

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

210 South Wellwood Avenue + Lindenhurst, New York 11757 +

Telephone: 631-226-7725 + Fax: 631-225-9597 +

www.olphlindenhurst.com + Facebook: Our Lady of Perpetual Help



*Forgive your neighbor's injustice;
then when you pray,
your own sins will be forgiven.
Could anyone nourish anger against another
and expect healing from the Lord?*

Sirach 28:2-3

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 17, 2017

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor: Reverend Monsignor Joseph DeGrocco

Parochial Vicars: Reverend Fidelis Ezeani, Reverend Frank Zero

Deacons: Deacon William Crosby, Deacon Douglas G. Smith, Deacon Robert A. Becker

Business Manager: Mr. Frank Pokorney

Director of Faith Formation: Mrs. April Kleinlaut

Music Director: Mr. Christopher Ferraro

Pastor Emeritus: Reverend Monsignor Daniel S. Hamilton

Deacon Frank Odin, Retired

COME IN AND PRAY...

Our church is open **6:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.** seven days a week, except for Thursdays when it closes after the 12:15 p.m. Mass for cleaning. Come in and spend some time in prayer.

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday – Friday

6:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Saturday Morning:

8:00 a.m.

Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated):

5:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses:

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.,

12:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

We pray Evening Prayer each Saturday and Sunday after the 5:00 p.m. Mass.

We pray Daytime Prayer each Wednesday at 1:50 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Monday – Friday following the 12:15 p.m. Mass (except on Holy Days of Obligation)

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is always available by making an appointment with one of our priests.

OLPH NOVENA DEVOTIONS

Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Church (unless otherwise announced)

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday Evening: after OLPH Novena Devotions

Wednesday: 12:45 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Sunday: 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

First Saturday: 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday- Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



RECOMMITMENT OF ALL LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Thursday, September 28, 2017

7:30 p.m. in the church

Evening Prayer with Recommitment to Ministry
Hospitality to Follow

All those who minister in the liturgical life of the parish are asked to participate in an evening of prayer, spiritual formation and renewal to recommit themselves to their service.

We will pray Solemn Vespers (Evening Prayer), which will include your recommitment to your ministry, and then hospitality and fellowship will follow.

Please make every effort to attend this important event!

(This will serve as the Fall meeting for E.M.'s, Readers and Ushers.)

- Altar Linen Crew • Altar Servers • Cantors • Children's Liturgy of the Word Readers, Homilists and Shepherds • Choir Members • Church cleaners • Deacons
- Environment and Decorating • Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- Instrumentalists • Liturgy Committee • Ministry of Consolation—All Ministers
- Priests • Readers • RCIA Catechists • Sacristans • Ushers
- Wedding Rehearsal Ministers

(Did we leave anyone out? Sorry! Let Msgr. Joe know!)

I will attend the

Evening Prayer with Recommitment to Ministry

Name(s)

Liturgical Ministry or Ministries You Are Active In

Total Number Attending _____

Return this coupon to the Rectory no later than **Monday, September 25.**

We look forward to seeing you there!

PASTOR'S PAGE

Hurricane Irma

As I write this column in order to meet the required deadline for bulletin publication, the entire state of Florida is bracing for the onslaught of Hurricane Irma. By the time you read this, we will know the full extent of the hurricane's devastating effects. As I write this we do not yet have any information about any relief efforts that we will participate in, as we are doing for the victims of Hurricane Harvey. If and when that information becomes available, we will pass it on to you as we are able. In the meantime, let's keep in our prayers all those affected by these terrible disasters. I'm sure many of us have relatives and/or friends who live in Florida about whom we are concerned, and so we join together in our care, concern and shared prayer for their safety and well-being.

THANK YOU for the 2017 Summer Appeal!

I wish to offer my deepest gratitude and appreciation to everyone who participated in this year's SUMMER APPEAL. As of Labor Day weekend, we collected \$28,762 in the SUMMER APPEAL, and for that I say THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! This income is vitally important for our continued financial livelihood, and I know that many of you made your offering in the midst of your own financial struggles. I am very, very grateful to you. A portion of the money, as you know, went toward rehabilitating the trim and finials around the top of the rectory and the church, and the rest has assisted us in keeping up with bills and diocesan assessments.

If you have not returned your SUMMER APPEAL donation, it's still not too late! We will happily accept it.

Catechetical Sunday

Today (Sunday, September 17) we join the Church in the United States in celebrating Catechetical Sunday, and we are offering/have offered (depending on when you read this!) a special blessing and commissioning to all our parish catechists at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has designated the third Sunday in September

each year as Catechetical Sunday.

Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity for all of us — every baptized person — to reflect on the role that each of us plays, by virtue of our Baptism, in handing on the faith and in being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is also an opportunity for all of us to rededicate ourselves to this mission as a community of faith.

“Catechetical” might sound like one of those strange “churchy” words, but the word is probably more familiar to us than we first realize. Many Catholics have used the word “catechism” for years (some even remember, and were taught with, the old “Baltimore Catechism”), and they know it has something to do with a collection of the Church's teachings. The root word “catechesis” is from a Greek word meaning “to echo, or resound.” Catechesis is the act of resounding or bringing the Church's teachings to the world. A catechist is one who teaches in the name of the Church.

Catechesis is a distinct and special ministry in the Church. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church makes clear, “Catechesis is intimately bound up with the whole of the Church's life...her inner growth and correspondence with God's plan depend essentially on catechesis.” (no. 7) This ministry of teaching in the name of the Church has a profound dignity, which is why catechists are formally commissioned by the Church. It is only fitting that we set aside a day to highlight this ministry and invite the entire Church community to think about our responsibility to share our faith with others. Please remember to pray for all of your fellow parishioners who offer their time and talent as catechists week after week in our Religious Education Program; they do an amazing job and we must always be grateful for their offering.

Of course, it is the parents who are truly the primary catechists of their children. They prepare the soil and plant the first seeds of faith. On Catechetical Sunday, we not only highlight the work of our OLPH catechists, but we also commend parents and guardians and encourage them to take seriously their role of making their

PASTOR'S PAGE

Catholic households a place where faith is passed on to the next generation.

Religious Education Commitment Services

While we're speaking of the role of parents as the primary religious formators of their children, I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some special prayer services which will be taking place as part of our Religious Education Program. These are the **Commitment Services** which begin the catechetical year. This week and next parents and students together will attend Commitment Services, one for Levels 1 and 2 (preparation for First Holy Communion), one for Levels 3, 4 and 5 together (intermediate years), and one each for each of the three years of preparation for Confirmation, Levels 6, 7 and 8. These mandatory Commitment Services underscore the fact that entrance into religious formation is indeed just that, a commitment, one that requires participation in not only classroom learning, but also in a variety of experiences in the life of the parish. This is because religious formation is not simply about the intellectual knowledge we learn concerning our faith — as important as that is — but that more importantly it is about being formed in living a life of following Christ, a life that is lived out in a parish community of faith. At the heart of that life, of course, is participation in weekly Sunday Eucharist.

This week, please offer a prayer for all our families who are beginning another year of religious formation and who are making the commitment to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Golf Outing this Monday

This Monday, September 18, I will be away from the parish for a good part of the day, out on "the links," as they say — I will be present to support our 7th Annual OLPH Golf Outing, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. This is an important fund raiser for the parish, and so I thank the Knights for their good work as they share the proceeds from the Golf Outing, half for the K of C and half for the parish.

By the way, I won't be playing golf (I don't have the patience for it, to be perfectly honest!) but I will be there to bless the golfers at the beginning of the day, and then to share in the dinner and awarding of prizes later in the day.

In conclusion...

Together, let's aim high in Christ. Together, let's bring out the best in each other. Together, let's be the best we can be in Christ.

And let's always remember: LOVE IS A GIFT.

Sincerely,




VIRTUS TRAINING

**Thursday, October 5
7:00 p.m. in Room 1**

TRAINING IS REQUIRED FOR ALL PARISH OFFERERS IN ALL MINISTRIES.

*Registration **MUST** be done online in advance at www.drvc.org under Protecting God's Children or go to **Virtus online** on the lower right-hand side of the page and look for in the schedule for OLPH Lindenhurst.*

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Prayer for Peace

Please join us for a special Holy Hour devoted to praying for world peace within our own country and throughout the world. **This Holy Hour for Peace, with prayers focusing on the intention of peace, will be held on the second, third and fourth Sunday evenings of the month from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** The Holy Hour of Reparation which has been held on the first Sunday of the month will continue every first Sunday evening as usual, with the prayers that are usually said for that first Sunday Holy Hour.

*Lord Jesus Christ,
who are called the Prince of Peace,
Who are yourself our peace
and our reconciliation,
Who so often said 'Peace to you',
Grant us peace!*

*Make all men and women witnesses
of truth, justice and brotherly love.*

*Banish from their hearts
whatever might endanger peace.*

*Enlighten our rulers
that they may guarantee
and defend the great gift of peace.*

*May all peoples of the earth
become as brothers and sisters.*

*May longed-for peace blossom forth
and reign always over us all.*

AMEN

*Mary, Queen of Peace, Pray for us!
(Pope Saint John XXIII)*



Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help



Each Monday, parishioners pray to seek the help and assistance of the Lord for healing, family, children and the needs of the world, seeking the intercession of the Blessed Mother. Following the Novena prayers, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place. The evening concludes with veneration of a relic of St. Catherine Labouré. Take some time each Monday to join in the OLPH Novena.

Monday, September 18—6:30 p.m.*

**time change due to Commitment Service*

Monday, September 25—7:00 p.m.

Monday, October 2—7:00 p.m.

Evening Prayer



All are invited to pray Evening Prayer on Saturdays and Sundays after the 5:00 p.m. Mass. Here we pray the psalms, listen to the Word of God and give thanks to God for the blessings of the day. Evening Prayer is usually about ten to fifteen minutes in length. So come and pray...

**Saturdays
and Sundays**

After the 5:00 p.m. Mass

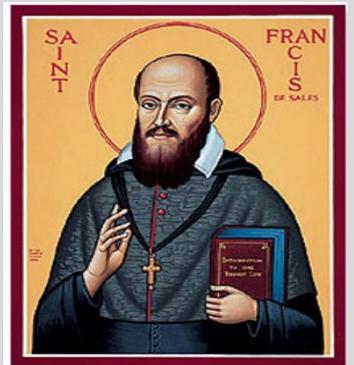
"The Liturgy of the Hours is intended to become the prayer of the whole People of God. In it Christ himself 'continues his priestly work through his Church....Pastors of souls should see to it that the principal hours, especially Vespers (Evening Prayer) are celebrated in common in church on Sundays and on the more solemn feasts.'"

-Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1175

FROM THE PASTORAL COUNCIL

Hi! My name is St. Francis de Sales, and I'm the patron saint of writers. That's why your Pastoral Council has picked me as their patron and intercessor in this column which they offer to you. Here we will grow in our appreciation of the Catholic faith through questions and answers. So, I encourage all of you to send me your questions about Catholicism. All questions are welcomed and all will remain just between you and me (we won't print your name in the bulletin).

Please e-mail pastoralcouncil@oloph.org and each time this column appears, a new question will be answered. So, let's get started! I'll pray for you what I pray for everyone: May the Lord grant you His peace!



“God loves each one of us as if there were only one of us to love.” St. Augustine

If God created the world and whatever He does is good, then why does evil exist?

To this question, as pressing as it is unavoidable and as painful as it is mysterious, no quick answer will suffice. Only Christian faith as a whole constitutes the answer to this question: the goodness of creation, the drama of sin, and the patient love of God who comes to meet man by his covenants, the redemptive Incarnation of his Son, His gift of the Spirit, his gathering of the Church, the power of the sacraments, and His call to a blessed life to which free creatures are invited to consent in advance, but from which, by a terrible mystery, they can also turn away in advance. There is not a single aspect of the Christian message that is not in part an answer to the question of evil. (*Catechism of the Catholic Church* 309)

But why did God not create a world so perfect that no evil could exist in it? With infinite power God could always create something better. But with infinite wisdom and goodness God freely willed to create a world “in a state of journeying” toward its ultimate perfection. In God’s plan this process of becoming involves the appearance of certain beings and the disappearance of others, the existence of the more perfect alongside the less perfect, and both constructive and destructive forces of nature. With physical good there exists also physical evil as long as creation has not reached perfection (CCC 310).

Angels and men, as intelligent and free creatures, have to journey toward their ultimate destinies by their free choice and preferential love. They can therefore go astray. Indeed, they have sinned. Thus has *moral evil*, incommensurably more harmful than physical evil, entered the world. God is in no way, directly or indirectly, the cause of moral evil. He permits it, however, because He respects the freedom of his creatures and, mysteriously, knows how to derive good from it: *For almighty God... because he is supremely good, would never allow any evil whatsoever to exist in his works if he were not so all-powerful and good as to cause good to emerge from evil itself* (CCC 311).

Yes, we are all on this journey where evil does exist, but as followers of Christ, we should always aim towards the Light. As St. Paul wrote in his letter to the Romans, *let love be sincere, hate what is evil, hold on to what is good* (Rom 12:9).

¹St. Augustine, *Enchiridion* 3, 11: PL 40, 236

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

NEW USHERS NEEDED!

We are in need of new Ushers at our 12:00 Noon Sunday Mass, and we are in **DESPERATE** need of Ushers at our 5:00 p.m. Sunday Mass!

Ushers serve an important role in the liturgy. They welcome those who visit our Church and create a warm environment, assist with taking up the collection, guide people for the reception of Communion and minister in other ways to help ensure a reverent celebration at many different liturgies throughout the year.

Men, women, teenagers and families are all welcome! This might be a great thing for you to do together as a family.

Please consider offering your gift by becoming an Usher at either the 12:00 Noon Mass or 5:00 p.m. Mass on Sundays. Please contact Mike Williams, Coordinator of Ushers, at olphushersministry@gmail.com to sign up, or for more information. Thank you!

PERPETUAL HELP MASS MONDAY, SEPT. 18, 2017 6:30 A.M. MASS

Adam Whiston	Requested by Deacon William & Michele Crosby
Maria Reyes Robertson	Requested by The Rigney Family

REMINDER REGARDING THE COMMUNION FAST

Please remember that we are supposed to observe a Communion Fast before receiving Holy Communion. This means we do not eat any foods or drink any liquids for one hour before receiving Holy Communion, the only exception being water or medicine. This also means that we are not to chew gum during Mass, and certainly not while we are coming forward to receive Holy Communion. Let's be sure we are appropriately prepared to receive Holy Communion by observing this important rule of the Church.



Feast of St. Francis Blessing of the Animals

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4
5:30 P.M. ON THE RECTORY LAWN**

The Church celebrates the Feast of St. Francis. St. Francis has contributed so much to the life of our Church, in so many ways. One of the things he is noted for is recognition of God's presence in all of creation, including animals.



We invite all members of our parish community (even those that crawl, fly and have four legs) to come for a special prayer service and blessing. Following the service, there will be refreshments for all, including our human family members and friends.

And, in the spirit of St. Francis, we ask all who attend the prayer service to bring a food or non-food donation for our food pantry. Please see page 13 for specific needs.



MARRIAGE PREPARATION



*Blessing of
the Pre-Cana couples!*

October 8

In the church at the 10:00 a.m. Mass

We are asking the members of the parish for prayers in the coming weeks for the couples in the Pre-Cana program as they set aside their "wedding preparations" to focus on their "marriage preparation."

For more information on the Pre-Cana program call Chris Volpe at (516) 238-2717.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Save the dates...

October 3, 12, 17 & 19

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

Religious Studies Program

Basic Theology Course - Unit VI

MORALITY: LIVING THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

The goal of this course in Christian morality is to introduce participants to the basic principles of Catholic Christian morality and decision making, and how these principles apply to today's moral issues. The participants will:

- understand the difference between Covenant and Appeasement and recognize the foundational role of Covenant in the Christian approach to moral living;
- become familiar with the Scriptural bases of Christian morality especially the 10 Commandments (Decalogue) and the Beatitudes;
- gain insight into the Christian concept of Conscience and clearly distinguish the difference between Natural Law Theory and Relativism;
- become acquainted with the Church's renewed understanding of sin as reflected in contemporary moral theology;
- understand the roles played by the Magisterium and conscience in moral decision-making especially in the development of Social Justice teaching in the Church;
- apply basic principles of Catholic Christian morality to relevant moral issues of today.

The course will be taught by *Fr. Frank Zero, Associate Pastor, and Mrs. April Kleinlaut, Director of Faith Formation*. Classes will meet on **October 3, 12, 17 and 19**, from **7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.** in Room 18 of the OLPH School. For further information, contact Mrs. April Kleinlaut, Director of Faith Formation at 631-226-7725, extension 253. Those who are interested in taking this course should fill in the enrollment slip below and return it to the rectory.

Sign me up for MORALITY: LIVING THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

Name _____
 Phone # _____
 E-mail _____@_____

A \$20 per person free will offering to cover the costs of materials is requested.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD at 10:00 a.m. MASS BEGINS ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8!

Allowing children to participate fully in the liturgical life of the parish is an important goal which we strive to attain here at Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Children should have every opportunity to understand what worship is all about and to be formed by the rites of the Church, especially the celebration of the Eucharist. In order to achieve this goal, we are happy to resume the **Children's Liturgy of the Word** which will be a part of the 10:00 a.m. Mass each Sunday **beginning again on Sunday, October 8.**

Where does the idea of the Children's Liturgy of the Word come from?

It comes out of the *Directory for Masses with Children* which tells us in paragraph 17, "Sometimes, if the place itself and the nature of the community permit, it will be appropriate to celebrate the Liturgy of the Word, including a homily, with the children in a separate, but not too distant, room. Then, before the Eucharistic liturgy begins, the children are led to the place where the adults have meanwhile celebrated their own Liturgy of the Word."

How does the Children's Liturgy of the Word work?

After the Collect (the Opening Prayer of the Mass), children **first-grade and older** are invited to come forward to the sanctuary to receive a special dismissal. They are then escorted to a separate chapel set up in the north sacristy of the church, where they listen to that Sunday's readings as proclaimed from the *Lectionary for Masses with Children*. These are the same readings everyone else is hearing in the church, but in a slightly different translation that is easier for children to understand. A special homily is then given to the children to help them understand the readings. This Liturgy of the Word concludes with the Universal Prayer (Prayer of the Faithful), as the children pray intercessions together. Meanwhile, the Liturgy of the Word has continued as usual in the church. The children return to the church at the beginning of the collection/presentation of the gifts, and participate in the Liturgy of the Eucharist as usual.

What is the purpose of the Children's Liturgy of the Word?

The purpose of this is not to offer a babysitting service, nor is it to isolate the children or to make them feel unwelcome. Rather, it is actually an act of hospitality to them: they will be given the chance to listen to the Sunday readings and participate in a homily that will be on their level, and yet still be a part of the worshiping assembly, since they participate in all other parts of the Mass. It does require a certain maturity level and ability to focus, so it is intended for **first-grade children and older**, not kindergartners, pre-schoolers or toddlers. **Parents do not accompany their children;** we have specially-trained adult "shepherds" who will keep watch.

Participating in the Children's Liturgy of the Word continues to teach children how to participate in Mass, since they do the same things that are being done in the main body of the church.

Ideally, parents and children then talk to each other on the ride home or later in the day about what they heard in their respective homilies. In this way, God's Word continues to be alive and active in the family's faith life.

Suppose I want my child to stay with me in the main body of the church?

That's fine; parents are in no way required to send their children to the Children's Liturgy of the Word, and no child is forced to participate. Children are welcome to stay in the main body of the church and to participate in the Liturgy of the Word there, where the usual readings and homily will take place. Since we think this is a great opportunity for children, though, we do hope you will encourage your child to participate.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

We would like to affirm the graces and blessings that come from our parish community because of YOU!!! All who offer their time and talent in our parish ministries are invited!



OFFERER APPRECIATION PARTY

Friday, October 20
6:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m.
In the O'Connell Room
at St. Joseph's Parish Center
39 N. Carl Avenue, Babylon

OFFERER APPRECIATION REPLY FORM

Name (First and Last) _____
Address _____
Phone # _____
E-mail _____@_____

Ministry or Ministries you're involved in:

Please return your RSVP to Josephine Vagelatos at the rectory, drop in the collection basket or you can email your response to jvagelatos@oloph.org.
ALL REPLIES MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12.

DRVC GOLDEN WEDDING CELEBRATION



The Diocese of Rockville Centre

Golden Wedding Celebration

*Couples celebrating 50 years or more
will be honored at these Masses.*

**Sunday, October 22,
St. Rose of Lima, Massapequa**

OR

**Sunday, November 19,
Christ the King, Commack**
Both Liturgies will begin at 2:30 pm.

You must register for only ONE Mass.



Registration forms are available at the rectory and must be returned to the Office of Worship by **October 9** for the October 22 liturgy & **November 6** for the November 19 liturgy.
For more info call: 516-678-5800 X 207.

POLICY CONCERNING FIRST SACRAMENTS

IMPORTANT NOTICE AFFECTING ALL CHILDREN OF THE PARISH

As required by the Diocese of Rockville Centre, Sacraments of Initiation are to be celebrated in the home parish of the child. Therefore, all families of OLPH with children celebrating First Communion and Confirmation are to have their children **celebrate those sacraments at OLPH**. As Catholics, our faith identity is centered in our Eucharistic identity, namely, the Sunday worshipping community we belong to (where we celebrate Mass Sunday after Sunday). This community is our primary community and the community in which our faith is lived, day in and day out.

Because of this, and because each year of religious formation builds on the prior one, **all school-aged children who are parishioners of OLPH, regardless of where they attend school, must be registered with our Religious Education Office for all years of religious formation (not only for sacrament-preparation years).**

- Children **in all grades** who attend **public school** attend religion classes in our Religious Education Program, and they and their parents also participate in various non-classroom religious formation experiences.

- Children **in all grades** who attend a **Catholic elementary school** need not attend the Religious Education classes, but they must be registered with us, and they and their parents participate in all the non-classroom religious formation experiences, especially but not only in sacrament-preparation years.

- Children **in all grades** who are **homeschooled** must also be registered with the Religious Education Office; they may or may not be required to attend the Religious Education classes, depending on their homeschool curriculum, but regardless, the homeschooled children and their parents are to attend the various non-classroom formation experiences, especially but not only in sacrament-preparation years.

If you are a parishioner with children in a Catholic elementary school or who are homeschooled and you are not yet on record with our Religious Education Office, please contact the office immediately. If you know of anyone who should be registered, please let them know of this policy. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

Located in the Rectory
 Phone # 631.226.7725 x. 253
 Email: religioused@oloph.org
 Director: Mrs. April Kleinlaut
 (akleinlaut@oloph.org)

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday: 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
 Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Wednesday: 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
 Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Friday: **CLOSED**
 Saturday: **By Appointment**

Please welcome Bridget Jordan
to the Religious Education Office!

Bridget is the new assistant in the Religious Ed. Office. She is also Youth Minister at St. Thomas the Apostle in West Hempstead. Previous to this she was the Level 1 Religion Director at St. Mary's Church in East Islip. She is very excited to be joining the OLPH Family. Welcome, Bridget!



Welcome!

COMMITMENT PRAYER SERVICES BEGIN MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th

A reminder to all families that Commitment Services—the first official day of class for all levels—will be in the church. A parent must attend with the child.

Level 8: Monday, September 18, 2017 at 7:15 p.m.

Level 6: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

Level 7: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Levels 1 and 2: Saturday, September 23, 2017 at 11:15 a.m.

Levels 3, 4, and 5: Saturday, September 30, 2017 at 11:15 a.m.

These Services are mandatory. Attendance will be taken.

Save the date...

OLPH Youth Ministry

ATTENTION ALL YOUNG PEOPLE

8th Grade-12th Grade

The Youth Meeting will be directly after the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday, **October 1st** in the auditorium.

Of course all are welcome and encouraged to attend Mass.

For more information contact Fr. Frank Zero at fzero@oloph.org



PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

- † Blue Door Thrift Boutique: Tricia Buckley—631.561.5790—thebluedoor@oloph.org
- † Catholics for the Freedom of Religion: Kathy Feldman—631 225-9864—cdfeldman@optonline.net
- † Community Meal: Gigi Gracey—631.943.0095—gigigracey1962@gmail.com—Deborah McDonald -516.662.2529—Dnk875@aol.com
- † Golden Age Society: Dolores Barone—631.957.3432
- † Homeless Ministry: Regina Muir—631.226.2709—rmuir11@aol.com—Peggy Pannullo—631.921.5994—justin97@aol.com
- † Hospital Visitors: Peter O'Neill—631-226-6340—oneillp@optonline.net
- † Middle Ages: Gail Tonnessen—631.957.1449—gtonness@optonline.net
- † Nursing Ministry: Regina Muir—631.226.2709—rmuir11@aol.com
- † Respect Life Committee: Louise Perrotta—631.412.3831—louiseperrotta@optonline.net
- † St. Bernard League: Deacon Doug Smith—631-226-7725—dsmith4475@aol.com
- † St. Vincent de Paul Society: Deborah Deasy—631.226.7725, x. 234
- † Senior Moments/Spirituality: Fran Grasso—631.956.3003—sixfingers13@gmail.com
- † Special Needs Ministry: Jessica Becker—631.226.6175—jbecker@oloph.org—Caroline Grogan—631.225.7688—straightclaw@optonline.net

NEW Food Pantry List!

CANNED MEATS
SOUP WITH MEAT
PORK & BEANS
PASTA SAUCE WITH MEAT
SHELF STABLE MILK
HOT CHOCOLATE
JUICE
CAKE FROSTING
SOAP & BODY WASH
SHAMPOO & CONDITIONER

NO PASTA AT THIS TIME, PLEASE.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

*Cut out this list and bring it with you
when you go shopping!*

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Located in Room 24 of the School

Use Parking Lot located
on corner of Gates & High Streets
631.226.7725 x. 234

The office is open:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday
9:00 a.m.—12:00 Noon

1st & 3rd Saturdays: 1:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m.

The challenge in today's Gospel is to forget how others have behaved toward us and to look to God's way of loving and forgiving. Our focus must be on God.

Is there a neighbor or friend of yours who is in temporary need because of a loss of a job or an illness? Please leave a message for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul...we want to help!

† **A LIVING MEMORIAL**

THANK YOU!!! The Society of St. Vincent de Paul OLPH Conference wishes to thank those who have supported our Living Memorial Card program. Your donations are used to offer person-to-person service to the needy and suffering within our parish.

Memorial donation envelopes are available on the pew ledges, in the SVDP Food Pantry (M-W-F, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon and 1st & 3rd Saturdays, 1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m.) or at the Rectory. A beautiful memorial card acknowledging your donation is sent to the bereaved.

Please contact Janet Hume at the SVDP Office at 631-226-7725 X 234 for further information.

**Hear
the Cry of
the Poor**



PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

HOMELESS MINISTRY

DONATIONS

We are in need of the following items:

Men's pants (slacks & shorts) - larger sizes

Men's underwear - XL, XXL

Women's t-shirts/tops; new underwear
– size 6, 7

Medium weight hoodies - L, XL, 2XL

Sneakers

Shampoo - 1.5 oz. and Shaving cream

Lotion - 1.5 oz.

Sunscreen, bug spray, etc.

Lip balm

Backpacks

“Gently used” tents

*If it is easier, we can always use **Kmart gift cards** (and the like) or financial donations, and we'll do the shopping.*

Donations can be dropped off at the Parish Office from 9:00 a.m.—9:00 p.m. daily and 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. on the weekends.

MIDDLE AGES

*Are you in your late 40s, 50s, or early 60s?
Are you looking to meet others your age for times of spirituality, socializing and social action?*

Tuesday, September 19th
prepare animal goody bags
for St. Francis Feast Day
in Room 24 – 7:00 p.m.

Meetings are usually held on the first and third weeks of the month in Room 24 of the “new” school. For more information, call Gail Tonnessen at 631-957-1449 or e-mail at gtonness@optonline.net.

SENIOR MOMENTS

*Give yourself a Challenge
The Senior Moments Ministry is a committed spiritual family who meet once a month on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.*

BLUE DOOR BOUTIQUE



(silent) Auction

OCTOBER 1, 2017

LINDENHURST OKTOBERFEST

Come out to support The Blue Door Boutique, OLPH's Thrift Shop, at our (Silent) Auction during Lindenhurst's fall Oktoberfest and street fair. Visit our booth outside the church! Bid on items such as a Fiestaware package,

Vietri Italian serveware, beautiful wooden salad bowl set and much more. Many items were seen on the Telecare television show Real Food with Msgr. Jim Vlaun. All proceeds benefit the work of the OLPH Parish social ministries.

THE
*blue*door
BOUTIQUE

PRAYING FOR AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Please pray for the following members of our parish community preparing for the Sacrament of Matrimony.

Third Announcement:

Brian Logan & Kirsten Langan

Second Announcement:

Gary Minutolo & Laura Deangelis

Travis Meade & Emily Carow

Paul Ruggerio & Justine Rifice

Travis Holihan & Elizabeth Hehir

WE CELEBRATE

God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin, given you a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into his holy people.

-Rite of Baptism

Giada Rae Aidone

Olivia Rose Barthelmes

Ava Jean Conte

Emilio Amador De La Torre

Scarlett Rose Keller

Jazmine Joy Lombardo

Mila Noelle Salinas



We welcome the newest members of the Catholic community here at OLPH!

MASS MEMORIALS

A beautiful way to remember a loved one! Memorials used during the Masses for week of

September 17-24:

Altar Bread & Wine

In Memory of

Marie Foster

Requested by

The OLPH Chapter of the Catholics for Freedom of Religion

Please contact the Parish Office at 631.226.7725 for other options for memorials.

WE BELIEVE

We pray for the sick of our parish...

Debra Glynn

Michael Marchetti Sr.

Michael Marchetti Jr.

Kathy Ferello

Christopher Macchia

Nichlena Baily

Rocco Morabito

John Loiacono

Peter Masak

Carol Mansuepo

Glenn Cording

Anne Muller

Tony Lopez

Agostino Pecoraro

Kylie Zocali

Jim Chiavone

Lyric Blauberg

Mary Condra

Anna Cordova

Vera Anzalone

Juliette Silvestri

Edward Voskinarian

Judith Walsh

Robert Chancellor

Teresa Cording

Reynold Ruiz

Richard Northorn

Juliette Silvestri

William D. Hinds

Marjorie Hildemann

Robert Scott Sr

If a family member or close friend is ill, please let us know so our community can pray for them. To have your name or the name of a loved one listed in our parish bulletin, please call the Parish Office. **Please make sure the person is aware the request has been made and that they are agreeable with having their name printed in the bulletin.** The name will remain on the list for about four weeks depending upon space.

WE REMEMBER

We remember those who have died in our parish community this week:

Kathleen Q. Lantero

“O God, who through the ending of present things open up the beginning of things to come, grant, we pray, that the soul of your servant may be led to you to attain the inheritance of eternal redemption.”

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, September 18— Weekday

6:30 Perpetual Help Mass Intentions (p. 7)

12:15 Rose Colt

TUESDAY, September 19— Weekday

(Saint Januarius, Bishop & Martyr)

6:30 Souls of Priests

12:15 Giuseppe Lentini

WEDNESDAY, September 20— Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest, and Paul Chong Ha-sang, & Companions, Martyrs

6:30 Souls of Children

12:15 Kaylin Zimms

THURSDAY, September 21— Saint Mathew, Apostle & Evangelist

6:30 Gaetano Carcone

12:15 Angelo J. Giordanella

FRIDAY, September 22— Weekday

6:30 Angelo J. Giordanella

12:15 Dolores Sorce

SATURDAY, September 23— Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

8:00 Barbara Wilson

Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated): THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 Lawrence Lanza

Sunday, September 24 THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 Nives Lozito

10:00 For the People of the Parish

12:00 Janet Connor

5:00 John E. Smith

PARISH CALENDAR

Monday, September 18, 2017

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 24
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
6:30 p.m.	Devotions	Church
7:15 p.m.	Level 8 Commitment Service	Church

Tuesday, September 19, 2017

6:45 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
7:00 p.m.	Middle Ages	Room 24
8:00 p.m.	Community of Praise	Room 16
7:30 p.m.	Strengths Leadership Training	Room 18

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

9:00 a.m. 1:30	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 24
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
12:45 p.m.	Exposition	Church
1:45 p.m.	Legion of Mary	Room 24
5:30 p.m.	Level 6 Commitment Service	Church
6:00 p.m.	Van Run	Room 10
7:30 p.m.	Level 7 Commitment Service	Church
8:00 p.m.	Christian Mothers	Cafeteria

Thursday, September 21, 2017

1:00 p.m.-on	Church closed for cleaning	Church
4:30 p.m.	Youth Choir Rehearsal	Room 16
7:00 p.m.	Finance Committee Meeting	St. Lucy
7:00 p.m.	Spanish Prayer Group	Cafeteria
7:30 p.m.	Baptismal Prep Class for Parents	Room 16
7:30 p.m.	RCIA	Room 18
7:30 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal	Church
8:00 p.m.	CYO Basketball Coordinators	Room 22
8:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous	Room 24

Friday, September 22, 2017

9:00 a.m. 1:30	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 24
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent

Saturday, September 23, 2017

11:15 a.m.	Level 1 & 2 Commitment Service	Church
1:30 p.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
4:00 p.m.	Confessions	Church
5:00 p.m.	RCIA	Church
6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer	Church
7:30 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria

Sunday, September 24, 2017

8:00 a.m.-on	Walk for the Poor Collection	Outside
12:45 p.m.	Junior Legion of Mary	Room 24
2:00 p.m.	Baptisms	Church
6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer/Holy Hour	Church
8:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria

SERVING AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Phone: (631) 226-7725 Parish Fax: (631) 225-9597

Directory of Phone Extensions

Name	Ext	Email
Carmel Becker, Bulletin	246	cbecker@oloph.org
Patti Chavis, Parish Secretary	212	pchavis@oloph.org
Linda Coppola, Business Office Assistant	214	lcoppola@oloph.org
Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco, Pastor	206	msgjrjoe@oloph.org
Fr. Fidelis Ezeani, Associate Pastor	226	fadaprince4christ@yahoo.com
Faith Formation Office	253	religiously@oloph.org
Christopher Ferraro, Director of Music	210	cferraro@oloph.org
April Kleinlaut, Director of Faith Formation	257	akleinlaut@oloph.org
Frank Pokorney, Business Manager	204	fpokorney@oloph.org
Rectory Reception Desk	200	
St. Vincent de Paul	234	stvincentdepaul@oloph.org
Josephine Vagelatos, Administrative Assistant to the Pastor	206	jvagelatos@oloph.org
Fr. Frank Zero, Associate Pastor	203	fzero@oloph.org

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptism ceremonies are held on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Parents wishing to have a child baptized must attend a baptism preparation session before the baptism; these sessions are held on the first and third Thursdays of the month excluding holidays. Contact the Parish Office to begin the process of having your child baptized.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Those who are seriously ill or facing surgery, as well as those in danger of death, should receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Please call the Parish Office and ask for one of our priests.

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Adults who wish to be baptized, or who have been baptized in another Christian faith and wish to become Catholic, or who have been baptized Catholic and wish to be confirmed and receive Holy Communion, are invited to join the process of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Please contact Jeffrey Gaab at (631) 965-0076 or e-mail at jsg375@gmail.com to begin the process.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Adults who have been baptized Catholic and who have received Holy Communion but who still need the Sacrament of Confirmation should enroll in our Adult Confirmation Classes. Please contact Deacon Robert Becker at 631-226-6175 or e-mail to rabecker@optimum.net at the Parish Office.

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please contact the Parish Office at least SIX MONTHS before the desired date of your wedding.

YOUR PASTORAL COUNCIL

Jean Bjork
Tricia Buckley (Chair)
Lori Byron
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Greg Guido
Sonia Hansen
John Keller
Kevin Sabella, Jr.
Kevin Sabella, Sr.
Christina Taparata
James Totino
Pete Triolo

Please feel free to speak to any member of the Pastoral Council with any questions you might have.

YOUR PARISH TRUSTEES

Gerry Chille
John Reynolds

YOUR PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

David Barrett
Bill Bendernagel
Gerry Chille (Chair)
Ed Cirella
Meg Danaher, CFP®, CLU®
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Bob Meade
Frank Pokorney
John Reynolds
Sandra Tandoi

Please feel free to speak to any member of the Finance Committee with any questions you might have.

YOUR PARISH LITURGY COMMITTEE

Deacon Robert Becker
Lynn Bergin
Mark Costantino
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Chris Ferraro
MaryAnn Haas
Jenine Jimenez-Spina
Barbara McPhail
Deacon Doug Smith
Rosaleen Walters
Mike Williams

Please feel free to speak to any member of the Liturgy Committee with any questions you might have.

OFFERING UPDATE Sept. 9/10, 2017

Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	327	144	\$3,697.00
8:00 a.m.	262	117	2,740.00
10:00 a.m.	408	136	3,048.00
12:00 p.m.	395	107	3,470.00
5:00 p.m.	172	48	1,509.00
Coin			23.83
Mail-ins:			517.00
Children's Env.		14	79.50
Faith Direct			2,214.50
TOTAL	1,564	566	\$17,298.83
2016 total	1,818	577	\$16,541.89
Candles			\$965.17
Poor Box			\$327.40
Catholic Univ.			\$1,312.00
Hurricane Harvey			\$11,692.00

DEADLINES FOR BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

All requests for items printed in the bulletin must first have approval from Msgr. DeGrocco or the ministry moderator. All material must be submitted no later than the dates listed below and as a word document to Carmel Becker at cbecker@oloph.org.

Editing and sizing are at the discretion of the editor.

September 24— passed
October 1— September 22
October 8— September 29

ST. PIUS X ENRICHED LIVING FACILITY

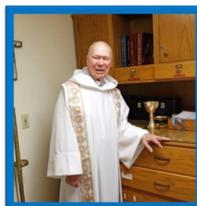
"The priest is not a priest for himself, he is a priest for you." - St. John Marie Vianney



Remembering and Caring for our Senior Priests

***Do you ever think about a favorite
Pastor or Parish Priest and
wonder how they are and
where they may be living?***

Well, for our Senior Priests who are living at St. Pius X Enriched Living Facility in Amityville, life is good and sometimes very busy.



"St. Pius is an inspiring and friendly place. I am happy to be here. The care and company are excellent and I am with priests who have done wonderful things their whole lives."
- Rev. Edward Kealey

"Coming here was a very happy surprise!!! The service is wonderful but the human touch is outstanding. It is amazing how attentive the staff is."



- Rev. Peter Liu

Even in retirement our senior priests retain roles as our shepherds, and St. Pius X enables these dedicated men who live there to be fully engaged members of the community. "Still on duty," they serve as our teachers, counselors, and spiritual leaders.

The special collection for retired priests living at St. Pius X Enriched Living Facility will take place next weekend. Please be as generous as possible! Thank You!

www.drvc.org/stpiusx

PREPARING FOR Sunday, September 24, 2017—
THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus said, "The last will be first, and the first will be last."

Matthew 20:16

Isaiah 55:6-9

In this reading, we hear a call for sinners to turn from their sinful ways and for us to reflect on God's mysterious ways. We don't understand the ways of God in our lives or world but in the context of today's Gospel, where a latecomer receives the same wages as the one who has worked all day, this probably refers to God's great mercy. Despite the fact that we may have been huge sinners and have spent most of our lives in a state of indifference to God, he will have mercy on us if we turn from our sinful ways. This way of acting is probably unlike how we would behave if we were God. His ways are not our ways . . .

Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a

This is an amazing reading. Paul is writing from prison and is not sure whether he will get out alive. But it does not matter because for him "life is Christ and death is gain." If he gets out of prison, that's okay; it will give him another opportunity to preach the Gospel. If he dies, he gets to live with Christ in glory. The bottom line for Paul is to serve Christ and his Gospel. He urges his readers to have the same attitude.

Matthew 20:1-16a

Eternal life is a gift, not something anyone earns by his/her own hard work. In order to drive home this truth, Jesus tells his disciples a parable that defies their sense of "equity." In this parable, no one is lazy. The men are standing around only because no one has hired them, but once hired they go to work and are paid the agreed wage at the end of the day. However, their sense of justice is upset when those hired later in the day receive the same amount. Envy on the part of Jesus' followers is unwarranted since every gift of God completely comes from his generosity, and not from any individual's ability or activity. Earning has nothing to do with entry into the Kingdom, which is a gift for all. We do not place God in our debt just because we have been faithful to him (more or less) for many years. We do not gain heaven with good works but rather by opening our hearts to God's saving grace. Whether we have served him from sunrise to sunset or enlisted for service only at the eleventh hour, God blesses us with his bounty not because we have earned his goodness, but because of who he is, namely, a God of mercy and compassion.

Readings for the Week

Take time each day to read the daily readings of the Church.

Monday, September 18, 2017:

1 Timothy 2:1-8 + Luke 7:1-10

Tuesday, September 19, 2017:

1 Timothy 3:1-13 + Luke 7:11-17

Wednesday, September 20, 2017:

1 Timothy 3:14-16 + Luke 7:31-35

Thursday, September 21, 2017:

Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13
 + Matthew 9:9-13

Friday, September 22, 2017:

1 Timothy 6:2c-12
 + Luke 8:1-3

Saturday, September 23, 2017:

1 Timothy 6:13-16
 + Luke 8:4-15

Sunday, September 24, 2017:

Isaiah 55:6-9
 + Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a
 + Matthew 20:1-16a

Gospel Reflection Questions....

After reading next Sunday's Gospel take some time to pray on it before you come to Mass. Use the questions below to aid your reflection.

1. *This Gospel reading is not about strict justice but outrageous generosity. Are any of us, first hour worker or eleventh, ever worthy of grace, no matter what? What is the message of this parable? What is the message for you in your everyday life?*

2. *How would grace be handed out if people made the rules? What if God's ways were like our ways, if God's bountiful generosity did not exceed the level of simple distributive justice?*

According to Pope Francis, in Joy of the Gospel, paragraph 46, who qualify as the "last" in the gospel saying, "the last shall be first"?

A Church which "goes forth" is a Church whose doors are open. Going out to others in order to reach the fringes of humanity does not mean rushing out aimlessly into the world. Often it is better simply to slow down, to put aside our eagerness in order to see and listen to others, to stop rushing from one thing to another and to remain with someone who has faltered along the way. At times we have to be like the father of the prodigal son, who always keeps his door open so that when the son returns, he can readily pass through it.

The Church is called to be the house of the Father, with doors always wide open. One concrete sign of such openness is that our church doors should always be open, so that if someone, moved by the Spirit, comes there looking for God, he or she will not find a closed door.

*Pope Francis, A Mother With an Open Heart
 Apostolic Exhortation Evangelii Gaudium, p. 46*



EL MINISTERIO HISPANO

EL MINISTERIO ISPANO DE NUESTRA SEÑORA DEL PERPETUO SOCORRO,

El grupo de oración "Jesús es el camino la verdad y la vida" le invita a alabar y glorificar al PADRE, al HIJO, y al ESPIRITU SANTO, todos los jueves de 7:00 PM en adelante en un ambiente familiar. Comenzando con el Santo Rosario. Le ofrecemos el cuidado de los niños, también les enseñamos la doctrina de la iglesia.

Todos los martes llevamos el Santo Rosario a los hogares para orar en familia. Familias interesadas favor llamar a Virginia Constantino al (631) 957-1149.

Para información sobre los sacramentos de El bautizo, Matrimonio y servicios pastorales, tales como llevarle la Eucaristía los enfermos, la última unción de los enfermos.

Las charlas de bautizo se llevan a cabo cada segundo y cuarto domingo del mes, los padres interesados en bautizar a sus hijos deben atender a una serie de charlas. Estas charlas son cada primer y tercer lunes del mes

Para más información llamar a la rectoría (631) 226-7725. En español a Alejandro Campos teléfono (631) 671-9257 correo electrónico saitjoseph98@gmail.com.

Lecturas del Domingo 25th del Tiempo Ordinario - Ciclo A

Domingo 24 de Septiembre del 2017

"Busquen al Señor mientras se le encuentra. Invóquenlo cuando todavía está cerca", dice el profeta Isaías.

Dios mismo sale en nuestra búsqueda, dice el mensaje de hoy.

Que el Señor se les haga encontradizo, y que permanezca siempre con ustedes.

Primera Lectura (Isaías 55,6-9): Busca los Caminos del Señor

Dios está muy cerca de nosotros. Deberíamos buscarle y aprender a pensar y a obrar al modo de Dios. Mi meta y mi oración es que en este mensaje usted que crea en Cristo aprenda a buscarlo continuamente para mantenerse en el amor de Dios. No hay una persona para la que este texto sea irrelevante, es para todos. Buscar a Dios por medio de su Hijo Jesucristo debe ser nuestro principal objetivo. Eso requiere una actitud de entrega, diligencia, perseverancia, confianza y humildad. Para buscar al Señor, ¿qué acciones podemos tomar? acción es para todo el que crea en DIOS y en su hijo Jesucristo y si tomamos en serio la decisión de buscar a Dios, también tenemos que tomar en serio la decisión de apartarnos del pecado. Que nuestra conducta y nuestros pensamientos sean agradables a Dios. Porque no podemos vivir en Dios si practicamos o planeamos el pecado. Nunca es tarde para comenzar.

Segunda Lectura (Filipenses 1,20c-24, 27a): Para Mí, "Vida" Significa Cristo

Para Pablo no tiene mucha importancia vivir o morir. Si vive, sirve a Cristo; si muere, estará con Cristo. Pero está dispuesto a seguir trabajando generosamente al servicio del evangelio. La muerte para un hombre carnal y mundano es una gran pérdida por que pierde todas sus comodidades de este mundo y todos sus sueños y metas; pero para el verdadero discípulo del señor es una ganancia porque al morir se aliberado de todas sus debilidades y miserias humanas, de todos los males de esta vida, y lo lleva a poseer el bien principal, la vida eterna.

Evangelio (Mateo 20,1-16a): Dios Es Generoso para con Todos. **Un Dios Increíblemente Bueno**

Cuando se nos ocurre pensar en ello, con frecuencia no podemos entender la bondad extrema de Dios. ¿Por qué es tan paciente con los pecadores? ¿Por qué regala sus dones a gente que, en nuestra opinión, no los merece, o los desperdicia? Pero los caminos de Dios no son nuestros caminos, sus pensamientos no siempre son nuestros pensamientos. Pidamos en esta eucaristía a Jesús, el Señor, que nuestros pensamientos y nuestras obras vayan siendo, cada vez más, como los de Dios. El dueño de la viña pregunto a los que habían trabajado por más tiempo y más fuerte "que no puedo ser generoso con lo que es mío. El punto es que la gracia, la misericordia, el amor, el perdón son de Dios y la da a quien él le parece. Su amor y su misericordia es para todos sin límites y el regalo que nos ofrece el la salvación de nuestra alma. Estamos parados en la eternidad, las sediciones de hoy tienen consecuencias eternas, es de suma importancia dar un vistazo a nuestra vida, pensar que hoy puede ser nuestro último día de vida. Estamos listos para enfrentar Lajusticia Divina? Busquemos pues a aquel que nos amó hasta la muerte.



DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

29th Annual Diocesan Mass for Deceased Children at St Agnes Cathedral on Saturday, **September 23, 2017** at 12:00 Noon. Refreshments following Mass in the Msgr. Kelly Parish Center. Celebrant: Msgr. William Koenig. For more information contact Ellen Zafonte, *Associate Director* at 516-678-5800 x506 ezafonte@drvc.org .

Magnificat, a Ministry to Catholic Women, cordially invites you to attend a Breakfast on Saturday, **September 23rd**, at *The Hofstra Club* in Uniondale at 9:45 a.m. Our speaker will be Rita Parente, who will be sharing "A Journey of Faith from Darkness into the Light." Rita has been a member of Magnificat for many years and has felt a strong calling from Jesus and the Blessed Mother for the past 10 years to give her personal testimony on forgiveness and healing.

The Life Center is searching for a full time fundraising professional as their *Director of Development*. **Criteria includes but not limited to:** must share our life-affirming beliefs; lead our efforts to generate revenue with new partners by executing a disciplined new business development strategy, such as annual giving, special events, outreach to new and existing individual donors, business and corporate fundraising, civic and foundation support, workplace giving. Create and implement annual development plan and planned giving program. **Qualifications to include:** Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience; 3 to 5 years previous development experience, with a proven track-record in building and maintaining a donor base with expertise in fundraising from multiple funding streams; Entrepreneurial spirit to further advance the growth of the Life Center. To apply, please submit a cover letter and resume to: Gloria Schreiber, Executive Director at gschreiber@lifecenterli.org or mail to 35 East Willow Street, Massapequa, NY 11758. For more information please visit our website: www.lifecenterli.org

Catholic Charities' Suffolk Meals on Wheels program located in Amityville, needs a driver, 19 hours per week, to deliver meals to homebound seniors, @ \$13.69 per hour. If interested call Izabela at 631-789-5219. We are an EOE employer.

Girl Scout Pray & Play Day, Saturday, **September 30** 10:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m. at the *Shrine of Our Lady of the Island*, Eastport, NY. For a day of prayer, handicrafts and fun. Contact 516 678-5800, ext. 245 or scouting@drvc.org

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES!

Our diocese is blessed to have wonderful Catholic students in high school. The best way to learn about a particular school is to visit their **Open House**. The following dates and times for the high schools in our diocese and feel free to visit during these times.

Our Lady of Mercy Academy	- Saturday, September 23 - 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Sacred Heart Academy	- Saturday, September 30 - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
St. Anthony's High School	- Sunday, October 1 - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Holy Trinity Diocesan High School	- Sunday, October 1 - 12:00 noon - 2:30 p.m.
Kellenberg Memorial High School	- Saturday, October 14 - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Chaminade High School	- Saturday, October 14 - 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
St. Mary's High School	- Sunday, October 15 - 2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
McGann-Mercy Diocesan High School	- Saturday, October 21 - 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School	- Sunday, October 22 - 10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
St. Dominic High School	- Sunday, October 22 - 1:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

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