

# Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

210 South Wellwood Avenue + Lindenhurst, New York 11757 +

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



*Jesus said, "It is written:  
One does not live on bread alone,  
but on every word  
that comes forth  
from the mouth of God."*

Matthew 4:4

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

March 5, 2017

### PASTORAL STAFF

**Pastor:** Reverend Monsignor Joseph DeGrocco

**Parochial Vicars:** Reverend Fidelis Ezeani, Reverend Frank Zero

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

**Business Manager:** Mr. Frank Pokorney

**Director of Faith Formation:** Mrs. April Kleinlaut

**Music Director:** Mr. Christopher Ferraro

**Pastor Emeritus:** Reverend Monsignor Daniel S. Hamilton

Deacon Frank Odin, Retired

### COME IN AND PRAY...

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

### MASS SCHEDULE

**Monday – Friday**

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

**Saturday Morning:**

8:00 a.m.

**Saturday 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.

# MARDI GRAS 2017

Mardi Gras 2017, which was held Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup> and sponsored by the Family Life ministry, was great fun for all ages.

Children, parents, grandparents, friends and all our awesome priests had a great time at the last hurrah before Lent. We began with Evening Prayer and ended with the burning of the palms. The ashes were then distributed at all the Ash Wednesday liturgies.



## 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

### *First Sunday of Lent*

Off we go with another season of Lent! If we're taking it seriously, we should feel almost a little overwhelmed at the daunting task that lies ahead of us — journeying for the next 40 days in the desert with Jesus, struggling with our sinfulness and seeking to enter into a conversion which will result in new life with Him. It doesn't just happen on its own, though; we have to be conscious and deliberate in our choices to make the most of this Lent.

We have marked this First Sunday of Lent with an ancient custom of singing of the Litany of the Saints during the Entrance Procession. Our stark worship environment reminds us of the simplicity and seriousness we are called to during this season, and it creates a hunger for the blossoming of new life we will experience at Easter. As always, the prayers of the Mass provide the central focus for us in our Lenten spirituality. Let's take a look at those prayers to explore their spiritual depth and richness, so that those prayers can ground our reflections for this first week of Lent.

The Collect (Opening Prayer) sets the agenda for us and very much gives us the sense that we are beginning something significant. We pray that *"through the yearly observance of holy Lent...we may grow in understanding of the riches hidden in Christ and by worthy conduct pursue their effects."* Notice how the emphasis is that our observance of Lent should have a concrete effect in our behavior — our conduct should be worthy of our life in Christ.

The Prayer over the Offerings also acknowledges the beginning of Lent as "we celebrate the beginning of this venerable and sacred time," but, like the Collect, the prayer also reminds us of a change that is supposed to occur in us: *"Give us the right dispositions, O Lord, we pray, to make these offerings..."* We must always strive to present ourselves to the Lord with the acceptable sacrifice of a life that is good and holy and true.

The Prayer after Communion speaks of the nourishment that comes to us in the Eucharist by referencing the three traditional virtues of faith, hope and charity. Also, in a clear allusion to the Gospel for the Mass, the prayer goes on to ask *"that we may learn to hunger for Christ, the true and living Bread, and strive to live by every word which proceeds from your mouth."*

Finally, the Preface (the first part of the Eucharistic Prayer, before the *Holy, Holy*) echoes the Gospel as it makes reference to Jesus' fast of forty days in the desert and the temptations he faced. It reminds us that we, too, are to go into desert during Lent and confront our temptations and our sins, strengthened in that spiritual combat by our union with Christ.

### *Parish Mission*

I do hope that you will give yourself the treat of attending our Parish Mission which starts tonight, given by Fr. Patrick Griffin. You have had the pleasure of meeting Fr. Pat and hearing him speak at Mass this weekend, so you already have an indication of what a great Mission it's going to be. I am looking forward to each night, and I hope all of you will be there, tonight, Monday night and Tuesday night, starting at 7:30 p.m.

### *Call to Continuing Conversion*

As you know, the season of Lent is an important time for unbaptized adults — actually, anyone over the traditional "age of reason," so this includes older children and teens, as well — who are preparing to be initiated into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. Those catechumens, that is, those who are unbaptized, become the elect and enter their final stage of preparation before being initiated into the Church with the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. Unfortunately, we do not have any unbaptized adults at OLPH this year who are ready for initiation this Easter Vigil, although we will have some for next year.

Lent is also a special time for those who have already been baptized in another Christian tradition (Protestant, Lutheran, etc.) but who are in the process of adult initiation leading to their reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church and their reception of the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. These people are referred to as "candidates," and I am happy to say that this year we do have one candidate who during this Lent will be in his final stage of preparation for being received into the Catholic Church and receiving Confirmation and Eucharist at a Sunday Mass during Easter Time. Our candidate is Jeffrey Gaab; you have probably seen him at Mass-

es, and I ask you to keep Jeffrey in your prayers during this final stage of his preparation for becoming Catholic.

Jeffrey, as do all candidates throughout the Church, will be celebrating the Call to Continuing Conversion next Sunday, March 12. This ritual is presided over by the Bishop, and Jeffrey will join with other already-baptized candidates throughout the Diocese of Rockville Centre who will formally and officially, through the Bishop, be accepted as candidates who will be received into the Catholic Church after this Lenten season this year. The ritual takes place Sunday afternoon, March 12, at 2:30 p.m. in St. Anne's in Brentwood. In preparation for that, we will celebrate here at OLPH at the 8:00 a.m. Mass next Sunday morning the Rite of Sending the Candidate for Recognition by the Bishop and for the Call to Continuing Conversion. During that Mass we will recognize Jeffrey for the progress he has made and formally send him with our prayers and blessings to be accepted by the Bishop later in the day.

***That Old Rugged Cross on the rectory lawn***

You may have noticed that we now have a wonderful addition to our exterior Lenten environment: a huge cross with a purple drape, standing on the side of the church, right on Wellwood Avenue, where our large outdoor Advent wreath is located during Advent. This is a magnificent sign to remind us, and the entire community, of the holiness of this season and the special time of year we are in. I take this opportunity to thank Keith and Jessica Ladolcetta, Phil Macy and his family, and Scout Troop 60 led by Phil for their work on the cross and the purple drape. All of you did a magnificent job, and we are very grateful. This is yet another aspect of what makes OLPH "the place to be." (As an aside, Keith is also the one who built and who maintains our outdoor Advent wreath; thanks too for that, Keith!).

***Professional Mentorship Ministry***

In the weeks ahead you will be hearing about a new ministry we are trying to launch here at OLPH, the Professional Mentorship Ministry. The purpose of the ministry will be to build a network of professional people in the parish who have professional skills and who would be willing to mentor and help others in their professional development. Anyone who is feeling unfulfilled in

their professional life and who would like guidance in identifying and maximizing their gifts and potential would benefit from this ministry. It would apply to people who are looking to stay in the particular field they are in now but want to grow and do better, and it would also apply to people looking to make a change in their life and who are interested in finding a new profession.

I think this is an exciting endeavor and I'm very interested in having it get off the ground. I think this is a great opportunity for us as Church to reach out to others in an area that is very practical, concrete and close to their concerns. It will be a great service, and it will be a great way of connecting people with the Church if they are away from it, but in a very needed and practical way.

I am very grateful to Julian Barrios, whom many of you know as one of our parish Readers, for coming up with this idea and for taking responsibility for launching it. As I said, you'll be hearing more about it soon. I hope many people will take advantage of this ministry of parishioners helping their fellow parishioners through professional mentoring.

***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,




*Here's the cross that has been added to our outdoor environment for Lent. Now all of Lindenhurst can see the power of the cross during Lent and Easter Time!*

## 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



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, March 6—6:30 p.m.**

**due to the Parish Mission**

**Monday, March 13—7:00 p.m.**

**Monday, March 20—6:30 p.m.**

**due to Level 8 Penance Service**

### BRINGING FORWARD THE OFFERINGS OF BREAD AND WINE

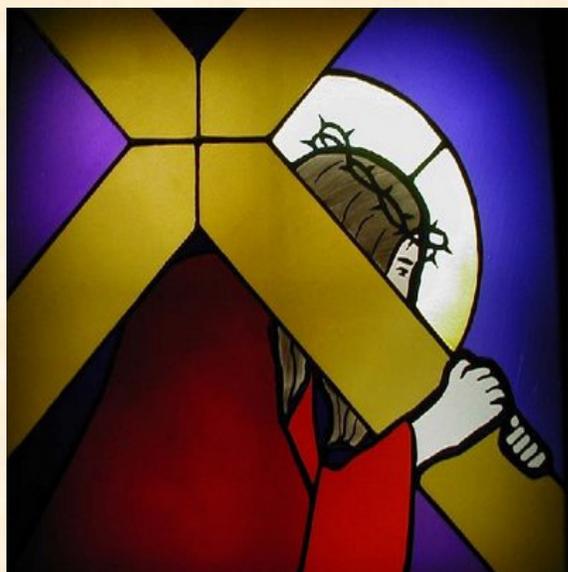


If the announced intention at Mass is for your intention, or if you have memorialized the bread and wine, and you would like to carry those offerings forward at the Presentation of the Gifts during Mass, please be sure to let the ushers know this before the Mass begins. They will be happy to have you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

### ABSTINENCE AND FASTING

All Catholics who have reached their fourteenth (14<sup>th</sup>) year are bound to abstain entirely from meat on all the Fridays of Lent. All Catholics between the ages of eighteen (18) and fifty-nine (59) inclusive are also bound to observe the law of fast on Good Friday. This means limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Two other light meals, which together do not equal a full meal, may be taken during the day. Those whose work or health would be impaired are excused from fast and abstinence. Individual conscience should decide proper cause for excuse. A more serious reason is required to excuse oneself from the Good Friday fast and abstinence.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS



### **Stations of the Cross**

**Fridays, March 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 10: led by the Family Life Ministry & Youth Choir**

### **MASS WITH OUR NEW BISHOP, BISHOP JOHN BARRES**

Bishop Barres is visiting the Deaneries of the Diocese

(a Deanery is a cluster of parishes in the same area)

in order to meet the people of his new diocese.

**COME JOIN IN MASS  
WITH  
BISHOP BARRES**

**MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2017**

**5:00 p.m.**

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH**

**455 Hunter Avenue, West Islip**



All parishioners are welcome!

It will be a great way to meet and greet our new Bishop!

Let's have a great showing from OLPH—"the place to be!"

## THE MEANING OF LENT

We're going on retreat! True, we may not physically be traveling to a far-off place, but we are nonetheless going on retreat. The solemn season of Lent may be seen as a time of retreat for the entire Church, as we prepare to celebrate Easter and the new life which comes to us through Jesus' death and resurrection. In fact, three focal points can form the basis for our Lenten spiritual journey:

- focusing on the mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection;
- final preparation of those in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults to receive Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist;
- rediscovery of and recommitment to Baptism by those already baptized, through their penance, spiritual renewal, and ongoing conversion.



The *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy* of Vatican II explains:

*The two elements which are especially characteristic of Lent — the recalling of baptism or the preparation for it, and penance — should be given greater emphasis in the liturgy and in liturgical catechesis. It is by means of them that the Church prepares the faithful for the celebration of Easter, while they hear God's word more frequently and devote more time to prayer. More use is to be made of the baptismal features which are proper to the Lenten liturgy....The same may be said of the penitential elements. But catechesis, as well as pointing out the social consequences of sin, must impress on the minds of the faithful the distinctive character of penance as a detestation of sin because it is an offense against God. The role of the Church in penitential practices is not to be passed over, and the need to pray for sinners should be emphasized. During Lent, penance should be not only internal and individual but also external and social.*

### THE STRUCTURE OF LENT

Most people know that Lent is 40 days long, but they think that the 40 days are the six weeks plus the four days of the week of Ash Wednesday (which totals 46 days) minus six Sundays, which equals 40 days. But Lent does not end on Holy Saturday; it ends on Holy Thursday evening. The Triduum, or Three Days, beginning with the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday and concluding with evening Vespers on Easter Sunday, is a three-day season unto itself, and not merely the final three days of Lent. The span of days from Ash Wednesday to Holy Thursday is 44 days, but the ancient fathers of the Church calculated 40 days by beginning the count with the First Sunday of Lent, and continuing until Holy Thursday. This practice has been kept to the present time, hence the 40 days of Lent.

At least four phases of the season can be discerned:

1. *Ash Wednesday and the next three days:* These four days form a solemn preview of the season; the Scriptures and Mass prayers announce the major aspects of the observance and call us to enter into the season. The First Sunday of Lent begins the period of 40 days, with the Rite of Election for the catechumens being one expression of this.
2. *The 28 days from the First Sunday until the Saturday of the Fourth Week:* Scripture readings and penitential rites provide the structure for these days. Penance services, the Penitential Rite for candidates for reception into the full communion of the Church celebrated on the Second Sunday, and the first two scrutinies for the elect on the Third and Fourth Sundays, are all a part of this time. Only two feasts, the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (moved to March 20 this year because March 19 is a Sunday), and the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord (March 25), break this violet period in 2017. The Fourth or "Laetare" Sunday (March 26) brings its own nuances, and rose-colored vestments may be worn that day.
3. *From the Fifth Sunday and following:* Attention becomes focused on the passion of Christ during this period of Lenten time. The Third Scrutiny for the elect is celebrated on the Fifth Sunday of Lent.
4. *The last days, called Holy Week, beginning with Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord:* These days are given the highest liturgical precedence so the Church will not be distracted from final preparations for the Triduum. Focus on the passion of Christ becomes intensified.

Remembering that Lent is primarily about baptismal preparation and conversion, let us be aware of the structure and movement of this season as we journey toward Easter.

## CHURCH ENVIRONMENT AND OTHER RITUAL ELEMENTS DURING LENT

Our church environment will look different during the Lenten season. The environment in which we worship helps us to enter into a Lenten spirituality — what we see (and don't see) and smell and hear is all a part of the way we pray. Here are some things you will notice during Lent:

**THE ASHES USED ON ASH WEDNESDAY WILL BE ON DISPLAY ALL DURING LENT, in the Divine Mercy Chapel area.** This will be an ongoing reminder of the spiritual journey of Lent, a journey of dying and rising, a journey of changing our lives to be closer to Christ. The ashes come from burned palms saved from the previous year's Palm Sunday.

**THERE WILL BE NO FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH.** The Roman Rite is specific about flowers for this penitential season: they are not allowed! The only exceptions this year are the feasts mentioned above and "Laetare" Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of Lent.

**OUR BAPTISMAL FONT WILL HAVE A "LENTEN LOOK" TO IT.** Our baptismal font will be decorated with purple bands, as a reminder that these forty days of penance and conversion lead to a renewal of our baptismal promises at Easter. We are thirsting for the new Easter water which will flow at the celebration of the Lord's Resurrection!

**FOR THE PENITENTIAL ACT AT ALL SUNDAY MASSES DURING LENT WE WILL RECITE THE CONFITEOR (THE "I CONFESS TO ALMIGHTY GOD...") AND THEN SING THE KYRIE ELEISON ("LORD, HAVE MERCY").** This will highlight for us the penitential nature of the season and help us to more intently "acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries." It also gives us the chance to use the *Confiteor* ("I confess to almighty God...") which is not often heard at Sunday Masses.

**WE WILL USE THE APOSTLES' CREED INSTEAD OF THE NICENE CREED.** The Roman Missal tells us, "Instead of the Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed, especially during Lent and Easter Time, the baptismal Symbol of the Roman Church, known as the Apostles' Creed, may be used." So, to highlight the sacredness of the season, we will use the Apostles' Creed instead of the Nicene Creed, the one we usually use, for all of Lent and Easter Time. This will highlight for us the baptismal character of both the Lenten and Easter seasons.

**THERE WILL BE NO SINGING OR INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC AT THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS DURING LENT.** This will help create a mood of prayerful quiet and reflection appropriate to the season. The Priest may continue to pray the preparation prayers silently, or he may recite them out loud, giving the people the opportunity to respond, "Blessed be God forever."

**CROSSES AND IMAGES IN THE CHURCH WILL BE COVERED STARTING WITH THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT.** This custom becomes yet another stark visual reminder of the seriousness of Lent and helps us to truly experience heavenly joy and resurrected life when the images of the saints, who are in heavenly glory, are seen once again come Easter.

There are other ritual aspects that go into the celebration of Lent:

- the omission of the *Glory to God in the highest* at the beginning of all Masses;
- the omission of the Alleluia before the Gospel, replaced by another Gospel acclamation;
- less use of the organ and more singing without the accompaniment of instruments
- traditional Lenten practices such as prayer, fasting, and almsgiving;
- Lenten devotions such as Stations of the Cross and our Parish Mission (look for details elsewhere in the bulletin).

As we journey through the days of Lenten springtime together, let us enter into its spirit by anticipating the new life which comes to us through Jesus' resurrection at Easter.

## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

On **March 12, the Second Sunday of Lent**, our brother Jeffrey Gaab, who is in formation to become Catholic through the process of the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**, will enter a new stage in his journey. Just as Lent is a time for all Catholics for intense renewal, conversion, and purification, the same is true for those preparing to become Catholic at Easter. Our candidate Jeffrey, who is already baptized but is seeking to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church, will be undergoing a period of more intense preparation during the Lenten season.



The ritual for him to begin this period is called **The Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion**, and this is celebrated on the diocesan level with one of the diocesan bishops on the **Second Sunday of Lent, March 12**. Jeffrey will attend the liturgy which will be held at St. Anne's in Brentwood, with Bishop Andrzej as the presider. On that same Sunday, March 12, next week, at the **8:00 a.m. Mass here**, we will pray together the **Parish Celebration for Sending the Candidates for Recognition by the Bishop**. During this Mass, we will call forward our candidate by name, pray for him, and formally send him forth to be recognized by the bishop. Please feel free to join us at this important communal celebration.

Please keep Jeffrey in your prayers as he enters this Lenten season, his final preparation before joining the Catholic Church at a Sunday Mass during Easter Time.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE AFFECTING ALL CHILDREN OF THE PARISH

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

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

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

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

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

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

## OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

Located in the school building  
 Phone # 631.226.7725 x. 253  
 Email: [religiously@oloph.org](mailto:religiously@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.

### Important Upcoming Dates:

**Monday, March 6th**

**No Class: Parish Mission**

Students must attend the Parish Mission on Sunday 3/5, Monday 3/6, or Tuesday 3/7 to fulfill the workbook requirement.

**Wednesday, March 8th (classes resume)**

Students are reminded to attend the Parish Mission on Sunday 3/5, Monday 3/6, or Tuesday 3/7 to fulfill the workbook requirement.

**Saturday, March 11th**

**Level 5 Parent/Child Workshop**

This takes place during all session times.

### 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 request that all families with students who have not yet begun religious education, who will be beginning 1st grade (or older), to register for religious education soon. We welcome anyone interested in registering or learning more about our program to make a “New Family” appointment or call us for any information.

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 your time as a catechist or hall monitor in our program, please contact our office.

We can't wait to meet you!

### SAINTS OF THE WEEK



**Sts. Perpetua and Felicity,  
 African Martyrs**

**Feast Day: March 7th**

We have very detailed historical accounts of these two women, both married, who died for their faith in the days of the early Church. Perpetua was a noblewoman while Felicity was a slave. They, along with other companions, saw many beautiful visions of heaven before they were sentenced to death. Perpetua's father, a pagan, begged her to renounce her faith to save her life, but she refused.

Felicity, who was pregnant, gave birth just a few days before she was killed. Perpetua's diary of her experiences leading up to their martyrdom tells a beautiful and powerful story of standing true to faith.

*Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, pray for us!*

## MINISTRY OF PRAISE

All Christians are meant to have a full, complete relationship with God. Yet most of us who seek that relationship know it is not easily achieved. Nearly all spiritual journeys open us to challenges, and the more ardently we pursue life with God at the center, the more likely we are to encounter obstacles many of which we were previously unaware. As we mature spiritually, we gain greater awareness of the forces and elements that present barriers to continued spiritual growth. A vital early step comes in comprehending the nature of our spiritual journey.

When St. Thérèse's Superior asked her to write about her spiritual life, Thérèse began by wondering about the differences in spiritual grace in people. She wonders why all of us do not receive an equal amount of grace from God. Even among saints, God seems to shower some with favor, while others undergo extreme hardship in bringing Christ to others. Why, in fact, Thérèse wonders, are there people who have never even heard of God? Thérèse finds the answer to her questions in the world in front of her. "Jesus deigned to teach me this mystery," writes Thérèse. "He set before me the book of nature; I understood how all the flowers He has created are beautiful, how the splendor of the rose and the whiteness of the Lily do not take away the perfume of the little violet or the delightful simplicity of the daisy. I understood that if all flowers wanted to be roses, nature would lose her springtime beauty, and the fields would no longer be decked out with little wild flowers. And so it is in the world of souls, Jesus' garden." She concludes that God must love to see tiny violets when he looks down at his feet.

From St. Thérèse's image of a wildflower meadow, we can draw two truths to support us on our spiritual journey. The first is that God is close. Rather than envisioning God in distant heaven, Thérèse encourages us to see Him in our surroundings. As our center, He is both familiar and fascinating. Like the field of flowers, God's revelation increases our knowledge of Him each time we consider it.

Secondly, St. Thérèse's field of wildflowers reminds us that God has a vision of unity which we often lack. The variety of elements that God has planted in His creation reveals that God must be pleased by variety. Each plant has its own purpose in the sequence of blossoms and the balance of color. Variety becomes an evidence of God's love for the garden. The garden doesn't proclaim uniformity, but the beauty of interdependence and difference.

Our perfection consists in doing God's will, St. Thérèse reminds us. But we should also remind ourselves that our journey toward perfection, even when we are challenged, is meant to be joyful. Let us pray that our joy will lift those who suffer with depression and struggle to know the love God has for each flower in his garden.

Your brother in Christ,

*Deacon Robert A. Becker*

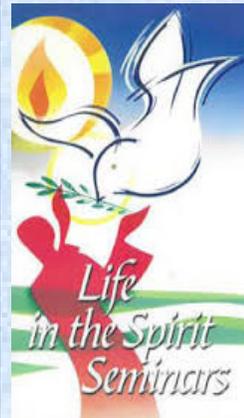
Learner, Intellection, Input, Restorative, Ideation



### COMMUNITY OF PRAISE

The Community of Praise is a welcoming group of parishioners committed to living in the Holy Spirit. We meet each week to praise God in song, pray with each other, study Scriptures, and support each other on our journey of faith. We support the parish by our prayers, by joining with other parish groups for special projects, and by offering the Life in the Spirit Seminar. All are welcome to come and pray and praise with us, just once every week. We meet in Room 16 of the school every Tuesday night from 8:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

*However, please know that we will not meet Tuesday, March 7 (due to the Parish Mission).*



*Deacon Frank Odin &  
The Community of Praise  
are hosting a  
"Life in the Spirit  
Seminar"*

**OLPH School  
240 SOUTH WELLWOOD AVE.  
LINDENHURST NY 11757**

**Tuesdays**

**April 4 – May 16, 2017**

**Room 16**

**7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

**Sandy or Vito (631) 412-3794**

**Jackie or Jimmy (631) 957-4703**

# 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.**

Lent is a call to “give alms for the poor.” Wherever you live in the parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the rectory bell. They are, in effect, ringing your doorbell.

**Is there a family you know who needs assistance?  
Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that  
together we can help the suffering and poor.**

## † **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 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto: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, March 21**  
 Meeting

**7:00 p.m. in Room 24**

Call Gail Tonnessen at 631-957-1449  
 or email her at [gtonness@optonline.net](mailto: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, March 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**  
*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.

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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, March 5**

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

## CATHOLICS FOR FREEDOM OF RELIGION



*"I am now giving you the choice between life and death, between God's blessing and God's curse, and I call heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Choose life." Deuteronomy 30:19*

**Assisted Suicide and Physicians' Conscience Rights:**

Opponents of Physician-Assisted-Suicide (PAS) contend that doctors have a moral responsibility to keep patients alive as reflected in the Hippocratic Oath. They argue there may be a "slippery slope" from euthanasia to murder and that PAS will unfairly target the poor and disabled and create incentives for insurance companies to terminate lives in order to save money. ([euthanasia.procon.org](http://euthanasia.procon.org), 12/19/16)

This "slippery slope" argument is addressed by Dr. Ezekiel Emanuel, writing about ethics in the Atlantic Monthly, in which he affirms that there is a lesson to be learned from the Netherlands and Belgium, where there is widespread breach of legal safeguards leading to a sizable incidence of non-voluntary euthanasia. He fears the eventual outcome of PAS laws could be euthanasia of the demented, the mentally ill, the old, and others. ([heritage.org](http://heritage.org), 3/24/15; [cmda.org](http://cmda.org), 7/18/16)

**A Warning from Canada:**

The "Medical Assistance in Dying" report, February, 2016, recommended that all Canadian doctors have a legal **duty** either to provide assisted suicide or provide an "effective referral" to someone who will provide it. Recommendation 10 of the report recognizes there may be a direct conflict of rights and interests between a patient seeking suicide and a doctor with ethical and moral standards opposed to providing this option. However, Recommendation 10 subordinates the values, rights and ethical interests of the doctor to the wishes of the patient.

Many physicians in Canada warn of this "slippery slope" to the kind of social and medical ethics that corrupts and erodes the core virtues essential for survival of a free society. It would be wise to pay attention to what is happening in Canada, the Netherlands, Belgium, and Switzerland, since already six American states (CA, OR, WA, MT, NM, and VT) have recently legalized physician assisted suicide. The New York State legislature is now considering a so-called "medical aid in dying" bill. ([cnsnews.com](http://cnsnews.com), 3/18/16; [statnews.com](http://statnews.com), 1/19/17; [latimes.com](http://latimes.com), 5/16/16)

*"Do not abandon wisdom, and she will protect you; love her and she will keep you safe. Getting wisdom is the most important thing you can do." Proverbs 4:6-7*  
[www.cffor.org](http://www.cffor.org)

## DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

### CHURCH OF ST. JOSEPH PARISH CENTER

39 North Carll Avenue  
Babylon, NY 11702

#### "Moving On" Group

An After Bereavement Group For  
Widows and Widowers Will Present:

#### "Reinventing Yourself after the Loss of a Spouse"

Presented by Dr. Anne C. Kane

Friday, March 10 @ 7:30 p.m.

For further information please call  
Geri Olson 631-661-8994  
or Mike Goodwin 631-422-0957

*Bereavement Conference 2017 Journeying Together in Times of Pain and Loss.* Keynote Address – The Health Effects of Bereavement Dr. Kerriane Page MD HMDC, Chief Medical Officer for Hospice, Palliative Care, & Home Care Services and Senior Vice President of Clinical Effectiveness for Catholic Health Services of Long Island. The Conference will be held on Saturday, **March 25**, at St. Joseph's Parish, Babylon from 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. and is sponsored by the DRVC-Office of Faith Formation and Catholic Cemeteries.

*Bereavement counseling & Support Service* at St. Bernard's Parish, Levittown, Groups meet weekly on Thursdays: **March 30**-April 1—6:30 p.m.– 7:45 p.m. For parents: Mondays, **March 13**—ongoing 7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.; for survivors of suicide, Mondays, **March 6**—ongoing 7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. One-time \$20 reg. fee. Contact Sr. Christine Sammons at 516-731-6074. Weekly group meetings at St. Brigid's Parish, Westbury, Wednesdays, **March 29**—May 1 7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m. Contact Maria Piniero for St. Brigid's at 516-334-0021.

# 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](mailto:saitjoseph98@gmail.com).

### **Lecturas del domingo 12 de Marzo del 2017**—Lecturas del 2º Domingo de Cuaresma - Ciclo A

Lea las lecturas en su Biblia y luego reflexione con nosotros.

Cuando apareció nuestro Salvador Jesucristo, abolió la muerte y proclamó la Buena Noticia de vida e inmortalidad.

Que su gracia y su luz esté siempre con ustedes.

#### **Primera Lectura (Génesis 13,1-4):** ¡Abandonen su Seguridad!

Dios exige a Abrahán un cambio radical. Se le llama, cuando era todavía un pagano, a abandonar su seguridad en una peregrinación de fe y esperanza hacia una tierra prometida que se le dará, no a él sino al nuevo pueblo que nacerá de él. Abrahán marchó, como le había dicho el Señor. ¿Aremos tú y lo mismo?

**Segunda Lectura (2 Timoteo 1,8b-10):** Dios Nos Llama a la Vida del Evangelio. Dios nos llama a aceptar y a difundir el evangelio de Jesús y a sufrir por el

#### **Evangelio (Mateo 17:1-9):** Levántate, No Tengas Miedo

La breve visión fugaz de su futura gloria fortalece a Jesús en su camino a través del sufrimiento y de la muerte hacia la resurrección. Al mismo tiempo, Jesús fortalece la fe y esperanza de sus discípulos y las nuestras, en el camino de nuestra propia transformación en Cristo.

**La Experiencia del Monte Tabor**—Hay momentos en la vida de cada uno en que vemos dificultades frente a nosotros, especialmente cuando afrontamos decisiones importantes. Jesús vio enfrente de sí una oposición creciente por parte de los líderes religiosos del pueblo: Ellos le matarían si él prosiguiera su misión. Sin embargo, llevaría a cabo esa tarea, y así subió a la montaña a orar al Padre para pedirle valor. En la visión de la Transfiguración Jesús vio cómo resucitaría de entre los muertos y así su misión acabaría en éxito. --- Nosotros rogamos, con el Señor Resucitado entre nosotros, que veamos también su luz, y con su fuerza tomemos las decisiones justas.

**Un rostro transformado**—La Cuaresma es para nosotros el tiempo privilegiado para el cambio, la transformación, la transfiguración. Nuestros rostros complacientes y culpables tienen que transformarse en rostros de alegría, amor y servicio. El rostro de nuestro mundo tiene que transformarse también de injusticia en integridad, de odio en bondad y amistad. Nosotros tenemos miedo al cambio, especialmente si es a costa de nosotros mismos. --- Hoy Jesús nos muestra el camino. Él vio cómo el sufrimiento y la muerte le esperaban, y por eso su rostro y su corazón estaban tristes. Pero entonces el Padre volvió el rostro de Jesús radiante, porque iba a encontrarse con la vida y la resurrección; su rostro se hizo resplandeciente de alegría y de gloria. Si seguimos a Jesús y le dejamos que nos transforme, nuestro propio rostro se volverá también resplandeciente.

Jesús es el Maestro que habla y enseña a los discípulos pero a la vez, es el Señor penetrado por la luz de Dios y envuelto en la nube. El monte, lugar de la manifestación de Dios, como el Sinaí: el resplandor de su rostro y los vestidos, presencia de la gloria del Señor... reflejo de la divinidad. “Este es mi Hijo, a quien yo quiero, mi predilecto, Escuchadlo.” Es la parte central de todo el relato. El Padre desde la nube reivindica la figura de Jesús por su actitud obediente, camino de Jerusalén, para entregar su vida. Mateo repite aquí las palabras dichas por la voz en el bautismo (3,17): “Este es mi Hijo querido, mi predilecto”.

## **ASESOR DE LA DIÓCESIS**

En febrero 14, 2017, *Newsday* reportó que el señor Efraín Villafane fue acusado de delitos sexuales cometidos contra una mujer adolescente. El Sr. Villafane había servido como Ministro de Música en la parroquia de Nuestra Señora del Monte Carmelo, en Patchogue y en la parroquia de San Juan Evangelista en Centro Moriches. Cuando se hicieron las primeras acusaciones, el Sr. Villafane fue retirado de inmediato del empleo. La Oficina para la Protección de los Niños y los Jóvenes de la Diócesis de Rockville Centre cooperó plenamente con las autoridades durante su investigación.

De conformidad con el constante compromiso de la Iglesia en la protección de los niños, animamos a cualquier persona que haya sido objeto de abusos por parte de cualquier miembro del clero o empleado de la Iglesia o voluntarios, para ponerse en contacto con la oficina diocesana para la Protección de los Niños y Jóvenes en su línea de teléfono especial para informar sobre acusaciones de abuso: 516-594-9063.

# PRAYING FOR AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

## **WE CELEBRATE**

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

**-Rite of Baptism**

***Tyler Ryan Hurley  
Alexia-Rose Miranda  
Bennett Christian Laier***



**We welcome the newest member  
of the Catholic community  
here at OLPH!**

## **WE BELIEVE**

**We pray for the sick of our parish...**

<b><i>Charles Cascio</i></b>	<b><i>Susan Murphy</i></b>
<b><i>Ester Darrigo</i></b>	<b><i>Therese Gigante</i></b>
<b><i>Laura Fischer</i></b>	<b><i>Jean Wilutis</i></b>
<b><i>Ann DeVito</i></b>	<b><i>Andrew Lewis</i></b>
<b><i>Nora McMahon</i></b>	<b><i>Michael Basile</i></b>
<b><i>Eileen McCauley</i></b>	<b><i>Theresa Ferrara</i></b>
<b><i>Patricia &amp;</i></b>	<b><i>Thomas Marino</i></b>
<b><i>Richard Kleczkowski</i></b>	<b><i>Erin Stanton</i></b>
<b><i>Ann Power</i></b>	<b><i>Larry Bell</i></b>
<b><i>Theresa Lisio</i></b>	<b><i>Glenn Cording</i></b>
<b><i>Kathy Cunningham</i></b>	

## **WE REMEMBER**

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

***Daniel Specce  
Joan Valenti  
George O'Hanlon III  
Bernadette Sinnott  
Rose Colt  
Francis Landers  
Anne Pawlowski***

*"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."*

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.**

## **MASS MEMORIALS**

A beautiful way to remember a loved one!  
Memorials used during the Masses for week of  
**March 5—11:**

***Altar Bread & Wine***

*In Memory of*

***Edward J. Abbott (6th Anniversary)  
& Mary A. Lee***

*Requested by*

***Marilyn & Martin Abbott***

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

## **PERPETUAL HELP MASS**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 12:15 P.M. MASS**

Javier Zarate Carreon	Requested by Elvia & Eugenia Gresia
Giuseppe Lentini	Requested by Angela Lentini

## MASS INTENTIONS

**MONDAY, March 6—**

**Lenten Weekday**

6:30 Kathleen Behan

12:15 Evelyn App

**TUESDAY, March 7—**

**Lenten Weekday**

*(Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs)*

6:30 Mrs. Donnelly

12:15 Virgilio Leon

**WEDNESDAY, March 8—**

**Lenten Weekday**

*(Saint John of God, Religious)*

6:30 Patrick Zieba (Living)

12:15 Perpetual Help Mass (listing on p. 17)

**THURSDAY, March 9—**

**Lenten Weekday**

*(Saint Frances of Rome, Religious)*

6:30 Arky Loverde

12:15 Kaylin Zimms

**FRIDAY, March 10—**

**Lenten Weekday**

6:30 Franciszek Wegrzynowska

12:15 Joseph Apicella

**SATURDAY, March 11—**

**Weekday**

8:00 Ray Evans

**Vigil for  
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

5:00 Joseph H. Johnson

**Sunday, March 12  
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

8:00 For the People of the Parish

10:00 For the Living & Deceased Members of  
the Holy Name Society

12:00 Anthony Russo

5:00 Micheli Strazza

## PARISH CALENDAR

**Monday, March 6, 2017**

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul/Food Pantry	Room 24
2:00 p.m.	Homeless Van Ministry	Room 24
6:30 p.m.	Devotions	Church
7:30 p.m.	Parish Mission	Church

**Tuesday, March 7, 2017**

7:00 p.m.	Adult Confirmation Prep Class	St. Mark
7:30 p.m.	Parish Mission	Church

**Wednesday, March 8, 2017**

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 6 Classes	School
7:00 p.m.	Level 7 Classes	School

**Thursday, March 9, 2017**

1– 5 p.m.	Church closed for cleaning	Church
4:30 p.m.	Youth Choir Rehearsal	Room 16
7:30 p.m.	Pastoral Council Meeting	St. Lucy
7:30 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal	Church
8:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous	Room 24
8:00 p.m.	Vacation Bible Camp Meeting	Room 10

**Friday, March 10, 2017**

8:00 a.m.	Van Run Set-ups	Room 10
9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul/Food Pantry	Room 24
7:00 p.m.	Holy Name Society	Room 10
7:30 p.m.	Stations of the Cross	Church

**Saturday, March 11, 2017**

8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 a.m.	Levels 1-5 Classes Level 5 Parent/child workshop	School Auditorium
4:00 p.m.	Confessions	Church
6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer	Church
7:30 p.m.	Alcohol Anonymous Meeting	Cafeteria

**Sunday, March 12, 2017**

8:00 a.m.	RCIA	Church
10:00 a.m.	RCIC	Room 18
11:00 a.m.	CYO Spring Track Registration	Cafeteria
1:00 p.m.	Junior Legion of Mary	Room 24
2:00 p.m.	Baptisms	Church
6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer	Church
8:00 p.m.	Alcohol Anonymous Meeting	Cafeteria

**TIME  
CHANGE**  
SPRING FORWARD NEXT SUNDAY  
**March 12**

# 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
April Kleinlaut, Director of Faith Formation	257	akleinlaut@oloph.org
Frank Pokorney, Business Manager	204	fpokorney@oloph.org
Rectory Reception Desk	200	
St. Vincent de Paul	234	stvincentdepaul@oloph.org
Josephine Vagelatos, Administrative Assistant to the Pastor	206	jvagelatos@oloph.org
Fr. Frank Zero, Associate Pastor	203	fzero@oloph.org

### THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

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

### PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

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

### CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Adults who wish to be baptized, or who have been baptized in another Christian faith and wish to become Catholic, or who have been baptized Catholic and wish to be confirmed and receive Holy Communion, are invited to join the process of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Please contact 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
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*Please feel free to speak to any member of the Pastoral Council with any questions you might have.*

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

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- 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 25/26, 2017

Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	343	132	\$3,453.00
8:00 a.m.	360	123	3,404.00
10:00 a.m.	471	124	2,762.00
12:00 pm.	492	150	3,947.00
5:00 p.m.	345	52	1,854.50
<b>Total coin:</b>			<b>15.99</b>
<b>Mail-ins:</b>			<b>45.00</b>
<b>Children's Env.</b>		<b>19</b>	<b>19.29</b>
<b>Faith Direct</b>			<b>2,024.50</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,011</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>\$17,525.28</b>
<b>2016 total</b>	<b>2,219</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>\$19,333.07</b>
<b>Candles</b>			<b>\$947.84</b>
<b>Poor Box</b>			<b>\$191.98</b>

### 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](mailto:cbecker@oloph.org).

*Editing and sizes are at the discretion of the editor.*

**March 12—passed**  
**March 19—March 10**  
**March 26—March 17**  
**Thank you for your cooperation.**

## ADVISORY FROM THE DIOCESE

On February 14, 2017, *Newsday* reported that Mr. Efraim Villafane was indicted on charges of sex crimes committed against a teenage female. Mr. Villafane had served as a Music Minister in Our Lady of Mount Carmel parish, Patchogue, and Saint John the Evangelist parish, Center Moriches. When the allegations were first made, Mr. Villafane was removed from employment immediately. The Office for the Protection of Children and Young People of the Diocese of Rockville Centre cooperated fully with law enforcement through its investigation.

In accordance with the Church's continuing commitment to child protection, we encourage any person who has been subject to abuse by any clergy member, or Church employee or volunteer, to contact the diocesan Office for the Protection of Children and Young People at its special phone line for reporting allegations of abuse: 516-594-9063.



*Fast. Pray. Give up your envelopes!*

As Christians we are called to renew our spiritual practices like fasting, praying and almsgiving. Almsgiving encourages us to express gratitude for all that God has given us by charitably giving some away. You can embrace this practice this Lenten season that will provide our church with consistent support and simplify your giving. The parish will also save money by eliminating the wasteful envelopes that go unused by so many. Join us in giving up envelopes this Lenten season!

Visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) and use code: **NY286**. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!

God Bless You,

**PREPARING FOR**

**Sunday, March 12, 2017—SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

*From the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."*

Matthew 17:5b

**Genesis 12:1-4a**

Today's first reading begins the story of Abram (later renamed Abraham) in the Book of Genesis. Abram is considered the father of God's people and a supreme model of faith because of his willingness to trust completely in the Lord. That's what we hear today. God instructs Abram to uproot his family and move to a foreign land. This entailed great sacrifice and probably no small amount of fear of the unknown. But Abram did as God asked because he was promised great blessings in return for faithfulness. The Lord assured him that his divine power would supply what human weakness cannot accomplish. Because Abram trusted so completely in God, he was rewarded with becoming the father of Israel through his descendants. Do we all have such great trust and faith in the power of the Lord?

**2 Timothy 1:8b-10**

The second reading comes from one of the three letters (First and Second Timothy and Titus) usually called the Pastoral Epistles since they provide practical and fatherly advice to early Christian communities facing adversity. The message to them, and us today, is similar to that given to Abram. "Bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God." God will provide us, as he provided those early Christians, with the strength that we cannot have on our own. As a result of faith and trust in God alone, Christ has made the way open for us to receive wondrous gifts and blessings: "life and immortality." Good news indeed!

**Matthew 17:1-9**

Each year on the Second Sunday of Lent we hear about the Transfiguration of Jesus, an account told by all the evangelists except John. Matthew's version, which we hear today, stresses how Jesus brings to completion the Old Testament Scriptures in order to show his hearers, likely first-century Jewish converts, that Jesus fulfills God's saving plan that they learned about while growing up. Two of the great figures of those Scriptures appear with Jesus to make this point: Moses, the great lawgiver, and Elijah, the great prophet. The Law and the Prophets were two of the major divisions of Old Testament Scripture that Jews of the day would have known very well. Appearing with Jesus yet fading into the background as the voice of God speaks about him shows how they must make way for a New Testament, the Gospel or Good News. In it, God calls us to listen to his Son and what he teaches since he alone has the words of life.

**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. In his Transfiguration, Jesus invited three of his disciples (and us) to gaze at him. Do you ask yourself every night when you saw Jesus during the day?**

**2. We all need to go up the mountain to a place of silence, so we can better hear the voice of God. At least so says Pope Francis. Why can't we just stay there praying?**

**Encounter with God in prayer inspires us anew to "descend the mountain" and return to the plain where we meet many brothers weighed down by fatigue, sickness, injustice, ignorance, poverty both material and spiritual. To these brothers in difficulty, we are called to bear the fruit of that experience with God, by sharing the grace we have received. And this is curious. When we hear the Word of Jesus, when we listen to the Word of Jesus and carry it in our heart, this Word grows. Do you know how it grows? By giving it to the other!**

*Pope Francis, March 16, 2014*



*Readings for the Week*

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

**Monday, March 6, 2017:**

Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18

+ Matthew 25:31-46

**Tuesday, March 7, 2017:**

Isaiah 55:10-11 + Matthew 6:7-15

**Wednesday, March 8, 2017:**

Jonah 3:1-10 + Luke 11:29-32

**Thursday, March 9, 2017:**

Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25

+ Matthew 7:7-12

**Friday, March 10, 2017:**

Ezekiel 18:21-28 + Matthew 5:20-26

**Saturday, March 11, 2017:**

Deuteronomy 26:16-19

+ Matthew 5:43-48

**Sunday, March 12, 2017:**

Genesis 12:1-4a + 2 Timothy 1:8b-10

+ Matthew 17:1-9

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Dear Friends,

Pope Francis ended the 2016 *Catholic Jubilee Year of Mercy* with a stirring request that while his special Holy Year may now be over, that people around the world leave open “*the doors of reconciliation and pardon*” in order to give hope and opportunities to others. He reminds us to continue to be a mission Church supporting the global mission of mercy.

The **2017 Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA)** extends to all of us an opportunity to be part of the Church’s mission to the poor and others in need. The CMA funds religious education, vocations, housing for the disadvantaged, food distribution programs, outreach ministries to the sick, the homeless and the homebound, and all kinds of other parish and diocesan ministries.

Last year, because of your support our ministries were able to:

- deliver or serve more than 500,000 meals to senior citizens and young families in need.
  - assist more than 75,000 families through Parish outreach centers and soup kitchens
  - teach religion to more than 100,000 of our children in public schools.
  - educate and form our future priests and lay leaders.
- bring the Word of God to more than 50,000 students in secular colleges across Long Island.

There are so many ministries which take place on Long Island because of the Catholic Ministries Appeal. The presence of these ministries connects our parish with the entire Catholic Church on Long Island, while giving us an opportunity to be the vehicle or mercy for so many in our community. In addition, our parish benefits financially by your support of the Catholic Ministries Appeal. Once we reach our goal, 20% of all we raise comes back to use here in our own parish.

Let us join together and continue to give hope and opportunity to others, by prayerfully considering a gift to the 2017 Catholic Ministries Appeal. I also ask that you join me in extending the warmest welcome to our new Bishop, Most Reverend John Barres!

I am grateful for your thoughtful generosity.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Pastor

**2017 CMA GOAL**  
**\$108,900.00**  
*(as of March 1, 2017)*  
**Pledges Received**  
**\$87,027.00**  
*(under \$21,873.00)*  
**From 319 donors 79.9% of Goal**

Make checks payable to: **Catholic Ministries Appeal**

Parish \_\_\_\_\_ Pledge: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Down payment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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