

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



*“If you trust in God, you too shall live;
He has set before you fire and water;
to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand.
Before man are life and death, good and evil,
whichever he chooses shall be given him.”*

Sirach 15:15b-16

THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 12, 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.

FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY

MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION

from Holy Hour to Happy Hour to Holy Hour

Come join us for a family evening of prayer and fun concluding with the burning of palms as we begin our Lenten journey by strengthening our relationship with God!



Tuesday, February 28



5:45 p.m. — Church
Cost: \$20.00 per family
or \$5.00 per person



Please bring a covered dish to be shared with your family and a few others!
You may drop off your dish as you enter the church.



Music, games, 50/50 & more!

Any questions or ticket information contact:

Deirdre Strigaro 631.225-0928

or familylife@oloph.org

MARDI GRAS REPLY FORM

First & Last Name: _____

_____ #of adults _____ # of children & ages _____

Telephone number: _____ Email Address: _____ @ _____

Amount enclosed: cash _____ check _____ *Make checks payable:*

OLPH

Covered dish _____

Please return to OLPH Rectory or in the collection basket

NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, February 26th.

All donations accepted.

Any questions or ticket information contact:

Deirdre Strigaro 631.225-0928 or familylife@oloph.org



PARISH LENTEN MISSION



The Wisdom of St. Joseph for Lent

Sunday, March 5

Monday, March 6

Tuesday, March 7

Each night at 7:30 p.m. in the Church

This year our parish Lenten Mission will be led by
Fr. Patrick Griffin, CM

In May 2013, Pope Francis instructed the Catholic Community to include Joseph in all the Eucharistic Prayers. The directive brought Joseph a little closer to the front in some Christian consciousness and prayer. In this retreat, we will acknowledge the wisdom of St. Joseph as it touches us personally, as it invites the formation of community, and as it points towards what is most important for a family. We hope to grow to be more like this good man as we celebrate the values of this Lenten season leading us to Easter.

Fr. Patrick Griffin, CM, a Brooklyn native, was ordained a Vincentian priest in 1979. After ordination, he completed a doctorate in Biblical Studies and then taught at various universities and seminaries. From 1993-1999, he worked in Rome as the Econome General of the Congregation of the Mission (the Vincentians). From 2010-2014, Fr. Griffin ministered in Paris as the Director General of the Daughters of Charity. In March 2014, Fr. Griffin returned to St. John's University in NY where he assumed his current position as the Executive Director for the Vincentian Center for Church and Society.



PASTOR'S PAGE

Catholic Ministries Appeal 2017

As our participation in this year's Catholic Ministries Appeal ("CMA") continues, I am encouraging all parishioners of OLPH to join in by making a pledge. As we have highlighted over the past few weeks through my personal appeal at all Masses and through the showing of the video last weekend at all the Masses, the CMA is a vitally important endeavor in bringing the presence and ministry of the Catholic Church to all of Nassau and Suffolk Counties. As one parish, we at OLPH (and the same is true for all parishes) can only do so much, but, on the larger diocesan level, programs and ministries such as Catholic Charities, Campus Ministry at area colleges, and the formation of priests, deacons and lay leaders, which are beyond the scope of any one parish, can be supported and accomplished.

At the same time, your support of the CMA is also support of OLPH, since our parish shares in the money collected through a rebate formula. We desperately need those funds to keep us going, and so I ask you to join me in making a pledge to the Catholic Ministries Appeal this year.

Thank you for your generosity and support. Thanks too must go to John Keller, who assists us every year with the presentation of the video, and to Bill Bendernagel, our CMA Chair, who is doing a great job of coordinating all the details for our campaign. I am very grateful to both John and Bill!

"I'll do that!"

Every so often, as a spiritual reflection, I will sit down and actually read through the lists of all of the ministries that are going on here at OLPH and lists of all of the offerers who give their time and energy to the work and mission of the parish. It is always a heartwarming and uplifting exercise for me when I do this, and, by looking at the bulletin and our diocesan website, I encourage you to do the same.

Whenever I do this, I am awed at the talents and generosity of so many people. I cannot tell you how many times I will be in conversation with someone about something, either because I bring up a topic or the other person does, and eventually it gets around to the other person saying, "I'll do that," even before I think about asking the person. I am always overwhelmed by the goodness and generosity of so many people who willingly take on tasks to run things, organize things or make things run smoothly. This is especially so for those of you who work in ministries that involve doing tasks and staying on top of things over and over again on a regular basis, perhaps monthly or even weekly. Often quietly and

without fanfare, and many times behind-the-scenes, so many people are faithful to the commitment they have made to serve the parish in their ministry, and they go about their tasks with great loyalty and devotion. "I'll do that" is a very common phrase heard around OLPH.

Every time I reflect on this I am filled with a sense of gratitude for being here and a sense of humility at how your generosity inspires me. I cannot possibly list every ministry, every activity and every offerer in the parish, but please know that if you serve in any way, I am talking about you. **THANK YOU** for your "I'll do that!" Know that what you do is noticed and appreciated. Know that what you do is what helps to make OLPH "the place to be." Know that I pray for all of you often and regularly.

Bishop Barres' challenge

In his Homily at his Installation Mass on January 31, our new bishop, Bishop John Barres, issued a very beautiful challenge to each and every one of us; here is what he said:

At the World Meeting of Families, Pope Francis said that "Families transform the World and History." Our families need their parish family. The parish family needs each and every family.

And so I appeal on this day of my Installation as the fifth Bishop of the Diocese of Rockville Centre to every inactive Catholic in the Diocese to come back to the power of the Word of God, the power of the Sacrament of Penance, the power of the Catholic Mass. I am so very sorry if you have been hurt or disappointed by the Church in any way and we stand here today to support you, to love you and to listen to you.

In turn, I am asking every active Catholic of every age in the Diocese of Rockville Centre between January 31st (today) and Ash Wednesday (which is March 1st) to invite one inactive Catholic friend or family to come with you to Mass and to gently, humbly, compassionately, non-judgmentally witness to the beauty of your intimacy with Christ and your love for the mission of the Catholic Church and how it has enriched and inspired your life. The power of these gentle and compassionate invitations are enormous. They always plant a seed of grace. And now's the time to make these invitations. Let's all do it together and realize that it is the kindest thing any of us could do for anyone.

Allow me to make Bishop Barres' words my own and invite each and every one of us at OLPH to take up that challenge: let's invite one inactive Catholic friend or family member to come with us to Mass and thereby give witness to the importance of being close to Jesus. Let's be gentle in our invitation and sincere in showing how much we love going to

Mass. It really is the best thing we could do for anyone. Go ahead and ask someone; don't be shy! It really is a great thing to do.

Also, know that I am willing to speak personally with anyone who has been away from the Church and who wishes to talk about coming back. I'll be glad to listen to their hurts, hear about their journey, and to offer them a warm and wide-open and non-judgmental welcome. Maybe you could help arrange this for someone and convince them that it won't be a scary experience for them to come talk to me!

As an aside concerning Bishop Barres, all the priests of the diocese have been invited to a Holy Hour and Evening of Fraternity to meet and get to know Bishop Barres on Wednesday of this week, February 15. I look forward to greeting him in person that evening, and I will be sure to extend to him an invitation to come and visit us at "the place to be."

Coming soon: new Altar Servers wanted!

Boys and girls of the parish in fourth grade and older: keep your eyes peeled and your ears open for

the big announcement coming soon! We will again be taking on a new group to be trained as altar servers, and your chance to sign up to become an altar server will be coming soon. Don't miss out! More information will be appearing within the next few weeks in the bulletin and through religious education. I would love to have YOU become an altar server, and parents, start encouraging your daughter or your son right now to become an altar server!

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,

MARCH FOR LIFE

**OLPH and neighbors joined in the January 27th
March for Life in Washington, D.C. to save the babies.**



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**



**BRING PALMS
TO BE BURNED
FOR USE AS
ASHES**

We are all familiar with the practice of receiving ashes on Ash Wednesday, which this year is *March 1*. The ashes are a sign of the public penance to which we are all called during the Lenten season. As we promise to repent and believe in the Gospel, the ashes brand us with the sign of the cross — a sign of our commitment to the journey of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, a journey which ends with the new life of baptism and baptismal renewal during the Easter season. Penitential acts are undertaken as a community, as together we journey to the cross and resurrection.

What you may not know is where the ashes come from. Very simply, the ashes used on Ash Wednesday are the ashes from palms saved from Palm Sunday the previous year, which have been burned.

We invite you to share in our communal celebration of Ash Wednesday in a special way. **We ask you to bring old palms from your home and deposit them in the baskets which will be available. These palms will then be burned at our Mardi Gras celebration on February 28th and used as ashes on Ash Wednesday, March 1st.**

Please join in this meaningful gesture of community and solidarity as together we embark on our Lenten disciplines.



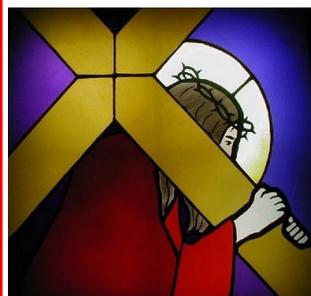
Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

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 Laboure. Take some time each Monday to join in the OLPH Novena.

Monday, February 13—7:00 p.m.

**Monday, February 20—No Devotions
due to President's Day**

Monday, February 27—7:00 p.m.



Stations of the Cross

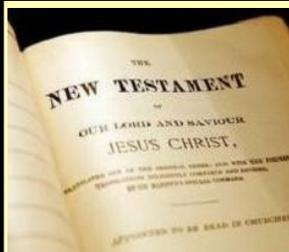
**Fridays
March 3, 10, 17, 24
& April 7**

at 7:30 p.m. in the Church

We are continuing the custom of having different groups from the parish lead the Stations of the Cross on the Friday nights during Lent as a great way to highlight the traditional Lenten devotion of the Stations of the Cross.

**March 3: led by the
Parish Liturgy Committee**

2017 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.

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.

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 4 PARENT MEETING AND OPEN HOUSE

These photos were taken at our Level 4 Parent Meeting and Open House. First, April led a discussion about the Sacraments of Healing with the parents. Next, the parents went into their child's classroom for an interactive lesson led by the catechist.

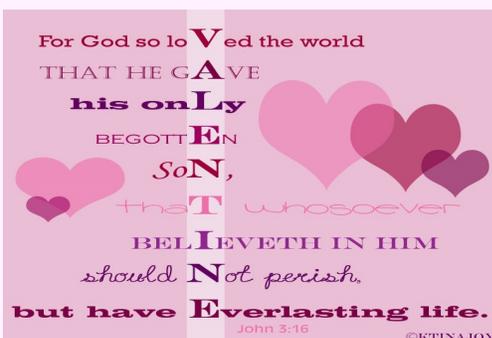


SAINTS OF THE WEEK

St. Valentine/Sts. Cyril and Methodius February 14th

February 14th is known as *Valentine's Day*, the day we send messages of love. St. Valentine helped convert people to Christianity. A Roman Emperor sentenced Valentine to death because he would not renounce his faith. February 14th is marked as a celebration of his martyrdom.

St. Cyril and St. Methodius were brothers born in Greece. Cyril was a philosopher and became a priest. Methodius was a governor and became a monk. They were sent to Russia to be missionaries. They helped convert people to Christianity. Pope John Paul II said that they served as a "spiritual bridge between the Eastern and Western traditions."



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 This Week:**

Monday, Feb. 13th: 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 14th: 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 15th: 2:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 16th: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 18th: 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 emailing us.**

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

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

LEVEL 8

Mandatory Parent Confirmation Meeting

Monday, February 13th (Group B)

Confirmation Retreats

Sunday, February 12th, 3:00 p.m. (Group A)

Sunday, February 26th, 3:00 p.m. (Group B)

LEVEL 7

Mandatory Parent Meeting

Wednesday, February 15th 7:30 p.m.

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
TUNA FISH
CANNED CHICKEN
COFFEE
CANNED FRUIT
CAKE MIX
DISH SOAP
SHAMPOO & CONDITIONER
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 the Gospel Jesus says: “Whoever fulfills and teaches these commands shall be great in the Kingdom of God.”

By your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul you indeed put your faith into action as you fulfill the commands of Jesus.

† 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

HOMELESS MINISTRY

FOOD PREPARERS

We are always in need of individuals, families and groups to prepare a light meal and/or soup for our weekly runs. Can you help us? Contact Regina Muir at 631.226.2709 or e-mail to rmuir11@aol.com. You assist when you can—usually once every other month!

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
Tuesday, February 21
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**

There is a place for you at our table...



COMMUNITY MEAL MINISTRY

OLPH's Community Meal Ministry has served hundreds of meals to members of our parish community. Generally held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month, the Community Meal seeks to provide a place of good food, good fellowship and good times for all who come!

**Our next Community Meal is
Sunday, February 19th**

Come and pray with us at the 12:00 p.m. Mass & then join us for "Sunday Dinner" at 1:00 p.m.

The Feb. 5th *SuperBowl Community Meal* was served by Girl Scouts of Troup 3824. Some 40 members of the community ate chili, corn bread and mac and cheese. Thank you all who donated or helped.



BLUE DOOR BOUTIQUE

BABY, IT'S COLD OUTSIDE!



Leather jackets, wool coats, vests, fleeces, scarves, hats and more! Everything you need to stay warm this winter, available at **CRAZY** low prices at The Blue Door Boutique.

Our prices are the lowest around. New merchandise

THE
bluedoor
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.

PRISON FAMILIES ANONYMOUS

Prison Families Anonymous, a project of FEGS Health and Human Services System, welcomes anyone who now has, or ever had, a loved one involved in the juvenile or criminal justice system.

At meetings, we share our experience, strength and hope. Here we offer information and assistance in navigating the criminal justice system. We encourage members to exchange phone numbers and when possible to carpool to upstate prisons.



... on the **2nd and 4th Tuesday** of every month
starting at 7:30 P.M. at the
Community Presbyterian Church
1843 Deer Park Avenue, Deer Park, NY 11729
Northeast corner of Deer Park Avenue
and Lake Ave
Parking lot entrance on Lake Ave -
Use rear door closest to parking lot

... on the **1st Tuesday** of every month
starting at 7:30 PM
at St. Anthony Hall across from
St. Brigid's Church
75 Post Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590
**For more information,
Please contact: PFA at 631-943-0441**

Email: pfa.longisland@gmail.com **Website:** www.pfa-li.com

For info contact: 516-496-7550 FEGS; 631-943-0441—Barbara; 631-806-3903—Sue

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

- **Church of St. Joseph Parish Center**, 39 North Carll Avenue, Babylon, “**Moving On**” Group, An After Bereavement Group For Widows and Widowers will present: “**Are You Stressed?**” Friday, **February 17 @ 7:30 p.m.** For information please call Geri Olson 631-661-8994 or Mike Goodwin 631-422-0957.
- **Valentines Day Social and Dance--** St. Sylvester's Community Social and Dance featuring Bill Wilkinson and his "Savoy Swing Band" A live 20pc. band with vocals playing for your listening and dancing entertainment. Birthdays and Anniversaries WELCOMED. Saturday, **February 18**, at 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. St. Sylvester's Patricia Desmond Hall, 68 Ohio Ave. Medford NY (Directions: LIE exit 64, south on Rte. 112, one Light, Robinson Ave. Right turn one block in) \$15.00pp snacks & beverages included. www.goodolddanceband.com or call (631) 730-3333.
- **Kellenberg Memorial Alumni Communion Breakfast:** All Kellenberg Memorial High School alumni and their families are invited to celebrate Mass on Sunday, **March 12**, 2017, at 9:00 a.m., which will be immediately followed by breakfast. The speaker at the communion breakfast will be Fr. Philip Eichner, S.M., who is celebrating his 50th year of school administration. The Alumni Communion Breakfast is the perfect way to catch up with former teachers, reconnect with fellow alums, and see all the beautiful changes that have taken place on campus. You will be able to indicate whom you would like to sit with on the registration form. You may also request to sit with one of your old teachers! Registration is \$12 per person. Children ten years of age and under are \$6. If you have any questions, please contact Alumni Director Mr. Thomas Huggard at (516) 292-0200 x375 or alumni@kellenberg.org. Please visit www.kellenberg.org/alumni to register online.
- **Part-Time opportunity** to be part of God's plan to care for and assist God's people at Parish Social Ministry at St. Mary, East Islip: Outreach is seeking a compassionate, confidential person with great organizational skills and secretarial skills. Must be computer savvy and creative. 25 hours a week, Monday—Friday. Call Sr. Camille 631-581-4266 X 128 for an interview appointment.
- **Elementary school secretary needed** for West Islip Catholic school. Must be professional, friendly, able to meet and greet parents, solve simple issues, be computer literate and willing to train on our systems, must multi-task, and like kids! This is an hourly position with varied responsibilities. Hours are 8:00am - 4:00pm school days. Begins immediately, will train. Please contact principal, Mrs. Krol lkrol@ollschool.org

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 19 de Febrero del 2016

Primera lectura. Lectura del libro del Levítico (19,1-2.17-18):

EL Señor habló así a Moisés:

«Di a la comunidad de los hijos de Israel:

“Sed santos, porque yo, el Señor, vuestro Dios, soy santo. No odiarás de corazón a tu hermano, pero reprenderás a tu prójimo, para que no cargues tú con su pecado. No te vengarás de los hijos de tu pueblo ni les guardarás rencor, sino que amarás a tu prójimo como a ti mismo. Yo soy el Señor”»

Segunda lectura. Lectura de la primera carta del apóstol san Pablo a los Corintios (3,16-23): ¿No saben que son templo de Dios? Cristo es en adelante EL UNICO TEMPLO verdadero en el que reside la plenitud de Dios (Juan 2,19); templo de Dios es también la Iglesia en la que actúa el Espíritu de Dios. Templo de Dios es el hogar creyente lo son todos aquellos en los que habita el Espíritu de Dios (6,19)

Lectura del santo evangelio según san Mateo (5,38-48b. Leer el texto: Mateo 5,38-48: Hacer una lectura atenta, pausada y reflexiva. Tratar de descubrir el mensaje de fe que el evangelista quiso transmitir a su comunidad. Leerlo una segunda vez. 3. **Meditación: ¿Qué nos dice el texto hoy a nuestra vida?** No es necesario responder a cada pregunta. Seleccionar las más significativas para el grupo. Lo importante es conocer y profundizar el texto, reflexionarlo y descubrir su sentido para nuestra vida.

a) ¿Han sentido alguna vez una rabia tan grande como para querer aplicar la venganza "ojo por ojo, diente por diente"? ¿Cómo hacer para superarla? ¿Somos capaces de ofrecer la otra mejilla a quienes nos tratan mal? ¿Somos capaces de amar a nuestros enemigos y rezar por los que nos persiguen? ¿Qué nos falta?

¿Es realista que Jesús pida que seamos perfectos como es perfecto el Padre de ustedes que está en el Cielo? ¿Por qué piensan que nos pide eso?

¿Será que la convivencia comunitaria hoy en la iglesia favorece vivir el amor que Jesús propone en el evangelio hoy? ¿Cuál es el mensaje del texto para nuestra vida hoy y qué podemos hacer en concreto para que se haga realidad?

6. **Contemplar el rostro de Dios encontrado en el texto, volver la mirada al mundo y comprometernos con el Reino de Dios y su justicia:** **Compromiso:** Contemplar en silencio a Jesús que, en la hora de su muerte, amaba al enemigo que lo mataba. ¿Cómo he experimentado a Jesús en lo que he vivido? ¿Qué ha hecho Cristo en mi vida? ¿Qué he hecho esta semana para extender el Reino de Dios?

2. **Venganza (5,38-42):** Se refiere a la llamada ley del talión. En su origen ésta ley tuvo un sentido humanitario, pues nació para limitar la venganza indiscriminada, que era corriente entre los pueblos orientales. Esta ley era interpretada literalmente en tiempos de Jesús por la mayor parte de los judíos; sin embargo Jesús propone ir hasta el fondo de este mandato divino y descubrir en él la voluntad divina de romper con la espiral de la violencia que se genera al responder con la misma moneda. Los tres casos que se citan para explicar con ejemplos concretos el alcance de la interpretación de Jesús son bien expresivos. El tercero de ellos se refiere probablemente a un hecho concreto relativamente frecuente en Palestina en aquellos tiempos: la petición que las patrullas romanas desorientadas hacían a los viandantes para que los acompañaran y les indicaran el camino. La actitud de no hacer frente a los que les hacen mal llega hasta el punto de no negar la ayuda ni siquiera a los opresores romanos. Y la razón profunda de esta actitud es que con la llegada del reino se hace presente el amor de Dios, un amor comprensivo y sin medida, un amor que rompe las leyes de la correspondencia.

Que la bendición de DIOS Padre Hijo Y espíritu Santo este siempre con ustedes y permanezca para siempre.

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.

Second Announcement:

*Salvatore Falsitta & Christine Gerbino
Keith Palmisano & Jennifer D'Agostino*

Third Announcement:

Michael Duerr & Nicole Piering

WE REMEMBER

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

*Kenneth Houston, Sr.
Adelina Iannella
Beatrice Coscia*

"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>Giugliano Salmi</i> | <i>James Byrne Jr.</i> |
| <i>Ron Higgins</i> | <i>Alyssa Drenkalo</i> |
| <i>Fran Higgins</i> | <i>Erin Stanton</i> |
| <i>Theresa Paolo</i> | <i>Charles Cascio</i> |
| <i>Rosemary Curr</i> | <i>Bernadette Sinnott</i> |
| <i>Mary Elizabeth Setti</i> | <i>Ester Darrigo</i> |
| <i>Mary Doran</i> | <i>Laura Fischer</i> |
| <i>Bunnie Rieger</i> | <i>Ann DeVito</i> |
| <i>Richard Rieger</i> | <i>Nora McMahon</i> |
| <i>John Jordan</i> | <i>Eileen McCauley</i> |
| <i>Amelia Jean Connolly</i> | <i>Patricia &</i> |
| <i>Annmarie Levy</i> | <i>Richard Kleczkowski</i> |
| <i>Lisa Ruggiero</i> | <i>Ann Power</i> |
| <i>Taylor Paige Crosby</i> | <i>Theresa Lisio</i> |
| <i>Anthony Blasie</i> | |

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.**



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.

MASS MEMORIALS

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

February 12-18:

Candle Oil

In Memory of

Christina Rose Renna

Requested by

Renee

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

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, February 13— Weekday

| | |
|------|----------------|
| 6:30 | George Kercado |
|------|----------------|

| | |
|-------|----------------|
| 12:15 | George Walters |
|-------|----------------|

TUESDAY, February 14— Saints Cyril, Monk, & Methodius, Bishop

| | |
|------|--------------------|
| 6:30 | Joseph Sredniawski |
|------|--------------------|

| | |
|-------|--------------------|
| 12:15 | Adam & Mary Hagzan |
|-------|--------------------|

WEDNESDAY, February 15— Weekday

| | |
|------|---------------|
| 6:30 | Stephen Bruce |
|------|---------------|

| | |
|-------|--------------|
| 12:15 | Ann Bukowski |
|-------|--------------|

THURSDAY, February 16— Weekday

| | |
|------|----------------|
| 6:30 | Robert Jelardi |
|------|----------------|

| | |
|-------|------------------|
| 12:15 | Dorothea McCowan |
|-------|------------------|

FRIDAY, February 17— Weekday *(The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order)*

| | |
|------|-----------------------|
| 6:30 | Pat & Connie Perrotta |
|------|-----------------------|

| | |
|-------|--------------|
| 12:15 | Steven Bruce |
|-------|--------------|

SATURDAY, February 18— Weekday

| | |
|------|--------------|
| 8:00 | Noreen Grube |
|------|--------------|

Vigil for SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

| | |
|------|------------|
| 5:00 | James Lynn |
|------|------------|

Sunday, February 19 SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

| | |
|------|---|
| 8:00 | In Thanksgiving to the Infant Jesus of Prague |
|------|---|

| | |
|-------|----------------|
| 10:00 | George Walters |
|-------|----------------|

| | |
|-------|------------------------------|
| 12:00 | For the People of the Parish |
|-------|------------------------------|

| | |
|------|----------------|
| 5:00 | Barbara Cannon |
|------|----------------|

PARISH CALENDAR

Monday, February 13, 2016

| | | |
|-----------|--|----------------------|
| 9:00 a.m. | St. Vincent de Paul/Food Pantry | Room 24 |
| 7:00 p.m. | Devotions | Church |
| 7:15 p.m. | Level 8 Parent Confirmation Meeting B Level 8 Classes | Auditorium School |

Tuesday, February 14, 2016

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------------|------------|
| 9:00 a.m. | Senior Moments | Room 24 |
| 4:00 p.m. | CYO Cheerleading | Auditorium |
| 6:45 p.m. | Alcoholics Anonymous | Cafeteria |
| 7:30 p.m. | Spanish Board Meeting | Room 18 |
| 8:00 p.m. | Community of Praise | Room 16 |

Wednesday, February 15, 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 Meeting | Room 24 |
| 5:30 p.m. | Level 7 Parent Meeting Social Justice Level 6 Classes | Auditorium School |
| 6:00 p.m. | Van Run | Room 10 |
| 7:30 p.m. | Level 7 Classes | School |
| 8:30 p.m. | Christian Mothers Meeting | Cafeteria |

Thursday, February 16, 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 |
| 7:00 p.m. | Diocesan Liturgy Workshop | Room 19 |
| 7:30 p.m. | Adult Faith Formation: Spirituality | Room 18 |
| 7:30 p.m. | Adult Choir Rehearsal | Church |
| 7:30 p.m. | Baptismal Prep Class for Parents | Room 16 |
| 8:00 p.m. | Narcotics Anonymous | Room 24 |

Friday, February 17, 2016

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---------|
| 9:00 a.m. | St. Vincent de Paul/Food Pantry | Room 24 |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---------|

Saturday, February 18, 2016

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|
| 8:30, 10:00 & 11:30a.m. | Levels 1-5 Classes | School |
| 1:00 p.m. | CYO Basketball | Auditorium |
| 1:30 p.m. | St. Vincent de Paul/Food Pantry | Room 24 |
| 4:00 p.m. | Confessions | Church |
| 6:00 p.m. | Evening Prayer | Church |
| 7:30 p.m. | Alcoholics Anonymous | Cafeteria |

Sunday, February 19, 2017

| | | |
|------------|-----------------------|------------|
| 10:00 a.m. | RCIC | Room 18 |
| 12:00 p.m. | RCIA | Church |
| 1:00 p.m. | Junior Legion of Mary | Room 24 |
| 1:00 p.m. | Community Meals | Cafeteria |
| 1:00 p.m. | CYO Basketball | Auditorium |
| 6:00 p.m. | Evening Prayer | 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 | 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 631-201-9184 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 February 4/5, 2017

| Mass Time | Attendance | # of Envelopes | Weekly Collection |
|------------------------|------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 5:00 p.m. | 355 | 152 | \$3,946.00 |
| 8:00 a.m. | 255 | 103 | 2,658.00 |
| 10:00 a.m. | 438 | 138 | 3,536.00 |
| 12:00 pm. | 485 | 152 | 3,680.00 |
| 5:00 p.m. | 155 | 43 | 1,133.00 |
| Total coin: | | | 22.77 |
| Mail-ins: | | | 1,442.00 |
| Children's Env. | | 17 | 34.77 |
| Faith Direct | | | 2,338.50 |
| Special Needs | 65 | 17 | 542.00 |
| TOTAL | 1,753 | 622 | \$19,333.04 |
| 2016 total | 1,843 | 601 | \$18,080.11 |
| Candles | | | \$892.99 |
| Poor Box | | | \$242.99 |

THANK YOU FOR NOT BLOCKING THE PRIEST GARAGES!

We ask your cooperation in not parking along the driveway outside the priest garages and in keeping cars clear of that area completely. Especially since priests may need to go out on sick calls and other emergencies, it is important to keep the large driveway area and the space in front of the garage doors completely accessible. Thank you.

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.

February 19—passed
February 26—February 17
March 5—February 24

Thank you for your cooperation.

SAVE THE DATE



3rd Annual
OLPH Ministry Instrumental Concert
in *Memory of Ryan Barrett*
Sunday, February 26, 2017

3:00 p.m. at the
Sisters of St. Dominic Motherhouse
Albany Avenue, Amityville

Featuring: *Erin Barrett, Jim Kendall, Sr. Elaine Jahrsdoerfer O.P., and the OLPH Youth Schola under the direction of Amy Keller.*

Free-will offering to benefit the Sisters of St. Dominic.



**The IRA Charitable
Rollover is back and is
now permanent!**

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

If...

1. You are at least 70 1/2 years old on the date you make your gift.
2. Your IRA is a traditional or Roth.
3. You don't exceed your personal maximum of \$100,000 per year in qualified charitable distributions.
4. **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).**

The best way for you to start is with your IRA custodian. Tell them you want to make a "qualified charitable distribution". In most cases you will only have to fill out a simple form.

VERY IMPORTANT!! Your gift must go directly from your IRA to the Parish. If you receive the money first

PREPARING FOR

Sunday, February 19, 2017—SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus said, "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father." Matthew 5:44-45a

Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18

The Book of Leviticus contains some of the most ancient material in the Old Testament, including numerous commands and rules rooted in the Ten Commandments. Today, we hear how the Lord commands the Israelites to be holy as he is holy. In this context, "holy" can be translated as "set apart." These early Jews were supposed to be different from the surrounding peoples and nations because they had a special relationship with God. Specifically, they are told not to hate their brother or sister nor to take revenge or carry a grudge. But even more than not hating or acting negatively, they are told to go further and even love their neighbor as themselves. That's what it means to be holy and to act as God does. Jesus will carry this command even further in today's Gospel reading.

1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Paul also tells those he writes to, the early Christians in the city of Corinth, that they are holy because the Spirit of God is inside them. He calls them "temples of God" for this very reason. Paul goes on to continue his discussion of the past few weeks about how these early followers of Jesus are to be different from those who are wise in the ways of the world since "the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the eyes of God." Christians must be "set apart" from the prevailing cultural customs and values. They must strive "to become a fool," that is, to follow divine wisdom by knowing and acting according to the holy Spirit of God given to them in baptism which sets them apart from the world's values.

Matthew 5:38-48

We hear again from the Sermon on the Mount in the Gospel reading today. Jesus, acting still as the true interpreter of the Law of Moses of the Old Testament, gives his hearers two more examples of fulfilling the law rather than abolishing it. Both challenge his followers to place no limits on loving other people. If anyone injures them, they must not retaliate. They must replace the offense with kindness by offering the other cheek and going the extra mile. Significantly, Jesus fulfills the command we heard in the first reading from Leviticus by stating that Christians should not only love their neighbor but also love their enemy as well. As challenging as these teachings are, Jesus is telling his followers, then and today, how to be holy: act as God would act.

Readings for the Week

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

Monday, February 13, 2017:

Genesis 4:1-15, 25 + Mark 8:11-13

Tuesday, February 14, 2017:

Genesis 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 1 + Mark 8:14-21

Wednesday, February 15, 2017:

Genesis 8:6-13, 20-22 + Mark 8:22-26

Thursday, February 16, 2017:

Genesis 9:1-13 + Mark 8:27-33

Friday, February 17, 2017:

Genesis 11:1-9 + Mark 8:34—9:1

Saturday, February 18, 2017:

Hebrews 11:1-7 + Mark 9:2-13

Sunday, February 19, 2017:

Leviticus 19:1-2,17-18
+ 1 Corinthians 3:16-23
+ Matthew 5:38-48

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. *Why would Jesus tell you to "Love your enemies?" Who lives like that? Did Jesus show us a new revolutionary kind of acting when he showed us how to love our enemies? How far was he willing to go for them with his radical self-emptying? How far was the Father willing to go for his children?*

2. *What are the two things that praying for our enemies does, according to Pope Francis?*

(The pope noted how Jesus offers many examples to show the commandments in a new light and to prove that love is more generous than the letter of the law. From 'Do not kill' meaning don't insult or be angry with your brother ...)

This is not just for the fulfillment of the law, but it also helps to heal our hearts. In Jesus' explanations of the commandments, especially in St. Matthew's Gospel, there is a journey of healing. Every heart wounded by sin—as each one of us has—must undertake this journey of healing in order to be more like our "heavenly Father (who) is perfect." ...

The power of prayer will do two things: it will change that person for the better and it will make us become more like children of our heavenly Father.

June 14, 2016

Mass at Casa Santa Marta

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