

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



*Jesus said to Simon and Andrew,
“Come after me and
I will make you fishers of men.”
At once they left their nets and followed him.*

Matthew 4:19-20

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 22, 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. Martin Kenny

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 Vigil: 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.

MARCH FOR LIFE



MARCH FOR LIFE

**THIS Friday,
January 27, 2017**

This year we have a MUCH BETTER chance to save those innocent little lives... Once again, we are blessed that Msgr. Joe has allowed us to hire a bus to take us to the March.

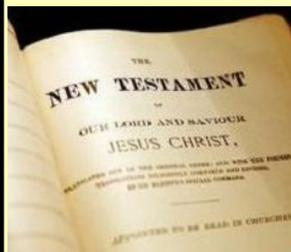
There will be Mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Help at 5:00 a.m. and the bus will leave immediately after.

A "free will" offering is requested to offset the cost of the bus. If interested, please call Kathy of the Respect Life Committee at 631-225-9864.



NEXT ADULT FAITH FORMATION CLASS

Basic Course: New Testament



To introduce participants to the structure, content and themes of the major books of the New Testament, the participants will become acquainted with the variety of writings which comprise the Christian Scriptures and experience the Scriptures as the living Word of God in which we encounter the risen Christ. The participants will understand the origin, development and purpose of the Gospels as well as the message of Saint Paul's writings.

Instructor: April Kleinlaut

Coordinator of Faith Formation

Thursdays: March 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30

Time: 7:30 p.m.—9:30 p.m. Place: Room 18

To register, contact the Parish Office at 631.226.7725, e-mail to AKleinlaut@oloph.org, or return the form below to the rectory.

Yes, please, sign me up!
New Testament

Name _____

Phone # _____ E-mail _____ @ _____

A fee of \$20 per person will be collected to cover the costs of materials.

PASTOR'S PAGE

Guest Writer, Fr. Frank

As you know, it's my custom from time to time to have someone else write a major portion of my Pastor's Column, so that you hear another voice and can get someone else's perspectives. This time around I asked Fr. Frank if he would be kind enough to submit something, so I'm happy to now turn the column over to Fr. Frank, and, after his reflections, will add some brief items of my own for this week. Take it away Fr. Frank...

I am grateful to have the opportunity to share some thoughts with all of you. It has indeed been a great honor to be assigned here to OLPH as my second assignment. Getting to know this community over these past few months has been an exciting time for me. All of you have been so very welcoming and I thank you for that. This community, from what I have seen so far, is a vibrant and lively community with many activities and a deep-held faith that has been inspiring to me.

I would just like to take this as an opportunity to share a little about myself since indeed I am still the "new guy on the block," if you will. I grew up here on Long Island in Syosset, which is in Nassau County. Going to school was not easy for me and I found out early on that I had a learning disability. However, when God gives us lemons, we make lemonade, which would just mean I would have to work harder, which I did do with the help of my family and God.

My family was not very religious when I was growing up, but they did enroll me in the parish Religious Education program. So I would go to my first religion class, and all I could think was, great more school after school all day; this will not be fun. Each week the teacher would ask how many of us went to Mass, and believe it or not back then the number was quite high of people who went to Mass. I was one of the only children who could not raise my hand. So for weeks and months I kept insisting that my parents take me to Mass. They finally did just to keep me quiet, and they told me it's boring and that I would get over this real quick and not want to go back. Well, to say the least, that did not happen.

Looking back now one of the reasons it did not was because I saw in church an even playing field. Everyone treated one another with respect because we are all sinners and in need of God's forgiveness and love. In school I did not see this and did not have many friends because I kept being transferred from school to school and kids can be mean. This however was the beginning of my family com-

ing back into the Church and my whole family got very much involved in the Church.

As I continued to grow, I would become an Altar Server in my parish, which was a great honor for me. In the second grade, two years before I became an Altar Server, the idea of priesthood was already starting to enter into my mind. It was among the ideas of becoming a priest, teacher, or super hero. The calling to priesthood would continue to increase in my life.

When I turned 14, I decided to enter the Boy Scouting program, which changed my life in many ways. For the first time this shy boy was able to come out of his shell and begin to learn the skills necessary for leadership and outdoor survival and camping, which I really loved. I would continue in Scouts and receive all my religious emblems, and, through the Catholic scouting program, make some very close friends that would endure through today and probably throughout my life. I would attain the rank of Eagle Scout, which I never thought would be possible for me. But with God all things are possible. I thank God for my time in the Scouts and the relationships I made there. I now enjoy working with Boy and Girl Scouts as their Diocesan Chaplain; what an honor that has been and continues to be.

I would continue being very involved with my parish and would become a sacristan, which I worked for ten years as. I would also work in the rectory, and my faith in God and the Eucharist and service of God's people grew ever stronger in my life. I wanted to share that faith and would begin teaching the young people in the Religious Education program.

When I entered College at SUNY Old Westbury, I studied religion and philosophy and prepared myself to possibly enter the seminary, which I did after senior year. There is where I would meet Msgr. Joe DeGrocco; that was an experience I must say! There I would learn a great deal about the faith and about being a priest. Upon Ordination, I was assigned for five years to Holy Family in Hicksville, where I learned first-hand what it meant to be a priest and I enjoyed my time there.

This past June I was assigned here to OLPH and was very happy to be sent here to a vibrant community of faith where the people truly love God and each other, a very welcoming and loving community. I look forward to continue serving you and God here at OLPH.

I would like to end by saying this: the story of my vocation, which I shared with you a short glimpse of, is different than most; however, there is a

very important reason why I shared it the way I did. I want to say this to all of you, but especially to the young people here at the parish: having a learning disability or having some trouble in school, so long as you try, does not preclude you from doing important and great things. You can do whatever you put your mind to; with God, all things can be possible. You don't have to be the top of your class to serve God as a priest, or to achieve great things. We all have gifts that God gives us and we are called to share them with each other.

So let us all work together to bring about God's love and peace and the presence of his kingdom here on earth. No matter what age we are or what job we hold in life we are all an important and integral part of the family of God and are called to participate and bring our gifts. Thank you for your welcome of me. I ask for your continued prayers and I assure you of mine.

Catholic Ministries Appeal mailing

It's me, Msgr. Joe again; thanks, Fr. Frank, for that beautiful and heart-felt reflection!

The diocesan mailing of the materials for the 2017 Catholic Ministries Appeal is scheduled to go out this week, so you should be receiving yours in the mail; please look for it. Next weekend we will officially kick off our participation in the 2017 Catholic Ministries Appeal. I ask everyone to consider participating in the Appeal once again. Because of the rebate we receive, the Catholic Ministries Appeal has become an essential and crucial fund raiser for our parish that, quite frankly, we cannot do without. I thank you in advance for helping to make it a success again this year, and you'll be hearing more about it in the weeks to come.

Brick Memorializations—due by February 1

Allow me to offer a quick reminder that as of February 1, we will be closing out Phase II of our brick memorialization campaign, so that we can send out the engraving orders in a batch, to save on shipping costs, and have the bricks back for installation in the spring, at which time we will bless all the bricks from Phase I and Phase II. Please be sure to get your memorialization in soon in order to be included in this phase. A form is printed in this bulletin, and forms are available at the rectory as well.

"Monthly is the new weekly"

I wrote on this topic last week, and, if what I am talking about is true, then perhaps I need to run it for several weeks in a row in order for everyone to see it. So, this section repeats what was published

last week; if you read it last week, you can skip ahead.

I was recently reading a book by a noted liturgical scholar, and he offered an observation that just as we have the cultural phenomenon "sixty is the new forty" in terms of changes in lifestyle and emerging new perceptions of aging and activity, so too do we seem to have a new phenomenon concerning Sunday Mass attendance that might be phrased as "weekly is the new monthly." In other words, there is the perception among people of today that attending Mass on an intermittent basis, perhaps once or twice a month, is a valid and legitimate practice. Actually, nothing could be further from the truth.

The law of the Church is clear: we are required to attend Mass **each and every Sunday and holy day of obligation**. We are excused only for **serious reason**, for example, illness or the care of family members who cannot be left alone, or when weather (snow and ice for the elderly, for example) makes it unsafe or impossible to get out of the house, or when our work schedule creates a conflict that cannot be solved. Please note that sports schedules, social obligations and things of that nature are not legitimate reasons; we must make the time to attend Mass even if it might be inconvenient to do so or if it might require rearranging our schedules. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* is clear about the seriousness of this obligation: "Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin." (#2181)

I realize it's not fashionable to say such a thing these days, but it is nonetheless true: missing Mass without a valid objective reason is a sin (and it is something that should be confessed in Confession). Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. Participation in the communal celebration of the Sunday Eucharist is a testimony of belonging and of being faithful to Christ and to His Church. It is the "summit and source" of the Christian life. Because of this, we are required to attend Mass each and every Sunday and holy day of obligation. Now, let's be clear: it is NOT a sin to miss Mass if you are sick, or if you have to take care of someone who cannot be left alone, or if your job demands that you be at work, or if severe weather makes it dangerous or impossible to get there (so, if you are 85 years old and use a walker and cannot get to Mass when it is snowy and icy, you do NOT commit a sin—do not come to Confession for that reason!). Lacking some serious valid objective reason, though, we are obligated to attend — period.

Monthly must not become the new weekly if we are to maintain our identity as Catholic Christians. I make a special appeal to parents to fulfill the obligation they willingly undertook at their child's

baptism to raise the children in the practice of the faith to make weekly attendance at Sunday Mass a non-negotiable aspect of their family life.

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,



PRAYER AND WORSHIP

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



Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

The Monday night Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help has been a longstanding OLPH tradition. 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, January 23—7:00 p.m.

Monday, January 30—7:00 p.m.

Monday, February 6—7:00 p.m.

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.

BRINGING FORWARD THE OFFERINGS OF BREAD AND WINE



If the announced intention at Mass is for your intention, or if you have memorialized the bread and wine, and you would like to carry those offerings forward at the Presentation of the Gifts during Mass, please be sure to let the ushers know this before the Mass begins. They will be happy to have you do this. If no one steps forward to specifically request this, then they will select people from the assembly.

DRVC OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION



The Diocese of Rockville Centre Office of Faith Formation
is offering
Liturgy I

Fundamentals and Basic Principles of Liturgy

(Pre-Requisite: Basic Course in Liturgy)

Location: **Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish**

210 S. Wellwood Ave., Lindenhurst, NY 11757

Presenters: **Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco, D.Min.**

Dates: **February 2, 7, 9, 16, 21, 2017** Time: **7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**

Cost: **\$40.00 per person**

Learn more & Register Online www.drvc-faith.org

If you have any questions contact Marie Ventimiglia at 516-678-5800 ext. 505

TRAINING OF VOLUNTEERS IN THE MINISTRY TO THE SICK

Location: **Our Lady of Lourdes Church Parish Center**

455 Hunter Avenue, West Islip, NY

Presenters: **James Spencer**, Senior VP for Mission and Ministry CHSLI

Caterina Mako, System Director of Pastoral Care and Education

Dates: **Saturdays, January 21st, February 4th & 11th, 2017** (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)

Cost: **\$40.00 per person**

Learn more & Register Online www.drvc-faith.org

If you have any questions contact the Office of Faith Formation 516-678-5800 ext. 204

THE LEGION OF MARY



The Legion of Mary

We are approaching the 100 year since Our Lady appeared at Fatima..... *Would you like to take part in a Miracle???*

You can help change this world by saying the rosary as our Blessed Mother requested.

You are invited to join the Blessed Mother's Army-**The Legion of Mary**. There are two levels of membership an **auxiliary member** is required to say the rosary and the prayers contained in the Tessera daily in their own home at their own convenience. An **Active member** must attend meetings held on *Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. in Room 24* of the school and are required to perform 2 hours of Acts of Mercy each week.

Join us on any Wednesday to see what we are all about.

For a copy of the Legion of Mary prayers, *The Tessera*, please contact Marie D'Angelo at 631-884-0562.

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

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

OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY: 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
TUESDAY: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY: 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
THURSDAY: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
SATURDAY: 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

LEVEL 8 CHASTITY PRESENTATION

On Monday, January 9th, Level 8 students welcomed Laura, who spoke about the virtues of living chastely.



New Student Registration

Letters have been mailed to families with children who will be entering 1st grade in the 2017-18 year and were baptized at OLPH, regarding registration for religious education. We encourage all families with students who have not yet begun religious education, who will be beginning 1st grade (or older), to register for religious education during our New Registration Week. We welcome anyone interested in registering or learning more about our program to come to our office during **New Registration Week:**

Monday, Feb. 13th: 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 14th: 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Wed., Feb. 15th: 2:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 16th: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 17th: 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Please remember that all new registered students—including those with siblings already in the program—**must have a copy of his/her Baptismal certificate. New families MUST make an appointment to register by calling or e-mailing us.**

Should you have any questions regarding religious education, registration for the 2017/18 year, or volunteering in our program, please contact our office.

UPCOMING PARENT MEETINGS:

Level 2 Communion Retreat

Saturday, January 28th (all sessions)

This very important meeting is for parents and students. Communion fee is due at this meeting.

Level 8 Confirmation Parent Meeting

Monday, February 6th (Group A)

Monday, February 13th (Group B)

Level 3 Parent Meeting/Open House

Saturday, February 11th (all sessions)

SAINT OF THE WEEK

Bl. William Joseph Chaminade

Feast Day: January 22nd



During the French Revolution, a time when Catholics were heavily persecuted, Fr. Chaminade founded the Marianists, a religious order dedicated to service and guided by Mary. The Marianists teach and serve to this day—including on Long Island!
Blessed Chaminade, Pray for us!

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

- † Blue Door Thrift Boutique: Tricia Buckley—631.561.5790—thebluedoor@oloph.org
- † Catholics for the Freedom of Religion: Marie Foster—631.592.1509—cffr@oloph.org
- † 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: Kristine Doyle—631.804.3466—Kristine Kelly—631-412-5629—stbernardleague@oloph.org
- † 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!

PASTA SAUCE
PANCAKE SYRUP
TUNA FISH
PEANUT BUTTER/JELLY
SHELF-STABLE MILK
CANNED CHICKEN
CAKE MIX
CANNED FRUIT
TOILET PAPER

*Please bring your donations to the St. VdP office:
 Monday, Wednesday or Friday 9:00 a.m.—12:00 Noon
 or 1st & 3rd Saturday 1:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m. or drop off
 on the sanctuary steps in the church.*

Thank you for your continued generosity.
Cut out this list and take it to the store!

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.

In this Sunday's Gospel, we find that Jesus "...
 proclaimed the good news of the kingdom, and cured
 the people of every disease and illness."

**Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul
 proclaims the good news of Jesus to those who are
 suffering.**

† **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. To date, your donations have amounted to over \$4,000 which is 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.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY *Happenings*

HOMELESS MINISTRY

DONATIONS

We are in need of the following items:

thermals - tops & bottoms (Med to 3XL)
heavy sweat pants (med to 3XL)
hats (skull cap type)
heavy gloves

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?*

**Our next gathering is
Sunday, February 5**

Super Bowl Party in Yaphank at the Vets Place

**Regular meeting Tuesday, February 7
7:00 p.m. in Room 24**

Call Gail Tonnessen at 631-957-1449
or email her 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.

Our next meeting will be on
**Tuesday, February 14
9:00 a.m. in Room 24**

BLUE DOOR BOUTIQUE

It's NEW to YOU!



Our prices are the lowest around. Clothing, bags, dishes, decorative items, candles, shoes, New merchandise every week.

THE
*blue*door
BOUTIQUE

HOURS OF OPERATION

M, W, F 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
SAT. 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Donations gratefully accepted whenever the shop is open. Please no toys, stuffed animals, books or electric items.

Coming soon...

OLPH



**1st Friday
of odd months**

**Want to help choose
a movie?**

Join our committee.

call Louise 631-412-3831

A WORD ABOUT LITURGICAL PRACTICES AND GOOD HEALTH

As we come to celebrate Mass together each week during these winter days, it's a good time to review some common-sense liturgical practices and issues, to help everyone stay healthy and to care for one another.

- **Holy Communion:** Priests, deacons and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion are especially encouraged to wash and sanitize their hands before Mass begins. If Communion ministers need to clean their hands during Mass, it must be done discreetly. The best way for extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion to clean their hands during Mass is to use a sanitizing liquid in the pew before coming into the sanctuary (sanitizing liquids have no place on the altar or among the Communion vessels and other sacred items on the credence table).
- **Communion from the Chalice:** The faithful should refrain from drinking from the chalice when one has a cold or is fearful of being infected.
- **Receiving on the Tongue:** Faithful who normally receive Holy Communion on the tongue should refrain from receiving on the tongue and instead receive in the hand when one has a cold or is otherwise contagious. Do not spread your saliva to the hand of the Communion minister if you are sick; receive Communion in the hand instead.
- **Greeting of Peace:** Use your own discretion and best judgment when invited to exchange the greeting of peace during the liturgy; limit physical contact with others if necessary. If a handshake is not advisable, a simple bow of the head is acceptable. Do not be insulted if someone prefers to avoid shaking your hand.

Mass Attendance: MOST IMPORTANTLY, IF YOU ARE SICK, PLEASE DO NOT COME TO MASS! There is no obligation to attend Mass if you are sick; it is not a sin to miss Mass for this reason. (Also, there is no need to go to Confession if you miss Mass because you are sick.) Personal prayer and reflection on the Sunday Scripture readings is encouraged; many people also enjoy viewing the Mass on television.

O L P H NURSING MINISTRY BLOOD DRIVE



O L P H BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, January 29, 2017

9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

In School Building-High Street Entrance

Your donation will help to **save up to THREE lives.**

Our community hospitals need your help. Please share this lifesaving gift!

***ALL DONORS WILL RECEIVE A COUPON
FOR A FREE LARGE SANDWICH OR SALAD AT MCDONALDS***

THANK YOU FOR CARING!

Eligibility Criteria:

- Bring you Blood Donor Card or ID with signature or photo
- Minimum weight 110 lbs.
- Eat well (low fat) & drink fluids
- No tattoos for past 12 months
- Age 16 – 75 (16 & 17 year olds must have parental permission).

For questions concerning medical eligibility call 1-800-688-0900 www.nybc.org

For more information please contact Regina Muir (631) 223-5327



RESPECT LIFE*Get a gift you didn't like?***NO WORRIES. YOU CAN RE-GIFT IT!**

The Life Center of Long Island is collecting all new/unused items for our upcoming Re-gifting Sale on January 29, 2017 at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Massapequa, NY. All proceeds are given to support the great work of The Life Center in assisting pregnant mothers and families.

DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT ANY OF THE FOUR (4) LIFE CENTER LOCATIONS.

1767 DEER PARK AVENUE, DEER PARK, NY 11729 (631) 243-0066
 474 FULTON AVENUE, HEMPSTEAD, NY 11550 (516) 408-6300
 35 EAST WILLOW STREET, MASSAPEQUA, NY 11758 (516) 798-9100
 524 EAST MAIN STREET - SUITE 200, RIVERHEAD, NY 11901 (631) 591-9017

or call Louise Perrotta at 412-3831.

For more information call 516-798-9100

DON'T LET UNWANTED GIFTS CLUTTER YOUR CLOSET!

SUPER 72 WINNERS

BIGGER & BETTER!

**SUPER
72
RAFFLE**

JANUARY WINNERS

\$1000 - DJ McCowan

\$250 - George Nelson, Jr.

\$100 - Regina Conti

\$100 - Dolores & Joe Barone

\$100 - Betty May

\$100 - Frank & Nancy Pellegrino

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

Volunteers needed: Catholic Charities' Immigration Department is seeking Bi-Lingual (Spanish, Polish French/Creole and Arabic) to be mentors for our program clients in: Resume preparation, one-to-one ESL instruction, basic orientation (taking public transportation, reporting an emergency, registering at public library, etc.) Also seeking clerical support in our Amityville location and translation/interpretation assistance. Days and times are flexible. Call Mary Ellen Kwiecinski—Volunteer Intern Coordinator at 516-733-7044.

Seminary Library: Book Talk Schedule Winter-Spring 2017. **February 26**, Msgr. Charles Fink on *"The Expansive Mind of John Henry Newman."* Talks are in the 4th floor library on Sundays, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Free admission. No reservations required. Refreshments served.

Part-Time Sacristan Position – St. Joseph Parish in Babylon is seeking to fill two separate part-time sacristan positions immediately: Weekday 'On-Call' Sacristan: this position would be "On-Call" from 9:30am to 1:30pm. Responsibilities include setting up and serving at funerals, locking up the Church, assisting clergy where necessary. Weekend Sacristan: Saturday and Sunday. Total 19-21 hours. Responsibilities include setting up for Masses, assisting clergy, setting up and serving at funerals when needed, setting up for weddings, some light cleaning/maintenance, locking up the Church, and other various tasks throughout the liturgical seasons. Availability at other times throughout the year for other parish events in the Church a plus. All qualified and interested persons are asked to call St. Joseph Parish business office at (631) 669-0068 x105 and leave your contact information. Experience preferred.

Magnificat, a Ministry to Catholic Women, cordially invites you to attend our **Annual Retreat** at The Immaculate Conception Seminary in Huntington, NY from **March 10-12**. Fr. Ariel Hernandez will be the Retreat Leader. Fr. Ariel received a special gift from the Blessed Virgin under the title of Our Lady of Schoenstatt, and he is the custodian of a miraculous image of her from Argentina. The cost is \$250 per person (including meals/room). Pre-registration is required. First-come, first served. For more information, contact: ihm.magnificat.rvc@gmail.com, Angela at 516-763-1739, or Judy at 917-453-5750.

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

Reflexiones de Lecturas del domingo 29 de Enero del 2017

Dios ha escogido lo que es débil y ha hecho que Jesucristo sea para nosotros nuestra sabiduría y nuestra virtud, nuestra santidad y nuestra libertad.

Que el mismo Señor Jesús esté siempre con ustedes.

Primera Lectura (Sofonías 2, 3; 3,12-13): Dios Vive entre los Pobres y Humildes

El profeta Sofonías promete al pueblo de Dios que se salvará en el día del juicio si es pobre y humilde ante el mismo Dios; si tiene total confianza en él.

Segunda Lectura (1 Corintios 1,26-31): Dios Elige a los Humildes

Casi todos los cristianos de Corinto proceden de las clases pobres. San Pablo les dice que, precisamente por su humildad, están abiertos a Dios y que Cristo es su fortaleza.

Evangelio (Mateo 5,1-12): ¿Quiénes Son los Felices?

Si tomamos conciencia de lo pobres y vacíos que somos, Dios nos colmará y nos hará felices.

Ocho categorías de personas, ocho puertas para entrar en el Reino, para la Comunidad. ¡No hay otras entradas!

Quien quiere entrar en el Reino tendrá que identificarse por lo menos con una de estas categorías.

Bienaventurados los pobres de espíritu => de ellos es el Reino de los Cielos

2. Bienaventurados los mansos => heredarán la tierra

3. Bienaventurados los que lloran => serán consolados

4. Bienaventurados los que tienen hambre y sed de la justicia => serán saciados

5. Bienaventurados los misericordiosos => obtendrán misericordia

6. Bienaventurados los limpios de corazón => verán a Dios

7. Bienaventurados los que trabajan por la paz => serán hijos de Dios

8. Bienaventurados los perseguidos por causa de la justicia => de ellos es el Reino de los Cielos

- Libranos, Señor, de todos los males y elimina de nuestros corazones el caparazón del egoísmo que nos cierra a ti y a nuestros hermanos.

Vacía nuestras manos y nuestros corazones

de toda riqueza egoísta y posesiva,

para que tú mismo seas para nosotros el alimento que nos satisfaga

y la bebida que sacie nuestra sed; y así preparemos con alegría y esperanza

la venida plena y gloriosa entre nosotros de nuestro Señor y Salvador Jesucristo.

Éste es Jesús, el Señor, que nació en pobreza suma, y que no tenía almohada donde reclinar su cabeza cuando proclamó la Buena Noticia de salvación

de tal forma que, siendo pobre, pudiera darse a sí mismo a todos

y hacerse nuestro alimento y bebida. Dichosos nosotros de poder recibirle ahora,

y de hacer posible que nos colme con sus riquezas.

Felices y dichosos nosotros si vivimos el mensaje de alegría de Cristo como personas conscientes de la pobreza de nuestros corazones y de la insuficiencia de nuestros propios recursos.

Bienaventurados nosotros si podemos entregarnos confiadamente en las manos de Dios.

Bienaventurados nosotros cuando Dios nos bendice.

Y así, que la bendición de Dios todopoderoso, Padre, Hijo y Espíritu Santo descienda sobre nosotros y nos acompañe siempre.

PRAYING FOR AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

WE REMEMBER

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

*Geraldine Martin
Donald C. Kochanski
Helen Montalto
Vincent Ferraro
Carmela Mascari
Michael Babish
Rosaria Compagnino
Constance Russo
Frances Battista*

“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.”

WE BELIEVE

We pray for the sick of our parish...

<i>John Gallagher</i>	<i>Alan Gaffen</i>
<i>Reinhard Beresowski</i>	<i>Giugliano Salmi</i>
<i>Mary Doran</i>	<i>Ron Higgins</i>
<i>Peter Masak</i>	<i>Fran Higgins</i>
<i>Herb Otten</i>	<i>Theresa Paolo</i>
<i>Bernadette Sinnott</i>	<i>Rosemary Curr</i>
<i>Marie Foster</i>	<i>Mary Elizabeth Setti</i>
<i>Laurel Kurnides</i>	<i>Mary Doran</i>
<i>Eileen McCauley</i>	<i>Bunnie Rieger</i>
<i>Richard Kleczkowski</i>	<i>Richard Rieger</i>
<i>Tara Hayes</i>	<i>John Jordan</i>
<i>Robert Fitzgerald</i>	<i>William W. Paolo</i>
<i>Frances Ricci</i>	<i>James Byrne, Jr.</i>
<i>Alberta Zero</i>	

GLUTEN-FREE HOSTS



Gluten-free hosts are available for those with Celiac Disease who cannot receive Holy Communion using the usual bread. If you need to receive Holy Communion using a gluten-free host, please stop in the sacristy before Mass to discuss this with the priest. We will be happy to accommodate you.

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 their name printed in the bulletin.**

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.

If you or a family member are ill and wish to receive Holy Communion, please contact the parish office. One of our parish priests will come visit you and an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Community will then visit each week.

We pray for the sick and the homebound of our parish at each and every Mass.



LONG ISLAND COALITION for LIFE, Inc.

P. O. BOX 243 RONKONKOMA, N.Y. 11779 • (631) 243-1435
P.O. BOX 247 OLD BETHPAGE, N.Y. 11804 • www.ProlifeLI.org

Julie Woodley, founder & director of *Restoring the Heart Ministries*, will be the guest speaker at the **January 23rd** meeting of the Long Island Coalition for Life. Julie will speak about helping post-abortive women. She is a speaker, author and certified trauma counselor. The LICL meeting starts 7:45PM at the St. Regis Council K of C Hall, Rosevale Ave. & Pond Rd., Ronkonkoma. All are welcome.

Further info: [631-243-1435](tel:631-243-1435); info@prolifeLI.org.

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, January 23—

**Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection
of Unborn Children**

(St. Vincent, Deacon & Martyr; St. Marianne Cope, Virgin)

6:30 Joseph Micovsky

12:15 John M. Treanor

TUESDAY, January 24—

Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

6:30 Helen Stouten

12:15 Clara Sciallo

WEDNESDAY, January 25—

The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle

6:30 Jackie Calderaro

12:15 Rocco Pomatico

THURSDAY, January 26—

Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops

6:30 Arvo Podrang

12:15 Lorraine Grandinetti

FRIDAY, January 27—

Weekday

(Saint Angela Merici, Virgin)

5:00 Stephen Bruce

6:30 George Walters

12:15 Joseph O'Shea

SATURDAY, January 28—

Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor of the Church

8:00 Loretta Damone & Jack Damone

Vigil for

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 For the People of the Parish

Sunday, January 29

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 George S. Walters

10:00 For the Living & Deceased Members of
the K of C Council 794

12:00 Msgr. Daniel S. Hamilton (Living)

5:00 Victoria Trechte

PARISH CALENDAR

Monday, January 23, 2016

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul/Food Pantry	Room 24
2:30 p.m.	St. Vincent de Paul	Room 24
7:00 p.m.	Liturgy Committee Meeting	St. Lucy
7:00 p.m.	Devotions	Church
7:15 p.m.	Level 8 Student Meeting Social Justice Level 8 Classes	Auditorium School

Tuesday, January 24, 2016

4:00 p.m.	CYO Cheerleading	Auditorium
6:45 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
7:00 p.m.	Blue Door Thrift Shop Meeting	Room 17
8:00 p.m.	Community of Praise	Room 16

Wednesday, January 25, 2016

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul/Food Pantry	Room 24
12:45 p.m.	Exposition	Church
2:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary Business	Room 24
5:30 p.m.	Level 6 Class	School
6:00 p.m.	Van Run	Room 10
7:30 p.m.	Level 7 Classes Vocations Discussion	School Auditorium

Thursday, January 26, 2016

1– 5 p.m.	Church closed for cleaning	Church
4:00 p.m.	CYO Cheerleading	Auditorium
4:30 p.m.	Youth Choir Rehearsal	Room 16
7:00 p.m.	Spanish Prayer Group	Cafeteria
7:30 p.m.	Adult Faith Formation: Spirituality	Room 18
7:30 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal	Church
8:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous	Room 24

Friday, January 27, 2016

5:00 a.m.	March for Life Bus trip	Outside
9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul/Food Pantry	Room 24

Saturday, January 28, 2016

8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 a.m.	Levels 1-5 Classes Level 2 Communion Retreat	School Auditorium
1:00 p.m.	CYO Basketball	Auditorium
4:00 p.m.	Confessions	Church
6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer	Church
7:30 p.m.	Alcohol Anonymous Meeting	Cafeteria

Sunday, January 29, 2017

7:00 a.m.	Blood Drive	Room 16-18
10:00 a.m.	RCIC	Church
10:00 a.m.	K of C 5th Sunday Breakfast	Auditorium
12:00 p.m.	RCIA	Church
1:00 p.m.	Junior Legion of Mary	Room 24
1:00 p.m.	CYO Basketball	Auditorium
6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer	Church
8:00 p.m.	Alcohol Anonymous Meeting	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	religioused@oloph.org
Christopher Ferraro, Director of Music	210	cferraro@oloph.org
Martin Kenny, Business Manager	204	mkenny@oloph.org
April Kleinlaut, Director of Faith Formation	257	akleinlaut@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 Alice White at 631-805-2133 or e-mail at Alicem9@icloud.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
 Marie Foster
 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
 Martin Kenny
 Bob Meade
 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 January 14/15, 2017

Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	283	126	\$3,150.00
8:00 a.m.	225	136	3,552.00
10:00 a.m.	468	156	4,598.00
12:00 pm.	545	197	4,263.00
5:00 p.m.	172	39	1,261.50
Total coin:			14.52
Mail-ins:			176.00
Children's Env.		11	15.00
Faith Direct			2,054.50
TOTAL	1,693	665	\$19,084.52
2016 total	1, 999	615	\$17,023.95
Candles			\$969.59
Poor Box			\$365.21



BISHOP BARRES INSTALLATION

The 12:15 Mass and Confessions will be cancelled on Tuesday, January 31 in order for all the clergy to attend the installation of Bishop John Barres as our new Bishop of Rockville Centre at St. Agnes Cathedral.

REMINDER

ALL 2016 pledges for the Catholic Ministries Appeal must be paid by January 31st, 2017 to ensure that OLPH receives the benefit of the rebate. Thank you for your cooperation.



The IRA Charitable Rollover is back and is now permanent!

2016 OLPH CONTRIBUTION TAX LETTERS

Tax letters for the 2016 tax year will be prepared upon request only. Requests can be made by calling the Rectory: 631-226-7725 X 200. The Secretary will take your name, address & envelope number. The letters will be sent out *only upon request*. Thank you for your cooperation.

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 sizes are at the discretion of the editor.

**January 22—January 13
January 29—January 20
February 5—January 27
Thank you for your cooperation.**

What's called a rollover is actually a "qualified charitable distribution" that can be made to our Parish.

If...

- You are at least 70 1/2 years old on the date you make your gift.
- Your IRA is a traditional or Roth.
- You don't exceed your personal maximum of \$100,000 per year in qualified charitable distributions.
- **You will not have to report your distribution as income.** It will be free of federal and New York State income tax, and it will count toward your required minimum distribution (RMD).

VERY IMPORTANT!! Your gift must go directly from your IRA to the Parish. If you receive the money first then you'll be taxed on it like any other distribution.

Example: Mrs. Connors, age 76, has \$125,000 in a traditional IRA and would like to contribute \$5,000 to her Parish in 2016. Upon hearing of the Charitable IRA Rollover opportunity, she directs the custodian of her IRA to transfer this amount not later than December 31, 2016 directly to the Parish as a 2016 gift. She will not be subject to income tax on her \$5,000 qualified charitable distribution.

PREPARING FOR

Sunday, January 29, 2017—THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*Jesus began to teach them, saying,
“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”*

Matthew 5:2-3

Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13

Zephaniah was a prophet during the reign of King Josiah, one of the few righteous kings of Judah, not long before the fall of Jerusalem in 587 B.C., perhaps at the same time that Jeremiah prophesied. Zephaniah's prophecies warn of the devastation to come “on the day of the Lord's anger” because the people, in general, had turned away from the one true God to worship other idols and to rely on other nations for protection rather than on the Lord. But today's verses are addressed to the few faithful ones left in Jerusalem who have served the Lord by worship of God alone. On the Day of Judgment, they will be deemed humble, without deceit, and steadfastly reliant on God. As such, they will enjoy protection and rest from that day's cataclysmic events. Peace will come to us, too, when we live out our true identity as children of God.

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Today's reading has Paul talking to those who are too caught up in the wisdom of the world to see God's wisdom in sending his Son to die for us. Because Corinth was a large, cosmopolitan port city at the time, the people there had been exposed to many of the varied religions and philosophies of the day, especially Greek philosophy with its emphasis on human reason and abstract ideas. Paul asks them to think not of vague concepts but of their own experience. They were all redeemed and made whole and justified by Christ not by their own merit. God has reversed the order of things. Divine wisdom has given the great gifts of righteousness, sanctification, and redemption to the lowly, the despised, the foolish, and the weak of this world so that no one can boast of their own accomplishments but that “whoever boasts, should boast in the Lord.”

Matthew 5:1-12a

This reading, taken from a longer section often called the “Sermon on the Mount,” portrays Jesus as the true Teacher and interpreter of the Law of Moses, bringing his ministry to both Jew and Gentile alike. It's the first of five extended sections of Jesus' teaching in Matthew's account of the Gospel. Jesus, like Paul who came after him, teaches a reversal of the expected order of things: the Kingdom of Heaven will reverse the fortunes of the lowly, the poor, and the grieving. Blessed will be those who are meek, poor in spirit, merciful, clean of heart and peacemakers. These are called the “Beatitudes.” They also include blessings for those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness and being faithful to God, just as prophesied by Zephaniah, blessings not only for the people of Jesus' time but ours as well.

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. Can the Beatitudes become a way of life for you? If one of them becomes important to you, might the others follow?
2. Pope Francis offered us six new Beatitudes. How do these “confront the troubles and anxieties of our own time with the spirit and love of Jesus”?

- Blessed are those who remain faithful while enduring evils inflicted on them by others, and forgive them from their heart.
- Blessed are those who look into the eyes of the abandoned and marginalized, and show them their closeness.
- Blessed are those who see God in every person, and strive to make others also discover him.
- Blessed are those who protect and care for our common home.
- Blessed are those who renounce their own comfort in order to help others.
- Blessed are those who pray and work for full communion between Christians.

All these are messengers of God's mercy and tenderness, and surely they will receive from him their merited reward.

*Holy Mass in Swedbank Stadion,
Malmo Switzerland, Nov. 1, 2016*



Readings for the Week

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

Monday, January 23, 2017:

Hebrews 9:15, 24-28 + Mark 3:22-30

Tuesday, January 24, 2017:

Hebrews 10:1-10 + Mark 3:31-35

Wednesday, January 25, 2017:

Acts 22:3-16 + Mark 16:15-18

Thursday, January 26, 2017:

2 Timothy 1:1-8 + Mark 4:21-25

Friday, January 27, 2017:

Hebrews 10:32-39 + Mark 4:26-34

Saturday, January 28, 2017:

Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19 + Mark 4:35-41

Sunday, January 29, 2017:

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13

+ 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

+ Matthew 5:1-12a

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