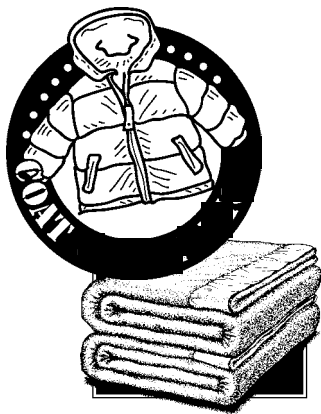
Please join us for an Open House on Saturday, January 23, 2010 from 1 PM until 3 PM. Dominican Village is an independent retirement community that offers assisted living and respite care, outstanding programs, all-inclusive services and bountiful amenities. For more information, or to schedule a tour at your convenience, call 631.842.6091.

Actors, Singers, Dancers, and Musicians Needed!

Creative Ministries, a Long Island Touring Company, seeks male and female actors, singers, dancers and musicians for a dramatic presentation of the Passion of Jesus.

The Journey, Cross and Crucifixion, a re-enactment of the Stations of the Cross, will be presented at parishes throughout Long Island this Lenten Season. If interested, please join us at the CM Performing Arts Center, located at 931 Montauk Highway in Oakdale on Monday, January 18 or Tuesday January 19 at 7:30 PM.

Please check our website at www.cmpac.com or call 631.218-2812.



Coat and Blanket Drive

The West Islip Fire Department is collecting gently used (or new) coats and blankets for children and adults in need of warmth this winter. OLL Parish Outreach will be able to send people to the Fire Department for these coats and blankets after January 1.

If you have coats and blankets you would like to donate, please bring these to the West Islip Fire Department on Union Blvd.

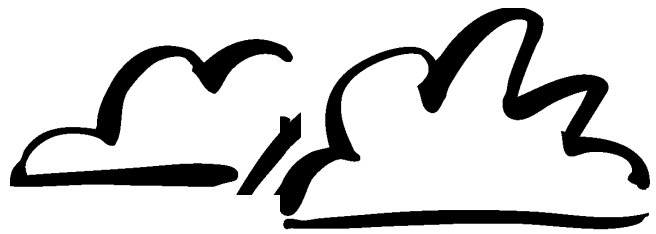
For more information, please call Lt. Dan O'Neill at 559.7951.

Religion & Rock

Tune into "Religion & Rock" with Msgr. Jim Vlaun on Sunday from 7 AM to 8 AM on WBAB 102.3 FM or 95.3 on the East End of Long Island. Listen on Saturdays at 11 PM on Sirius Radio, Channel 159, the Catholic Channel and at 11 PM on XM Satellite, channel 117. Next Sunday's theme is "Unity." Don't miss it! To listen online or receive more information regarding "Religion & Rock" go to www.religionandrock.com or at "Religion & Rock" on ITUNES. Don't forget to tune into TELECARE, Cablevision 29 or Verizon FIOS 296 for the Best in Catholic Television!

St. Vincent's Model Train and Toy Show

Sunday, January 24 between the hours of 10 AM and 3 PM at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Elmont. Featured are Lionel, LGB and American Flyer trains and accessories with toys, crafts and match box miniatures. For more information, please call 516.352.2127



Dream Workshop

Dreams offer an opportunity to explore the deep hidden truth of who we are as God's beloved and precious creation. This day of prayer and reflection will focus on exploring how the language of symbol opens up the hidden messages found in our dreams and offers us new experiences in working with dreams. The workshop will be **Saturday, January 23, 2010 from 9:30 AM until 4:30 PM presented by Jean Lynch, at the Cenacle Retreat Office in Ronkonkoma.**

Registration begins at 9 AM. The offering is \$50 for the day and includes a light lunch.

A deposit of \$15 (non-refundable) will hold your registration.

For more information, please call 631.588.8366.

Families Anonymous

Are you concerned about a family member who appears to have an alcohol, drug, or behavioral problem? We can help. Meetings are held every **Saturday at 9:30 AM, Room 115 and every Wednesday at 8 PM, Room 116 at Our Lady of Grace School, West Babylon.**

For information, contact Donna at 631.589.3790 or Julia at 631.587.5921.

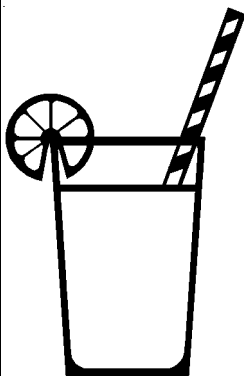
Girl Scout Awards

Girl Scout Awards from the Catholic Scouting Office:

- Special patch for scouts and leaders to celebrate the Year of the Priest.
- Brownie Awards: Ave Maria, Family of God.
- Junoir Awards: Regina Coeli, I Live My Faith
- Cadette: Marion
- Senior: Saint Agnes, Spirit Alive

Help and information are available from the Catholic Scouting Office at 516.678.5800 x 245 or email scouting@drvc.org.

How to Make Lemonade from Lemons in Your Life



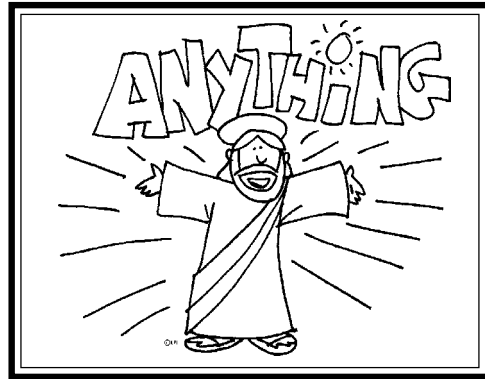
This program focuses on: What to do when your experience moves you toward God. What to do when your experience moves you away from God. The afternoon will include presentations and time for personal quiet reflection and will end with a prayer service. The program will be on **Sunday, January 24, 2010 from 1:30 PM until 5:30 PM presented by Judy Osterburg, r.c. and Valerie Dunne, Staff Associate at the Cenacle Retreat Office in Ronkonkoma.**

Registration begins at 1 PM. The offering is \$30 for the day and includes light refreshments. A deposit of \$10 (non-refundable) will hold your registration.

For more information, please call 631.588.8366.

Sharing the Gospel

Mary had great faith in God. She also knew that God could do anything. So when the wedding servers ran out of wine, she knew Jesus could help. She said, "Do whatever Jesus tells you to do." That's the smartest thing any of us can do.



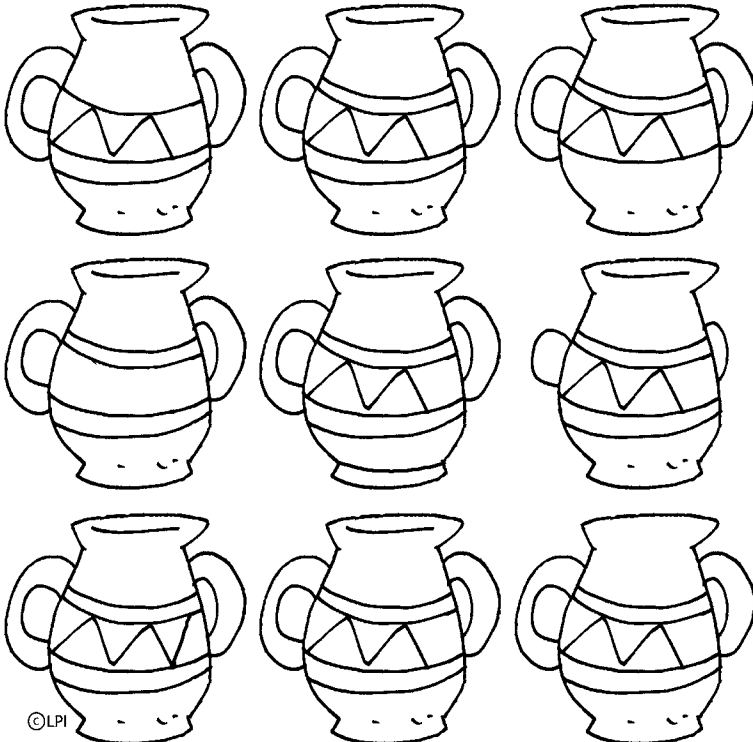
Mission for the Week



What does Jesus tell you to do in his word, the Bible? Find out by reading the Bible for 15 minutes a day with your family. You could start by reading Luke.

Puzzle

Find the two identical jars.



©LPI

ANSWERS: NUMBERS TWO AND EIGHT

Prayer



Dear God,
help me to do
everything you say.
I know you can do
anything.

Something to Draw



Draw a picture of the
wedding servants
listening carefully to
Jesus.