

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

210 South Wellwood Avenue + Lindenhurst, New York 11757 +

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

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



*Jesus said,
“Whoever does not carry his own cross
and come after me
cannot be my disciple.”*

Luke 14:27

THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 4, 2016

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, In Residence

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.

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

210 S. Wellwood Avenue, Lindenhurst

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.

ANNUAL

GOLF OUTING

**LAST
CHANCE TO
SIGN-UP TO
PLAY!**

6th Annual OLPH Golf Outing

**Monday, September 19th
Rock Hill Country Club
Manorville, NY**

8:00 a.m. Shotgun Start

**ALL FOR \$140.00 PER GOLFER
MAKE YOUR RESERVATION NOW EXPECT LARGE TURNOUT**

SAME PRICE AS ALWAYS

**PLUS THIS YEAR WE ARE INCLUDING THE DRIVING RANGE,
COFFEE AND CAKE**

(4:00 p.m. Bus Return to Lindenhurst)

CALL:

BOB DOBRES 631 592-8697

OR MIKE HEARNEY 631 560-0451

BY SEPT. 10 PLEASE

**The Knights of Columbus
Council 794**



**Will be selling
Golf Outing Raffle tickets outside
church after all the Masses next
weekend, Sept. 10/11.
Please stop by and support their
good efforts!**

DIOCESAN YEAR OF MERCY PILGRIMAGE

**Diocesan Year of Mercy
Pilgrimage**
to the Basilica of the
National Shrine
of the Immaculate Conception
Washington, D.C.



Saturday, September 24, 2016

**Cost: \$60 p.p. round trip coach bus
transportation (includes driver gratuity)**

Schedule for the day:

- 12:00 ~ The Angelus, *Upper Church*
- 12:10 ~ Welcome and Introduction, *Msgr. Vito A. Buonanno*
- 12:15 ~ Presentation, *Christopher Ruddy, PhD Catholic University of America*
- 12:45 ~ Lunch, *Tours and Gift Shop, Private Prayer, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Individual Confession in the reconciliation Chapel.*
- 2:45 ~ Youth Event, *Crypt Church*
- 3:00 ~ Rosary in Word and Song, *Upper Church*
- 4:00 ~ *Gather in the Upper Church for the Celebration of the Eucharist*
- 4:15 ~ Celebration of the Eucharist
- 5:30 ~ Departure

Contact Angela Garofalo at 516-445-9635 or email at finestone@optonline.net for more information. To reserve a seat on the bus please fill out and return the slip below:

Diocesan Year of Mercy Pilgrimage

Name: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email address: _____

Amount included: _____

Please drop in the collection basket or at the rectory. Make checks payable to: OLPH Church.

BY SEPTEMBER 10TH PLEASE!



PASTOR'S PAGE

Labor Day

Labor Day weekend has arrived, bringing with it the unofficial end of the summer season and a return to our usual routines of work and school. Amidst the barbecues and festivities of the weekend, let's also remember to honor the contributions made by all those who labor in our country and who, through their work, contribute to the strength, prosperity and well-being of our nation. We can call to mind the watershed papal document *Rerum Novarum* written by Pope Leo XIII in 1891, written in the midst of the Industrial Revolution, which set forth Catholic principles for work and labor through the perspective of the dignity of the human person.

Here at OLPH, as with all other parishes, in addition to the ministry of the priests, deacons and other full-time Pastoral Staff members, it is the hard work and labors of other employees that keep a parish alive and vibrant. The truth is that the parish could not be what it is without the dedication and industrious efforts of our support staff. Yes, they are employees and rightly receive pay for their work, but two things must be kept in mind: first, since they are working for the Church, their pay is often much less than they could receive for working comparable jobs elsewhere; second, they approach their jobs not as jobs, but as service to the Church, bringing a love for OLPH and a desire to not just complete a task, but to serve the people of the parish. Let's take a moment to acknowledge, thank and appreciate all those who work here at OLPH as employees in jobs that, although sometimes not readily apparent to the parishioners, are nonetheless crucially important — our receptionists, secretaries, maintenance and housekeeping crew and our sacristans.

Perhaps you could take a moment this weekend to offer this prayer, taken from the Mass for the Sanctification of Human Labor: *"O God, who through human labor never cease to perfect and govern the vast work of creation, listen to the supplication of your people and grant that all men and women may find work that befits their dignity, joins them more closely to one another and enables them to serve their neighbor. Through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever."*

Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary and our OLPH Legion of Mary

This Thursday, September 8, is the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is the custom at OLPH that in addition to the liturgical celebration of the birth of our Blessed Mother, our Legion of Mary hosts a special celebration after the 12:15 p.m. Mass which includes special prayers and a presentation by a guest speaker. I have always thoroughly enjoyed this day, which is so fitting to celebrate since our parish is under the patronage of the Blessed Mother. Our Legion of Mary, which is a very active organization in our parish, always does a beautiful job of hosting a very prayerful and uplifting celebration after the Mass.

I strongly encourage everyone who is available to attend the 12:15 p.m. Mass this Thursday, and to join in the festivities in the auditorium after the Mass. You'll be glad you did. It would be a great way for you to highlight your devotion to the Blessed Mother.

Here are the words of the Collect (Opening Prayer) from the Mass for the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary; why not make these words of the prayer of the Church your own words of prayer on that day: *"Impart to your servants, we pray, O Lord, the gift of heavenly grace, that the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin may bring deeper peace to those for whom the birth of her Son was the dawning of salvation. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever."*

Knights of Columbus Installation of Officers

This coming Saturday, September 10, the Knights of Columbus will be holding their installation of officers; you may have seen it mentioned in the bulletin. The Knights will attend the 5:00 p.m. Mass and then the installation ceremony will take place in the church immediately following the Mass (for this one time, Evening Prayer will not be held). Then, after the ceremony, the festivities will continue with a reception at the American Legion Hall.

I wish to offer my congratulations to all the officers being installed, especially to Grand Knight Charles Shami. As I have remarked on many occasions, there is a wonderful working

relationship between this Knights of Columbus Council and the parish, and I am honored to be their Chaplain. We can look forward to many good things to continue to come about in the year ahead.

Pokémon Go

Allow me to offer a brief personal musing concerning a recent social phenomenon, that of Pokémon Go, a game played on one's iPhone or Android that involves moving to different locations in order to capture ... something (Pokémon? Points? I'm hopelessly behind-the-times with this stuff). During my vacation time, as I would take walks or drive to different places, I was struck by the number of people, especially young people, alone and in groups, who were walking around with heads bowed over their phone, captivated by what I presumed to be was the playing of this game. To be honest, I'm not sure what my reaction is at this point other than one of amazement. Yes, it's great for young people to be up and moving around, rather than sedentary. I certainly don't mean to rant that this is yet another sign of the decline of modern civilization, and it is certainly not my intention to pick on young people. I just find it...well, *interesting*.

I joked last weekend at Mass that we found a sure-fire way to get people back to Mass: we have made the inside of our church a Pokémon Go "hotspot!" (*Just kidding, of course.*) I do, wonder, though, and this applies to all of us, of all ages, not just to young people: we go to such

great lengths to amuse ourselves, we find all sorts of ways to fill our time and distract ourselves, and we will even pick ourselves up and go anywhere in order to secure points for a game. Is it really so difficult to expect that we pick ourselves up once a week and be present at Mass, in order to enter into the greatest gift we have been given, and so that we might celebrate the eternal salvation that is given to us from God through Christ? Isn't that the most important thing of all to try to "capture?" Isn't the greatest "win" of all to "win" the gift of eternal life in heaven with Christ? If we, old and young, have enough time to play games, find all sorts of amusements and entertainment activities, and we take the time to distract ourselves in so many different ways, why is it that so many people don't have enough time to take one hour to come to Mass **every** week?

These are just some thoughts from someone who is always in danger of becoming a curmudgeon...

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,



SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR FLOOD AND EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

Bishop Murphy has asked for our prayers for the victims of the severe floods in Louisiana and those affected by the earthquake in central Italy. He is also asking you to consider contributing to a special collection that will be taken up for the victims of both these tragedies. Here at OLPH, we will take up this special collection **next weekend, September 10-11**. A special basket will be placed in the sanctuary, directly in front of the Cantor stand. You are asked to deposit your monetary donation, cash or check, in that basket. (The basket will be emptied after each Mass and the donations will be secured.) Checks should be made out to the Diocese of Rockville Centre. "Flood-Earthquake Relief" should be marked on the memo section of the check. If you prefer, you can send a donation directly to the Diocesan Finance Office, Diocese of Rockville Centre, P.O. Box 9023, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-9023. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS



ADULT INITIATIONS **AT THE 12:00 NOON MASS** **NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**

We are thrilled to announce that next Sunday at the 12:00 Noon Mass we will be celebrating initiation into the Church. **Paul Clark**, baptized Protestant, will be received into the Roman Catholic Church, receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, and receive his First Holy Communion. Paul has been participating in the process of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults for some time now, and the time has come for him to become Catholic. We welcome Paul into our Church!

At that same Mass, **Ybrahim Hernandez** and **Justin Murray**, already baptized Catholic, will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, to complete their initiation into the Church. Ybrahim and Justin have been participating in special adult formation sessions to prepare for that sacrament.

We congratulate Paul, Ybrahim and Justin on this special occasion and we pray that God will continue to bless them as they deepen their life in Christ through the sacraments. Please remember to pray for them in the week ahead, and consider attending the 12:00 Noon Mass next week as a sign of your support of and affirmation for them.

IMPORTANT NOTICE AFFECTING ALL CHILDREN OF THE PARISH

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

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

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

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

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

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

MUSIC NOTES



Can you share your musical gifts?

Perhaps God is calling you to become a part of the music ministry at OLPH. If so, read below to see which ensemble might suit your gifts. Pray about it and then give a call. We need you!



Adult Choir

The Adult Choir sings at the 12:00 p.m. Mass most Sundays (September to June) and for other special liturgies during the year. Rehearsals are on Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the Church. Members are high school aged or older. Reading music is not a requirement, just the ability to carry a tune.

Please call in advance if you would like more information.

*Contact: Chris Ferraro
(631) 226-7725, ext. 210
cferraro@oloph.org*

Youth Choir

The Youth Choir sings at the 10:00 a.m. Mass three times a month (September to June) and at other special liturgies during the year. Rehearsals are held on Thursday afternoons from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the school building. Members are in grades 3 through 12.

*Contact: Amy Keller
mrs.amykeller@yahoo.com*

Youth Band

Members of the Youth Band lead the music at the Sunday night, 5:00 p.m. Mass twice a month. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings. The band needs young musicians: piano, flute, cello preferred. Try-outs are required.

*Contact: Dan Volpe
(917) 468-9584*



PRAYER AND WORSHIP

REMINDER REGARDING THE COMMUNION FAST

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

Prayer for Peace

In response to Bishop Murphy's call for parishes to urgently pray for peace because of all the unrest in the world, please join us for a special Holy Hour devoted to praying for world peace within our own country and throughout the world. **This Holy Hour for Peace, with prayers focusing on the intention of peace, will be held on the second, third and fourth Sunday evenings of the month from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** The Holy Hour of Reparation which has been held on the first Sunday of the month will continue every first Sunday evening as usual, with the prayers that are usually said for that first Sunday Holy Hour.

This Holy Hour for Peace, with prayers focusing on the intention of peace, will be held on the second, third and fourth Sunday evenings of the month from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

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

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

*Banish from their hearts
whatever might endanger peace.*

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

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

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

Mary, Queen of Peace, Pray for us!

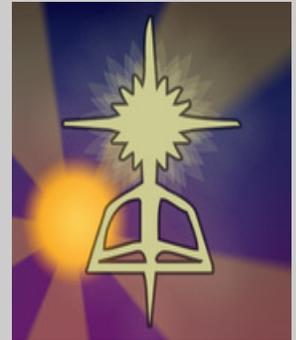
(Pope Saint John XXIII)



Evening Prayer

All are invited to pray Evening Prayer on Saturdays and Sundays after the 5:00 p.m. Mass. Here we pray the psalms, listen to the Word of God and give thanks to God for the blessings of the day.

Evening Prayer is usually about ten to fifteen minutes in length.



So come and pray...

Saturdays and Sundays After the 5:00 p.m. Mass

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

-Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1175

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help



The Monday night Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help has been a longstanding OLPH tradition.

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

**Monday, September 5—
No Devotions due to Labor Day
Monday, September 12—6:30 p.m.
Monday, September 19—7:00 p.m.**

PRAYER & WORSHIP

The Legion of Mary

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Praesidium



Invites you to their Annual Function
Celebrating
The Blessed Mother's Birthday

Thursday, September 8, 2016

beginning with Mass at 12:15 p.m.
followed by a light lunch in the Auditorium,
the recitation of the rosary and Tesserà



Guest Speaker: Father Robert Kline

The Diocese of Rockville Centre

Golden Wedding Celebration

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

Sunday, October 23,

St. Rose of Lima, Massapequa

OR

Sunday, November 6,

Christ the King, Commack

Both Liturgies will begin at 2:30 pm.

You must register for only ONE Mass.

Registration forms are available at the rectory and must be returned to
the Office of Worship by **October 7** for the October 23 liturgy
& **October 21** for the November 6 liturgy. For more info call: 516-678-5800 X 207.

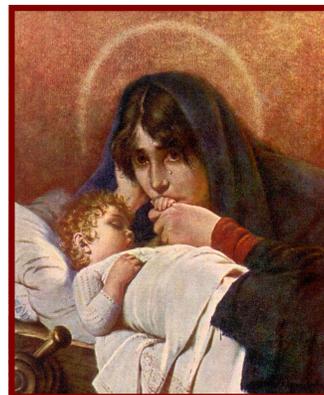
PRAYER AND WORSHIP

The Feast of the Sorrowful Mother

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Devotions begin at 6:30 p.m. + Mass begins at 7:00 p.m.

At OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CHURCH



The Schedule for the Evening will be:

- *Chanting the Stabat Mater*
- *The Seven Sorrows of our Blessed Mother*
- *The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass*
- *Reception of the Anointing of the Sick at Mass*
- *The presentation of a rose to each child*

Our pastor, Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco, will be the celebrant at this special Mass.

The intentions of this Mass will be for

***CHILDREN & TEENAGERS WHO ARE TERMINALLY ILL
AND CHILDREN & TEENAGERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS***

This beautiful devotion is for everyone and especially all mothers and all children in our parish and in our diocese. It helps us contemplate on how much our dear Mother Mary suffered and sacrificed for us all. It strengthens us in our own sufferings and teaches us how to unite our sufferings with Mary who will lead us into total union with her Son Jesus Christ.

Please let us know if you plan on attending this Mass with your child by September 13.
Call Linda Setti at 631-884-6892

MEETING FOR ALL MINISTERS OF CONSOLATION

All those involved in the Ministry of Consolation are asked to attend our next "brush-up" meeting with Msgr. Joe on *Thursday, September 15* at 4:00 p.m. The meeting will take place in the St. Lucy Meeting Room in the lower level of the rectory (you can use the outside entrance on the south side of the rectory). We'll have the chance to review procedures and clarify any questions. All Ministers of Consolation are asked to make every effort to attend. If you are unable to attend or if you have any questions, please contact MaryAnn Haas. Thanks to all who offer their talents and the witness of their faith in this beautiful ministry!

PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS AND OF OTHERS

Once Mass begins, please do not walk up the center aisle, or across the center aisle in the middle of the pews, or across the front pews.

If you arrive late, please use a side aisle and be seated in one of the side sections; if you need to get up during Mass, please use a side aisle. Walking around in a prominent and central area during Mass is distracting to worshipers and to the ministers in the sanctuary. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding in showing proper respect at Mass by being attentive to your surroundings.

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: 11AM TO 7PM
 TUESDAY: 9AM TO 2PM
 WEDNESDAY: 2PM TO 8PM
 THURSDAY: 9AM TO 3PM
 SATURDAY: 8AM TO 1PM



FALL into the Arms of Christ!



As we start getting back into the swing of things—from cooler weather to backpacks full of books—let's not forget to make time for our Lord!

ENROLLMENT PRAYER SERVICES BEGIN SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH

A reminder to all families that Enrollment Services—the first official day of class for all levels—begin this coming Saturday.

Levels 1 & 2:

Sat., 9/10: Parent and child in the Church at 11:00 a.m.

Level 6:

Wed., 9/14: Parent and child in the Church at 5:30 p.m.

Level 7:

Wed., 9/14: Parent and child in the Church at 7:30 p.m.

Level 8:

Mon., 9/12: Parent and child in the Church at 7:15 p.m.

Enrollment Services are mandatory and attendance will be taken.

WE NEED YOU:

BECOME A CATECHIST OR HALL MONITOR!

The religious education office is currently seeking assistant catechists and hall monitors for all sessions. No experience is necessary: just a love for Jesus and a desire to bring that love to the children of OLPH!

Call or email us (see above) for all questions and inquiries!



“Do not let a lack of training stop you from evangelizing!”—Pope Francis

TEEN CONFIRMATION: Is it for you?

Are you:

In 9th grade or higher and haven't received confirmation yet? (It's okay—you're not alone!)

Eager to “own” your faith by participating in this special sacrament? (Is God calling you to something more?)

Don't know how to hit the ground running and start preparing to join the Church as a fully-initiated young Catholic? (Initiated=saying yes to your faith!)

Good news! We can help!

Teen confirmation is a one-year program for students who did not receive Confirmation as part of their religious education. Classes are geared towards the high school audience, and you'll learn lots about what it means to be a Confirmandi.

Give us a call today to learn more!

Classes begin soon!



Catechetical Sunday is September 18th: ALL are Welcome!

When: Sept. 18th at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. **We invite our OLPH family to join us as we bless our catechists and welcome them—both returning and new—to our program! There will be an opportunity to meet, greet, and eat in the auditorium after Mass.**

We look forward to seeing you!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

SACRAMENTS OF MERCY AND HEALING

The Sacrament of Penance (or Reconciliation, or “Going to Confession”) and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick are two beautiful sacraments, but they are often misunderstood and sometimes even feared. However, these sacraments are all about Christ’s healing and mercy. This course will examine the sacramental, liturgical and pastoral aspects of these sacraments in order to discover the beautiful ways the Church continues Christ’s work of mercy and healing through them. This course is especially appropriate during the closing weeks of the Year of Mercy.



Instructor: Msgr. Joe

Thursday Nights

October 13, 20, 27,

November 3 and 10

Time: 7:30—9:30 P.M.

Place: Room 18, OLPH School

Sign me up for **SACRAMENTS OF MERCY AND HEALING**

Name _____

Phone # _____ E-mail _____ @ _____

Please RSVP by using this form or by emailing to jvagalatos@oloph.org or calling the Parish Office at 631.226.7725 X 206.

FREE WILL OFFERING

A \$20.00 Free Will Offering is requested for all who participate in an Adult Faith Formation Class at OLPH.

Save the Dates...

2017 Adult Faith Formation Courses so far...

January 2017

**Spirituality: Fulfilling Our Deepest Desires:
Growing Closer to God**

Thursdays: January 19, January 26,
February 2, February 9 & February 16

Instructor: Deacon Robert Becker



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—cfr@oloph.org
- † Community Meal: Gigi Gracey—631.943.0095—gigigracey1962@gmail.com—Deborah McDonald -516.662.2529—Dnk875@aol.com
- † Driving Ministry: Maureen Russo—631.226.4182
- † 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!

POWDERED MILK
SHELF-STABLE MILK
NAPKINS & TISSUES
SHAMPOO & CONDITIONER
TOOTHBRUSHES & TOOTHPASTE
TOILET PAPER
SUNSCREEN
BUG SPRAY

*Please bring your donations to the St. VdP office:
 Monday, Wednesday or Friday 9:00 a.m.—12:00 Noon
 or Saturday 1:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m.*

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

Saturday 1:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m.

In today's Gospel, Jesus lays out the demands of following him, the great cost of discipleship. The Mission Statement of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul states: "Vincentians witness God's love by embracing all works of charity and justice...the Society makes no distinction in those served because, in them, Vincentians see the face of Christ."

Have you considered answering the call to help serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?

BECOME A FRIEND OF THE POOR!

Saturday, Sept. 24 – Reg. at 9:00 a.m. (rain or shine)

Bethpage Community Park

1001 STEWART AVE, BETHPAGE, NY

5K Walk With US!

St. Vincent de Paul offerers will be outside after all Masses NEXT WEEKEND, Sept. 10/11, asking for monetary donations.

Please help them meet their goal!

QUESTIONS? (516) 822-3132



WWW.FOPWALK.ORG

[#WALK4THEPOOR](https://twitter.com/WALK4THEPOOR)

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY *Happenings*

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 warmer weather items:

men's jeans: especially larger sizes
insect repellent spray/bracelets;
travel-size shampoo (under 3 oz.)
toothbrush/toothpaste sets (Dollar Tree)
backpacks

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, September 6 at 7:00 p.m.**

The meetings will be held in Room 24 of the “new” school (use large parking lot).

Note new meeting day: the first and third Tuesdays of the month.

All are welcome to check us out!!

Call Gail Tonnessen at 631-957-1449 or email her at gtonness@optonline.net

Long Island is experiencing a critical blood shortage...

Today the Nursing Ministry is sponsoring an

**Help
 save
 lives**



**Emergency
 Blood Drive**

Sunday, September 4

from 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
 Room 16 and 18 of school

*** All donors will receive
 2 Mets Tickets for Sept or a 2017 game
 Contact Regina Muir 631 226 2709 or
rmuir11@aol.com



**TO OUR NEW
 OLPH
 PARISHIONERS**

August

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Forgione & Family

Lorenzo & Crystal Costa & Family

Gregory & Gabrielle Jacques

Ms. Margaret DelBiomdo

Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Vita

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Geed & Family

Mr. & Mrs. Michael DeBiccari & Family

Mr. Anthony Tamburello

PRE-CANA NEEDS YOU!

Are you are a couple validly married five or more years in the Catholic Church, and are you discouraged by the high divorce rate?



Why not join a ministry where you can actually do something to help?

Our *In-parish Pre-Cana Ministry* is looking for a few good couples to share their wisdom and experience with engaged couples in our marriage preparation program.

A perfect marriage is not required, just a willingness to share your joys, struggles, and problem-solving strategies with engaged couples who are hungry for some good role models!

If you call this week, you may be able to begin training this fall!
For more information call Chris Volpe (516) 238-2717

PERPETUAL HELP MASS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2016 6:30 A.M. MASS

Sean Michael Sullivan	Requested by Monica Bahena
Thanksgiving & Blessings to OLPH	Requested by Huguette Desravines

PERPETUAL HELP MASS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2016 8:00 A.M. MASS

Charles Nielson	Requested by Hilde Maus
Stephen Bruce	Requested by The Bruce Family
Rose Rizzotti	Requested by Deacon Robert & Carmel Becker
Andre Fritz Casimir	Requested by Guirlene Casimir
Wolan & Kunysz Family	Requested by Barbara & Chris Kunysz
Charles O'Reilly	Requested by Jennifer Bucala

VIRTUS TRAINING



VIRTUS TRAINING

WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 7

7:00 p.m. in ROOM 1

**TRAINING IS REQUIRED
FOR ALL PARISH OFFERERS
IN ALL MINISTRIES.**

Registration MUST be done online.

Simply go to drvc.org, then Protecting God's Children and to the Virtus training schedule. Find the date and OLPH to register.

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 24° del Tiempo Ordinario - Ciclo C

Domingo 11 de Septiembre del 2016

Demos gracias al Padre

por medio de nuestro Señor Jesucristo,

porque nos ha dado fortaleza

y porque vino a perdonar nuestros pecados.

Que su misericordia y amor estén siempre con ustedes.

Primera Lectura (Éxodos 32,7-11.13-14): El Amor de Dios Es más Grande que Su Justicia

Dios había salvado a su pueblo; sin embargo, el mismo pueblo abandonó a Dios para adorar al becerro de oro. Moisés suplicó a Dios que perdonara a su pueblo.

Segunda Lectura (1 Timoteo 1,12-17): Cristo Me Ha Perdonado

Pablo es consciente de que es pecador. Pero encontró al Cristo que perdona. Lleno de gratitud alaba la grandeza y el amor de Dios.

Evangelio (Lucas 15,1-32): Dios Se Alegra al Perdonar

Las bellas parábolas de este largo capítulo de Lucas tienen un punto central: Dios no se rinde en la búsqueda de los pecadores ni los abandona; sigue buscándolos y los acoge de nuevo con alegría.

Jesucristo te recibirá si vienes a Él Jesús dijo: "Al que a mí viene, no lo rechazo" (Juan 6:37). Por esta razón Él vino a la tierra: "a buscar y a salvar lo que se había perdido" (Lucas 19:10). No importa lo que hayas hecho, Jesús todavía quiere que vengas a Él. Dijo más: "No he venido a llamar a justos sino a pecadores para que se arrepientan" (Lucas 5:32).

Jesús cambia las vidas La gente que seguía a Jesús abandonaba sus pecados. Él echó fuera siete demonios de la vida de María Magdalena (Lucas 8:2) y ella se convirtió en una seguidora devota que luego les dijo a los demás que Jesús había resucitado (Juan 20:16). Zaqueo, un recaudador de impuestos, le devolvió a la gente lo que les había robado cuando les cobraba los impuestos y dio la mitad de todo lo que tenía a los pobres (Lucas 19:1-10). Cuando estos seguidores eran llenos del poder del Espíritu Santo, eran capaces de declarar el mensaje de Jesús, hacer milagros y vivir libres del pecado (Lucas 10:1-20).

Por casi dos mil años Jesús ha estado cambiando las vidas de la gente en todo el mundo. "Por lo tanto, si alguno está en Cristo, es una nueva creación. ¡Lo viejo ha pasado, ha llegado ya lo nuevo!" (2 Corintios 5:17). Él puede cambiar tu vida también. Jesús te liberará de tu adicción al pecado (Romanos 6:22), renovará tu mente (Romanos 12:2) y sanará tus heridas (2 Tesalonicenses 2:16-17).



PRAYING FOR AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

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

Third Announcement:

Vito Tandoi & Sandra Best

Second Announcement:

Joseph Misuraca & Amanda Greco

First Announcement:

Gerald LaClair & Lisa Schwier

Timothy Bott & Kimberly Coyne

WE BELIEVE

We pray for the sick of our parish...

Josephine Decivitis

Maureen Caruso

Ann Kristoffersen

Mary Fontana

Fran Giarratano

George Gleixner

Tricia Berge

Jeanne G. Battaglia

Theresa

Glenn

Dolores Barone

Dominick Barone

Cynthia Simpson

Agnes Storz

Benedette Sinnot

Rosalie Grotola

Mary Pellegrino

Mario Lotito

Ryan Bernard

John Santiago

RoseMarie Collins

Matthew Allocca

Virginia Evers

Alyssa Drenkalo

Vance Vivrito

Pauline Lechner

Patricia Grasso

Dorri Smith

Mary Doran

Alisha Gervasio

Virginia Evers

Matthew Allocca

Dominick Esposito

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.

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

Rose Margaret Pietsch

Emilee Ann Bodt



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

WE REMEMBER

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

Aniello Gragnano

Edward Robinson

Kaylin Zimms

Salvatore Gigante

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

MASS MEMORIALS

A beautiful way to remember a loved one!
Memorials used during the Masses for week of
September 4-10:

Altar Bread & Wine
Thomas Daniel Matias
Requested by
Mom & Dad



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

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, September 5—
Weekday
(Blessed Theresa of Calcutta, Religious)

6:30 Eleanor & Henry Zuber

12:15 Robert Horan

TUESDAY, September 6—
Weekday

6:30 Perpetual Help Mass
 (Intentions on p. 15)

12:15 Maria Gragnano

WEDNESDAY, September 7—
Weekday

6:30 Michael George Slota

12:15 Giuseppe Lentini

THURSDAY, September 8—
The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

6:30 Mary Jane Carroll

12:15 Blessed Mother's Birthday

FRIDAY, September 9—
Saint Peter Claver, Priest

6:30 Frank Venezia

12:15 Gennaro Zampella

SATURDAY, September 10—
Weekday

8:00 Marie Clark

Vigil for
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 Eleanor & Henry Zuber

Sunday, September 11
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 Perpetual Help Mass
 (Intentions on p. 15)

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

12:00 Charles Morgan

5:00 For the People of the parish

PARISH CALENDAR

Monday, September 5, 2016

All Rectory and Parish Offices will be CLOSED on Monday, September 5, Labor Day. Also, the Monday evening Devotions are cancelled that night due to the holiday. The Rectory Office will re-open Tuesday, September 6 at 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

6:45 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

7:00 p.m. Middle Ages Room 24

8:00 p.m. Community of Praise Room 16

Wednesday, September 7, 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

7:00 p.m. Virtus training Room 1

Thursday, September 8, 2016

1:00 p.m. Legion of Mary Celebration of
 the Blessed Mother's Birthday Auditorium

1– 5 p.m. Church closed for cleaning Church

4:30 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal Room 16

7:00 p.m. Spanish Prayer Group Cafeteria

7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal Church

7:30 p.m. Family Life Ministry Room 12

Friday, September 9, 2016

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

7:00 p.m. Holy Name Society Room 10

Saturday, September 10, 2016

8:00 a.m. Rel. Ed. Levels 1-5 School

1:30 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul Room 24

4:00 p.m. Confessions Church

6:00 p.m. K of C Installation of Officers Church

7:30 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

Sunday, September 11, 2016

10:00 a.m. Pre-Cana Fall Session Recognition Church
 11:00 a.m. Pre-Cana Fall Session Begins Room 10

12:00 p.m. Adult Confirmations Church

1:00 p.m. Community Meal Cafeteria

1:30 p.m. Junior Legion of Mary Room 24

2:00 p.m. Baptisms Church

2:00 p.m. CYO—Volleyball Auditorium

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer Church

8:00 p.m. Holy Hour for Peace 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 631-805-2133 or e-mail at Alicem9@icloud.com to begin the process.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

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

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

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

YOUR PASTORAL COUNCIL

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

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

YOUR PARISH TRUSTEES

Gerry Chille
John Reynolds

YOUR PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

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
Jenine Jimenez-Spina
Amy Keller
Barbara McPhail
Deacon Doug Smith
Mike Williams

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

OFFERING UPDATE August 27/28, 2016

Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	323	127	\$4,024.00
8:00 a.m.	325	124	3,332.00
10:00 a.m.	466	113	2,891.00
12:00 pm.	388	106	3,171.00
5:00 p.m.	180	44	1,474.50
Total coin:			13.82
Mail-ins:			301.00
Children's Env.		8	46.95
Faith Direct			1,954.94
TOTAL	1,682	522	\$17,209.21
2015 total	1,692	599	16,145.48
Candles			\$856.01
Poor Box			\$372.19



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 then you'll be taxed on it like any other distribution.

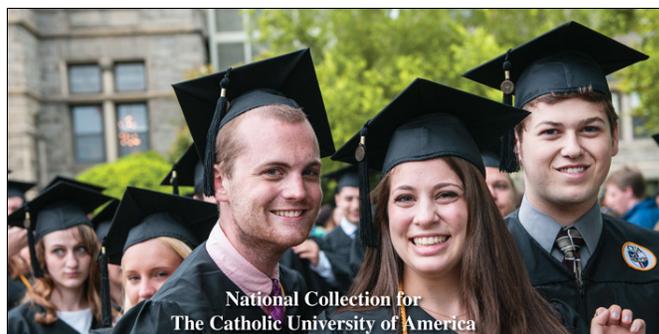
Are you watching... **INSIGHT?**

Msgr. Joe's television show **INSIGHT**, which he co-hosts with Bishop Robert Brennan and Bishop Nelson Pérez, can be seen airing weekly on Telecare, channel 29 on Cablevision, on these days:



Mondays at 8:30 p.m.
Tuesdays at 10:00 p.m.
Wednesdays at 11:00 p.m.
Fridays at 9:00 p.m.
Saturdays at 10:00 p.m.

National Collection for The Catholic University of America



The Catholic University of America is the national University of the Catholic Church in the United States, located in Washington, D.C. It provides an academically rigorous education guided by the Catholic intellectual tradition to nearly 7,000 students every year. Over 4,000 students directly receive scholarship aid from this Collection, including many from our diocese. *Next weekend, September 10/11*, is the National Collection for The Catholic University of America. Thank you, in advance, for your generosity.

PREPARING FOR

Sunday, September 11, 2016—The Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
The father said, “We must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.” Luke 15:32

Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14

In all three readings today we hear about God’s great mercy. In this first one, the Israelites have been led out of Egypt by Moses into the desert on the way to the land promised by God. But then they lose sight of who has wrought this great deliverance and instead fashion for themselves an idol, a golden statue of a calf, and worship it as their deliverer. God is rightly angry with them and threatens to destroy them all and start over. Moses however persuades God to relent and be merciful to them, remembering the promises he gave to their ancestors Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Why does he relent? Perhaps it’s because it’s in his very nature to do so. Ours is a merciful God.

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Paul tells of God’s great mercy towards him by pointing out that he began as the fiercest persecutor of the early Christians. He saw them as a threat to true religion who needed to be wiped out which he tried to do by jailing them and even putting some to death. But God had mercy on him. Instead of destroying Paul, God gave him a vision of Jesus that converted him into one of the bravest defenders of the faith. Because of this, Paul is happy to serve as an example of God’s mercy by telling his story to all who will listen in the hopes of getting them to see that Jesus came for all people. If God could be merciful to such a sinner as Paul, why would anyone doubt that God could be merciful to them? It’s a message of hope that says nothing can separate us from the love of God.

Luke 15:1-32

Jesus continues to teach of God’s mercy by giving his listeners, then and now, a trio of stories that demonstrate how great it is. The first two, about the lost sheep and the lost coin, show that every single person is of great value to God. “There will be rejoicing among the angels of God over one sinner who repents.” Then the third is perhaps the most famous parable of all, that of the prodigal son who wastes his father’s money but then repents and returns to him. Amazingly, the father takes him back with open arms and great joy. How comforting to know that God will always welcome us back in the same way. But we should also note that this only occurred after the son repented of his ways and asked for the father’s forgiveness. We must cooperate in God’s grace. We can always return home if we choose.

Readings for the Week

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

Monday, September 5, 2016:

1 Corinthians 5:1-8 + Luke 6:6-11

Tuesday, September 6, 2016:

1 Corinthians 6:1-11 + Luke 6:12-19

Wednesday, September 7, 2016:

1 Corinthians 7:25-31 + Luke 6:20-26

Thursday, September 8, 2016:

Micah 5:1-4a + Matthew 1:1-16

Friday, September 9, 2016:

1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22b-27
 + Luke 6:39-42

Saturday, September 10, 2016:

1 Corinthians 10:14-22
 + Luke 6:43-49

Sunday, September 11, 2016:

Ezekiel 32:7-11, 13-14
 + 1 Timothy 1:12-17
 + Luke 15:1-32

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 the story of the prodigal son we hear that while he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him. Was the father thinking about his son everyday and waiting for him to come home? Was the son hoping for a warm bed and food or thinking of sorrow, having hurt his father? Does the father’s forgiveness depend on the son’s repentance?

2. In his book, *The Church of Mercy*, Pope Francis discusses the parable of the Prodigal Son. What can you do as part of the church of mercy, to show all people that they are the closest thing to God’s heart?

Maybe someone among us here is thinking, My sin is so great, I am as far from God as the younger son in the parable; my unbelief is like that of Thomas. I don’t have the courage to go back, to believe that God can welcome me and that he is waiting for me, of all people.

But God is indeed waiting for you; he asks of you only the courage to go to him. How many times in my pastoral ministry have I heard it said, “Father, I have many sins”? And I have always pleaded, “Don’t be afraid, go to him, he is waiting for you, he will take care of everything.” We hear many offers from the world around us; but let us take up God’s offer instead: his is a caress of love. For God, we are not numbers, we are important; indeed we are the most important thing to him. Even if we are sinners, we are what is closest to his heart.

From *The Church of Mercy*, p. 4ff, by Pope Francis.

DIOCESEAN & COMMUNITY NEWS

- **Living with Alzheimer's & Dementia**—September 7, 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at *St. Joseph Renewal Center at Montefort Retreat Center*, 26 S. Saxon Ave., Bay Shore. Free will offering. Presenter: Josephine Daspro, CSJ, D. Min.; **Guided Meditation for Inner Healing**—Sept. 7, 7:00—8:00 p.m. \$15, by Irene Moore, CCH/ Meditation Therapist; **Men 2 Men Gathering**, Sept. 10, 8:00 a.m.—9:30 a.m. \$20 includes breakfast; **11th Step Prayer Support for 12 Steppers**—Sept. 18 2:00 p.m.– 4:00 p.m. Free will offering; **A Gathering of Women**, Oct. 4, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 noon. Call 631-647-8683 if interested in any of these programs.
- **Alumni PFI—Retreat Day September 10** at the *Seminary of the Immaculate Conception*, Huntington - A day of encounter, renewal and celebration with *Bishop Andrzej Zglejszewski*. Day retreat fee \$50 (includes lunch and dinner), a limited number of overnight rooms are available for those who wish to stay for the weekend September 9-11. Fee: \$175. Contact the Office of Faith Formation 516-678-5800 for details.
- **Magnificat**, a Ministry to Catholic Women, cordially invites you to attend our upcoming Breakfast on Saturday, **September 10th**, at *The Hofstra Club* in Uniondale at 9:45 a.m. Our speaker will be **Kathleen Keefe**, foundress of **Peace Through Divine Mercy**. The cost is \$35 per person, and must be received by *September 6th*. Checks made out to **Magnificat** to: Judy Murphy, 42 Pinehurst Street, Lido Beach, NY 11561. Please include your contact information. Questions to Judy Murphy at (917) 453-5750, or Angela Rizzo at (516) 763-1739. Pre-registration is required; and will not be accepted day of the event!
- "Enjoy *Dante's Divine Comedy*," with Fr. Joseph W. Koterski S.J. Join popular Fordham professor Joseph Koterski for this talk in the library at the *Seminary of the Immaculate Conception* on Sunday, **September 11th**, at 2:00 p.m. This lecture will offer a general overview of the Comedy as a strategy for reading it and then take up a discussion of Dante's use of the poetic device for creating a punishment that fits the crime. No registration is required and refreshments will be served.
- **Dominican Village** - Independent Retirement Community; Assisted Living Residence; Respite Care & Short Term Care - **Open House: September 1, 10, 15 and 24**. 565 Albany Ave., Amityville, NY 11701 631-842-6091.
- **GIRL SCOUT PRAY AND PLAY DAY** All Brownies, Girl Scouts and their leaders are invited to the Girl Scout Pray and Play Day on Saturday, **September 24**, 2016 at the *Shrine of Our Lady of the Island* in Eastport, New York. The day of handicrafts, fun and prayer will begin at 9:30 a.m. and conclude at 2:30 p.m. Earn a special patch! For information, contact the Catholic Scouting Office at 516-678-5800, ext. 245 or email scouting@drvc.org
- **OPEN HOUSE DAY AT THE CENACLE! September 25** from 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Celebrating 90 Years in Ronkonkoma and 5 Years in our New Building! Bring the Family for an interesting and fun afternoon including Live Band, Rosary at our Grotto, Historical Cemetery, Labyrinth, World Trade Fair, Picnic Lunch, and Prayer Service! **Ronkonkoma Cenacle**, 310 Cenacle Road, Ronkonkoma. Tel-631-588-8366 x 116.
- **Bereavement Counseling & Support Service** of *St. Bernard*, Levittown and *St. Brigid*, Westbury are offering two general bereavement groups for bereaved parents and survivors of suicide; a one-time \$20 fee for all groups, call Sister Christine Sammons at St. Bernard's 516-731-6074 or Maria Piniero at St. Brigid 516-334-0021. General Weekly Groups: St. Bernard's Parish—Thursdays, Sept. 22—Dec. 1, 6:30—7:45 p.m.; St. Brigid's, Wednesdays, Oct. 5—Dec. 7, 7:30—8:45 p.m.; Parents at St. Bernard's Mondays, Sept. 12—ongoing (every other week) 7:00—8:15 p.m.; Survivors of Suicide Mondays, Sept. 19—ongoing (every other week) 7:00—8:15 p.m.
- **Regis High School**, an all-scholarship Jesuit secondary school for Catholic boys, will host an **Open House** for students and their parents on Monday, **October 10**, 1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m. 55 East 84th Street, New York, NY. Contact Eric Di Michele, Dir. of Admissions 212-288-1100 X 2057 or email edmichele@regis.org.

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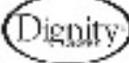
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