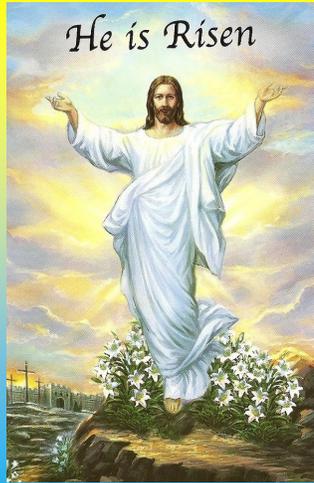


Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

210 South Wellwood Avenue + Lindenhurst, New York 11757 +

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

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



*“You seek Jesus of Nazareth,
the crucified.
He has been raised.”*

Mark 16:6

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

April 1, 2018

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor: Reverend Monsignor Joseph DeGrocco

Parochial Vicars: Reverend Fidelis Ezeani, Reverend Frank Zero

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

Business Manager: Mr. Frank Pokorney

Director of Faith Formation: Mrs. April Kleinlaut

Music Director: Mr. Christopher Ferraro

Pastor Emeritus: Reverend Monsignor Daniel S. Hamilton

Deacon Frank Odin, Retired

COME IN AND PRAY...

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

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday – Friday

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

Saturday Morning:

8:00 a.m.

Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated):

5:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses:

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.,
12:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

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

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

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

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

OLPH NOVENA DEVOTIONS

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

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday Evening: after OLPH Novena Devotions

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

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

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

PRAYER & WORSHIP



Divine Mercy Devotions April 8th

*12:00 p.m. Mass, ending with
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 3:30 p.m.*

Confessions 1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

*3:00 p.m. – Recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet
followed by*

*Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus &
1st Class Relic of Saint Faustina*

*3:30 p.m. Benediction and
Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament*

Taizé Prayer Around the Cross

Thursday, May 3

7:30 p.m. in Church



Join us for a candlelight prayer service to help us reflect on the mystery of the Cross and the glory of Christ's resurrection. Consider setting aside one hour to join in this beautiful and contemplative form of prayer.

Go to our website olphlindhurst.com and "LIKE" our Facebook page to keep up with information and to see more activities, pictures and to keep up on all the other ministries.



PASTOR'S PAGE

Easter Sunday! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Happy Easter!

The Lord has risen from the dead! Jesus is alive! He has conquered death, and so we need never fear death again! We have risen with him and have everlasting life with him, and we have the forgiveness of our sins! The crucified-risen Lord is in our midst! As we sang at our Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night, *“Exult, let them exult, the hosts of heaven, exult, let Angel ministers of God exult, let the trumpet of salvation sound aloud our mighty King’s triumph! Be glad, let earth be glad, as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King, let all corners of the earth be glad, knowing an end to gloom and darkness.”* Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

I take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy Easter, and I speak for the entire OLPH Pastoral Staff in wishing you and your family many blessings today and every day during this fifty-day season of resurrection and new life. To young people away at school who have returned home for Easter, we are very glad to see all of you again. To friends and family members of our parishioners who are visiting and worshipping with us, we extend a heartfelt welcome! To our own parishioners who are joining us but who perhaps do not come to Mass regularly, we want you to know how glad we are that you are with us today. We hope that you will be inspired to join us in worship on a more regular basis. This day was made by the Lord; let us rejoice and be glad!

Easter is our greatest feast and the center of the liturgical year; it’s important for us to make sure we give it the centrality it deserves. Look for a special Easter Time insert elsewhere in this bulletin that explains the meaning of the liturgical season and highlights some important liturgical elements.

THANK YOU to all for a beautiful Sacred Paschal Triduum!

We have had an absolutely amazing celebration of Holy Week and the Sacred Paschal Triduum once again this year, and I have to say **THANK YOU** to the numerous ministers who offered their time, their presence and their service to make it all happen. I hesitate to mention names for fear of leaving someone out, so suffice it to say that we all owe a huge debt of gratitude to everyone who worked during Holy Week, whether it was “in front of the scenes” or “behind the scenes” — all the liturgical ministers, including clergy, readers, EM’s, ushers, cantors, choir and instrumentalists, sacristans, altar servers; those who decorated the

church; our Liturgy Committee; our maintenance crew; and parishioners who assisted in various processions and many other “behind the scenes” aspects of setting things up for or cleaning up after liturgies. So many people put in so much time, energy and love! To anyone who participated in any way, and most especially to all who participated as members of the assembly, bringing your “full, conscious and active participation” and your witness of faith to our worship as a “person in the pew”: **THANK YOU** for making OLPH “the place to be” for Holy Week and the Sacred Paschal Triduum this year. We have all enriched each other through the offering of our gifts to one another as disciples following Christ. What a great gift the Lord has given to us in the gift of being able to worship together!

Easter Week

This week coming up is the Octave of Easter, as the joy of Easter Sunday continues to be celebrated in an intense way; each day this week has the liturgical rank of Solemnity. *The Glory to God in the highest* continues to be used each day this week, as does the solemn dismissal at the end of Mass with its double alleluia. (These elements end on weekdays after the Second Sunday of Easter.)

Since our custom here at OLPH is to celebrate Solemnities celebrated during the week with music at the 12:15 p.m. daily Mass, we will have the joy of having music at that Mass every day this week on these Solemnities which are the Octave of Easter. Alleluia!

Blessing of your home at Easter

Elsewhere in this bulletin we have included a special ritual for Blessing Your Home at Easter. It is traditional to bless the home during Easter Time, and I encourage each and every family to pray that blessing together at home. It’s a ritual that you can pray yourself, using holy water. Of course, if you would like your house blessed by one of the priests, just ask us...we would be very happy to come and do a blessing at some point during the fifty days of Easter Time!

Phase Three of Brick Memorialization

Phase Three of our Brick Memorialization continues, as you can see from the flyer printed elsewhere in the bulletin, and I urge you to support OLPH by memorializing a brick. We still have some bricks left along the Walkway to the Blessed Mother (although they are going quickly...act now

if you want this location), and we now have bricks available at our beautiful new "Let the Children Come to Me" statue in our lovely little prayer garden on the south side of the church. If you have already memorialized a brick in Phase One or Two, maybe you would consider memorializing another one in Phase Three. This is an important fund raiser for our parish and it would be a great assist to us to have as many bricks as possible memorialized. Please see the order form elsewhere in the bulletin, and feel free to tell all your family and friends about this...you don't have to be a parishioner of OLPH (nor even necessarily Catholic!) to memorialize a brick. Thank you for your consideration.

Have you updated your Census Registration?

The Second Phase of the updating of all of our Parish Census information is underway, and we recently sent out a large mailing to all parishioners who have not yet updated their Census Registration information. If you received this mailing, I ask that you please kindly return the completed Census Form as soon as possible. It is vitally important that we keep our census information as accurate as possible, so we know how many families we have in our parish, how many members overall, and what the demographic information is concerning the makeup of our parish; this information will help us to do accurate pastoral planning. In addition, we need to clean up our records, for example, by removing people who are no longer in the parish, so that we do not waste money doing mailings that are no longer valid.

Your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions about whether you have updated your records, you can always call the parish office and ask. You can also stop down and pick up a new Census Form at the rectory any time during normal business hours. Please remember to return an updated Census Registration Form!

Catholic Ministries Appeal

Also continuing at OLPH is this year's Catholic Ministries Appeal. Our goal this year is \$109,400, and I am grateful all of you who have already submitted your pledges. Thank you! Please remember, we cannot do without the income we receive from the Catholic Ministries Appeal rebate. We need that income to keep from "going under," so we need your support.

Remember, the Catholic Ministries Appeal supports the work and presence of the Catholic Church throughout all of Nassau and Suffolk Counties in many different ways: in Catholic

Charities (feeding, clothing and sheltering the needy); in programs of formation and training for future priests, deacons and lay leaders; in programs of ministry to those in prison; in substance abuse services and day treatment programs; and in Youth Campus and Young Adult ministries, to name a few.

I really, really hope we can once again go over goal, as we have done in all my years here. As your Pastor, I ask you to please join with me (I give to the Appeal each year) and so many of your fellow parishioners by supporting the Catholic Ministries Appeal, giving at a minimum what you gave last year, but also even giving more (as I will do). If you have never given in the past, this is the year to do so; OLPH needs you more than ever. Thank you for your generosity!

Divine Mercy Sunday

The Second Sunday of Easter, next Sunday, April 8, is also referred to as "Divine Mercy Sunday," and OLPH will be participating in special devotions to mark the day; full details are described elsewhere in the bulletin. Please plan on joining in some or all of the special events which begin with the 12:00 Noon Mass and continue with Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Confessions, recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet at the Hour of Divine Mercy, 3:00 p.m., and then followed by veneration of the image of Merciful Jesus and 1st class relic of St. Faustina.

Little White Book

Look around the church for the 2018 edition of the Little White Book; there may still be some copies left on pew ledges. If so and if you don't already have one, be sure to take one. The book contains daily meditations for each day of Easter Time. The books, enjoyed by so many parishioners, are a great way for you to pray each day during the fifty days of this great season of Easter Time and to be united more deeply to the Risen Lord who shares His risen life with us.

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,



THE FIFTY DAYS OF EASTER TIME

THE MEANING OF THE SEASON

Alleluia! He is risen! The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better, as one “great Sunday.” With Easter Sunday we begin Fifty Days of rejoicing.



During these Fifty Days the Church continues to instruct the neophytes (the newly baptized) about the new life they have embraced. In the process, all of us are called to reflect on the meaning of our baptism and on what living the baptized life looks like. What does it mean to live the resurrected life of Christ? What does it mean to be Church? How do we live life now that we have died with Christ and have been raised up with Him?

The neophytes spend this time in post-baptismal formation (which is also referred to as *mystagogical catechesis*). It is an opportunity to unpack their experience of the Easter sacraments and to reflect on what it all means for their life now as members of the Church.

The readings of the Easter Sundays offer the opportunity for such reflection. This year, the first readings of these Sundays are from the Acts of the Apostles (as they are every year), the second readings are from the First Letter of Saint John, and the Gospels are from St. John (except for the Third Sunday of Easter, when the Gospel comes from St. Luke). The readings from Acts give us a picture of life in the early Church, as the apostles began preaching the good news of the resurrection, encountering both joyful welcome and opposition. The readings from the First Letter of St. John echo the Gospel readings from St. John’s Gospel, consistently affirming that God is love and that the one who loves abides in God in a mutual indwelling. Such indwelling calls us to love one another the way God has loved us; that’s the only way we can truly show that we love God. The Gospel stories present the Lord as the Risen One, the Good Shepherd and the One who promises the Spirit to strengthen and sustain the Church.

These readings offer not only the neophytes, but also all of us, the chance to reflect on the meaning and shape of our life of faith together. Like the early Church, we are a people shaped by the resurrection, a people called to share our joy and the good news with others, a people freed from sin and filled with the life of the Holy Spirit, a people who constantly give thanks for all God’s gifts, a people who have risen from the font to a whole new way of life.

FIFTY DAYS OF CELEBRATION

Part of the challenge of Easter is learning how to celebrate a fifty-day feast! Perhaps as Catholics we find it easier to do penance than to celebrate; we find it easier to observe the forty days of Lent than the fifty days of Easter. Part of the problem lies with placing too much stress on Lent as “the” religious period for Catholics. For many people, unfortunately, Easter Sunday still seems to be the end point of Lent; come Easter Monday, it’s back to everyday life as usual.

The truth is, however, that we are called to maintain the festivity and celebration throughout the entire fifty-day period as one joyful feast. Easter, Ascension, and Pentecost are not three separate, independent feast days, each with its own themes. They are all part of the one Easter celebration.



THE STRUCTURE OF THE SEASON

Easter Time is composed of three phases, but these internal variations in rhythm never should eclipse its unity as the great Fifty Days.

1. *The Octave:* The first eight days are celebrated almost as one exuberant festival, with each day celebrated as a Solemnity. The tradition of mystagogical catechesis during this time influenced the selection of the scriptural passages. Since each day has the liturgical rank of Solemnity, we will have music at the 12:15 p.m. weekday Mass Monday through Friday and at the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Saturday of Easter Week.

2. *The 31 middle days:* The Gospels of the Sundays give focus to the season of Easter Time. The first three Sundays of Easter relate post-resurrection appearances. The Fourth Sunday always focuses on the powerful image of the Good Shepherd. The next three Sundays of the season (and many of the weekdays nearby) draw from what has come to be known as the “farewell discourse” or “high-priestly prayer” in the Gospel of John. (While this paschal season can include references and hymns to Mary, the paschal references and overall unity of the Fifty Days should not be compromised by excess attention to May as “Mary’s month.”)

3. *The final days:* The season does not end on Ascension Thursday! Over the following nine days (the original novena!) and then on Pentecost day itself, we are invited into intense prayer for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Easter Time ends at the conclusion of Pentecost Sunday.

NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT



To highlight the “original novena” of the nine days between Ascension and Pentecost, and to focus on those days as days of intensely praying for the coming of the Holy Spirit, OLPH Parish will engage in a Novena to the Holy Spirit. Look for more information on this later in Easter Time.

CHURCH ENVIRONMENT DURING EASTER TIME AND CELEBRATING THE SEASON

Many rich symbols and images pervade the Fifty Days, linked in various ways to initiation. The resurrection inaugurates a new creation, the eighth day, a new Pentecost, a new covenant, a new way of life.

The Paschal Candle will remain prominently displayed near the ambo during the Fifty Days, and it will be lit for all liturgical celebrations. The new holy oils used in the celebration of the sacraments have been enthroned in our ambry.

New life will abound in our parish as we celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation throughout Easter Time (and this year, shortly afterward). Our adult candidates who have been baptized in other Christian traditions and who have been preparing to be received into the Catholic Church will be received into the Church and celebrate Confirmation and First Holy Communion at the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, April 21. Children will be celebrating their First Holy Communion at certain Sunday Masses throughout Easter Time and at two Saturday morning Masses at 10:15 a.m. on May 5 and May 12. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated for adults at the Vigil Mass for Pentecost on Saturday evening, May 19 and for our teens on Tuesday, May 22, with Bishop Barres presiding (this year, just shortly after Easter Time ends). These events are connected as part of the Easter complex of initiation rites, as Easter is the season *par excellence* for celebrating initiation.

We will highlight the initiatory character of Easter Time each Sunday by **beginning Mass with the Rite for Blessing and Sprinkling of Water**, recalling our baptism. Also, we will continue to use the **Apostles’ Creed** during Easter Time, since that Creed is often referred to as the “Baptismal Symbol of Faith.”

Also, there is a strong tradition of blessing homes during Easter Time, a blessing which can be arranged for with one of the priests by calling the rectory, or by using the home blessing provided elsewhere in this bulletin.

As we celebrate the Fifty Days of Easter Time together, may we all come to a deeper appreciation of the Risen Lord’s presence in our midst, as the Lord calls us to share in fullness of risen life with him through the sacraments and through our life together.

BLESSING OF YOUR HOME AT EASTER

Use this prayer service to bless your home and your family at Easter.

Be sure to use newly-blessed Easter water!

All who live in the house should be present for the blessing.

(All make the sign of the cross as the Leader begins:)

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All respond: Amen.

Leader: Let us praise God, who fills our hearts and homes with peace. Blessed be God forever.

All respond: Blessed be God forever.

Leader: The Word became flesh and made his dwelling place among us. It is Christ, risen from the dead, who is our source of hope, joy, and comfort. May all who enter this home find Christ's light and love.

(Now someone reads the Scripture reading, Luke 24-28-32:)

Reader: Listen to the words of the holy Gospel according to Luke:

As the disciples approached the village to which they were going, Jesus gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?"

The Gospel of the Lord.

All respond: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(The intercessions are then said:)

Leader: The Son of God made his home among us. With thanks and praise let us call upon him. Our response will be: Stay with us, Lord.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, through you every dwelling is a temple of holiness: build those who live in this house into the dwelling place of God in the Holy Spirit. We pray:

All respond: Stay with us, Lord.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, the disciples recognized you in the breaking of the bread: grant that the members of this family may be open always to the presence of Christ in Word and sacrament. We pray:

All respond: Stay with us, Lord.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, you appeared to the frightened Apostles and said, "Peace be with you"; grant that your abiding peace may remain with the members of this family. We pray:

All respond: Stay with us, Lord.

(After the intercessions, all pray the Lord's Prayer:)

Leader: Our Father...

(After the Our Father, the leader prays the prayer of blessing with hands joined:)

Leader: Lord, we rejoice in the victory of your Son over death: by rising from the tomb to new life he gives us new hope and promise. Bless all the members of this household and surround them with your protection, that they may find comfort and peace in Jesus Christ, the Paschal Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All respond: Amen.

After the prayer, the leader may sprinkle those present and the home with holy water brought from the church. During the sprinkling the leader says:)

Leader: Let this water call to mind our Baptism in Christ, who by his death and resurrection has redeemed us.

(After the sprinkling, all make the sign of the cross as the leader concludes:)

Leader: May Christ Jesus dwell with us, keep us from all harm, and make us one in mind and heart, now and forever.

All respond: Amen.

A LETTER FROM BISHOP BARRES



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Easter 2018



Dear Friends:

Truly the Lord is risen! He is risen indeed!

Today we speak these words which echo back to the first days of Christ's resurrection. After walking with Christ on the road to Calvary, we now joyfully go forth as the disciples did on the road to Emmaus with hearts burning within us. We celebrate the moment when Christ conquered death and gave us all hope of new life.

Even after nearly 2,000 years, that moment of the Resurrection has not lost any of its power. While myths and stories eventually fade, we celebrate a historical fact, a living Person who left behind lasting evidence of his wonders, evidence that the world still seeks to understand.

This is especially true today, as we find ourselves in an historic moment—archeologists have uncovered the site of Jesus' resurrection for the first time in nearly 500 years. Within the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, scholars have restored and conducted research on the tomb of Jesus, also known as the Aedicule. Preliminary findings confirm that the heart of the structure is the same tomb that Roman Christians discovered and venerated as early as 326AD.

These findings offer us a great source of confidence in our faith. Scientific progress, rather than finding evidence against what we believe, through missionary archeology has given us a stronger connection with the place of Christ's burial and resurrection. Further, it provides a powerful image as we reflect upon our own spiritual lives this Easter.

In its 2,000-year history, Christ's tomb has endured many trials. It was covered over by slabs of stone, it withstood earthquakes, fires and the destruction of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and many believed it had been lost. So too the life of Christ in our hearts can experience highs and lows—it may be covered over with our worries and concerns, it may be jeopardized in times of doubt and confusion, or we may even believe it has faded away.

Yet just as archeologists have opened up this holy site today, we are called this Easter to open our hearts once again to the power of Christ's love and mercy. We are called to remove the barriers from our hearts and allow Christ's glorified wounds to touch our wounds and the wounds of all humanity.

We profoundly experience this reality at the Easter Vigil. In the darkness of the night and in the darkness of our lives, the light of Christ is ignited. Beginning with the Paschal candle, that light is passed on from person to person until the Church is made radiant. The darkness in our hearts is dispelled, and even more beautifully, it is dispelled by the light that is shared by our brothers and sisters in faith. We see in a deeply moving way that Christ's light is spread by each of us who carry him with us. In that moment of unity and love, as the Exsultet proclaims, the Church shakes with joy.

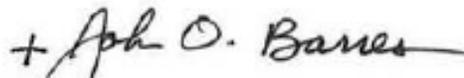
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

The excitement of that evening is not limited to one day, but extends throughout the eight-day Easter Octave. Each day we are given another story of the Risen Christ, another reason to rejoice. We witness the sorrow of the devoted women at the tomb transform into joy, we see the despair of Christ's disciples transform into hope, and we watch the doubt of St. Thomas transform into faith. And on Divine Mercy Sunday, we celebrate the gift of God's mercy that touches the struggles of our own lives and transforms them into opportunities to grow in holiness. On that day we celebrate the true source of joy in the Gospel, the Good News: we are forgiven our sins and are called by God to strive for sanctity.

During this joyous season then, we recognize that the Risen Christ's presence, his touch, his personal words of assurance tangibly changed the lives of his followers, as they can change our own lives even today. Though Christ ascended into heaven, we remember that we can still have a personal relationship with him through the gifts of the Holy Spirit and the Church which were given at Pentecost. His presence has never left us.

Indeed most powerfully, Christ's presence remains in the Eucharist. While history tells us Christ lived 2,000 years ago, we know he still lives today. He is waiting in our Churches for us to come spend time with him. He is waiting in our tabernacles for us to come adore him. He is waiting for us to join him at the Mass each Sunday, where we can share in his suffering, death, and resurrection as if we were by his side those many years ago.

We are challenged this Easter to allow Christ to change our lives by his healing touch which gives faith, hope, and love. We commit ourselves to a radical fidelity to Sunday Mass, where Christ can enter our hearts and begin to transform them. And transformed, our hearts will burn within us, driving us all to spread the light of Christ and bring about *dramatic missionary growth* here in the Diocese of Rockville Centre and beyond.



Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Rockville Centre

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS



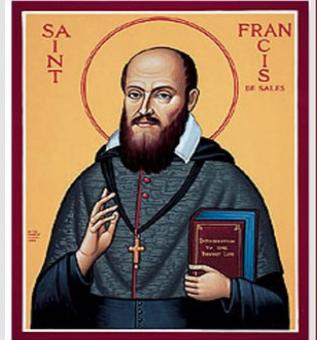
Congratulations to our **neophyte, Nicholas Sherman**, who was baptized, confirmed, and received first Communion at the Easter Vigil last night. We warmly welcome you as a new and fully-initiated member of our parish community!

His journey in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults process has not ended with his celebration of these sacraments, however. He now enters the stage of **MYSTAGOGIA**, which is a stage of continuing education in the Catholic faith and reflection on what it means to live the life of a Catholic Christian. Please continue to pray for Nicholas as he begins his new life in our Church.

FROM THE PASTORAL COUNCIL

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

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



“For he departed from our sight that we might return to our heart, and there find him. For He departed, and behold, He is here.” — St. Augustine

One of my grandchildren asked me if God is only Spirit. How would you best answer this question?

Your grandchild's question reminds me of the words of Jesus when He said, “Amen, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me.” (Matthew 18:3-4) This Bible verse makes me think of a fifth-grader with that child-like trust, portraying a sense of humility in seeking the truth. So let's satisfy that child-like desire with an answer we can all relate to.

One of the simplest signs of being Catholic is when we make the sign of the cross: “In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” Though simple to make through our motions and words, the sign says so much. It's a statement saying we believe in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. We always pray to the one and only God Almighty — one God, but three divine Persons. As a visual, you may want to show your grandchild a three-leaf clover. The three leaves are distinct, but yet form one clover. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are distinct, but form our one and only God.

We know from the Sacred Scriptures (and proclaimed in our Creed during Mass) that Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit, was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. Jesus was both human and God. Now, that was one great sign of God's love and humility — being God, but becoming one of us (just without sin). We also know that Jesus died on the cross for our sins. But he didn't die to leave us. He died so he can be with us by sending the Holy Spirit. Instead of being with one person or a group of people at one time, he sent the Spirit to be with us always.

We have celebrated the Church's greatest celebration of Christ's Paschal Mystery, the Easter Triduum (the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday). Jesus died on the cross on Good Friday only to rise on Easter Sunday. Forty days later, we will celebrate the Ascension of the Lord (Jesus ascending into heaven). Then, on the fiftieth day after Easter Sunday, we will celebrate Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit.

This may be a great opportunity to spend some time with your grandchild and discuss these upcoming celebrations of the Church. Maybe you can choose a passage out of the Bible that focuses on the Passion (possibly the Gospel of John, chapters 18 and 19) or Pentecost (Acts chapter 2). Yes, God is the Holy Spirit, but also Father and Son. So the next time your grandchild makes the sign of the cross, make sure he or she understands what each sign means.

PRAYER & WORSHIP

FIRST FRIDAY, FIRST SATURDAY & FIRST SUNDAY DEVOTIONS



All are invited to come and pray with our parish community.

First Friday Devotions will take place **April 6** after the 6:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Masses.

First Saturday Devotions—in honor of Our Lady of Fatima—will be conducted Saturday, **April 7** beginning with the Rosary at 7:40 a.m., Mass at 8:00 a.m. and continued devotion following Mass.

Each month, all are invited to join the members of the Nocturnal Adoration Society for Eucharistic Adoration. **Adoration will be held on Saturday, April 7 from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.** Reflecting the diverse community present at OLPH, each hour of the evening is celebrated in different languages (Polish, English then Spanish). The evening concludes with Benediction at 11:00 p.m.

First Sunday Devotions —Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place Sunday, **April 8** at 7:00 p.m.

MEETING FOR ALL EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are asked to attend the important meeting to be held on Tuesday, **April 24** in the church. Meetings will be held at 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.—choose **ONE (1)** of those times to attend. The meeting will include the opportunity for prayer and a discussion of important business items. All E.M.'s are expected to attend, as this is one of the required semi-annual meetings for ongoing formation. Thank you.

Celebrate the resurrection of our Lord!

Happy
EASTER



LITTLE WHITE BOOK FOR EASTER TIME

There may still be some copies of the ***LITTLE WHITE BOOK*** for Easter Time available on the pew ledges throughout the church. The *Little White Book* contains brief daily reflections for each of the 50 days of Easter Time, new for 2018. Many people have enjoyed the *Little Black Book* for Lent, and it is important to not stop with the end of Lent, but rather to continue to explore the richness of the Paschal Mystery by continuing our daily reflections throughout all of Easter Time.

THE LITTLE WHITE BOOK
2018

Six-minute Reflections
on the Resurrection Narrative
According to John

KEEP THE CHURCH CLEAN! LEAVE IT NICER THAN YOU FOUND IT!

We have been having a problem in recent months of all sorts of litter being left in pews throughout the church. Used tissues, other papers, food items, empty water bottles, and litter in general, are being left behind, and it is making the church look a mess, which is highly disrespectful to the Lord and to each other. It is essential for us to maintain a dignified space in which we can give God due honor, worship and reverence.

Your cooperation is greatly needed! Please be conscious of not dropping or leaving litter in the church. If something does drop, please be sure to pick up after yourself and your children before leaving the church. Let's give each other this gift of respect and caring! Keep the church clean, and leave it nicer than you found it! Thank you.

PRAYER & WORSHIP



The Diocese
of Rockville Centre
**Golden
Wedding
Celebration**

*“Honoring Couples
married 50 years or more”*

Sunday, April 29, 2018

St. Rose of Lima, Massapequa

Mass will begin at 2:30 pm.

*Each couple will receive a complimentary
picture with the celebrating bishop
and a certificate.*

Registration forms are available at the rectory
and must be returned to
the Office of Worship by **April 13.**

For more information call: 516-678-5800 X 504.

*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, April 2—7:00 p.m.

Monday, April 9—7:00 p.m.

Monday, April 16—7:00 p.m.



SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

*Mass for People
with Special Needs*

This vital ministry offers experiences for those with special needs and their families, including special Masses, various activities and opportunities to come together as a parish community.

Saturday, April 7

4:00 p.m.

in the School Auditorium

*All are welcome
come celebrate Mass with us!*

*We can use some help in preparing for our monthly
Mass and other special needs events. How about you?*

*Contact Jessica Becker at 631.226-7725 X 252 or
email to jbecker@oloph.org*

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

**BECOME AN ALTAR SERVER:
ATTENTION BOYS AND GIRLS OF THE PARISH, FOURTH GRADE AND OLDER**

We are in the process of **recruiting new Altar Servers!** Being an altar server is a great way to be involved at Our Lady of Perpetual Help. You make an important contribution to the life of the parish and you perform an important ministry. Besides, it's fun!!! You serve at weekend Masses and other special events, attend some meetings throughout the year, and have fun parties!

*Why not become an altar server? We would love to have you, and we will provide plenty of training — no prior experience is necessary!! If you are a boy or a girl who is in the **4th grade or older (it's o.k. if you are in 5th, 6th, 7th, or 8th grade, or even older!), you are invited to become an altar server.** Parents, why not mention it to your daughter or son to get them interested? Training will start soon, so sign up now. If you are interested, **mail or drop off the coupon below to Monsignor Joe at the Rectory, 210 South Wellwood Avenue.** *No phone calls, please; you must let me know in writing! It's OK to scan this page and send it electronically with all the info to msgrjoe@oloph.org.**

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, RESPOND BEFORE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2018, SINCE THE FIRST TRAINING MEETING WILL BE SOON AFTER THAT (you will receive a letter giving you specific information).

Sorry...no responses can be accepted after April 4!

We hope to hear from YOU!!!



Yes, I am interested in becoming an Altar Server! **RETURN THIS FORM BEFORE APRIL 4**

Name _____

Address _____

Town/Zip _____

Telephone Number _____ E-mail
_____@_____

Date of Birth (month/day/year) _____/_____/_____

Family Envelope/Registration Number _____

*****Required: Your family must be registered parishioners of OLPH.**

Year You Received First Holy Communion _____

Grade you are in right now _____

Check one:

_____ I go to public school; Name of School _____

_____ I go to Catholic school; Name of School _____



FRIENDS OF MUSIC

“The musical tradition of the universal Church
is a treasure of inestimable value,
greater even than that of any other art.”
- *The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy* #112

The *Friends of Music* is an initiative to help support the music ministry here at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. Through the generosity of our *Friends*, we are able to continue to offer beautiful music for our liturgies and concerts and special programs throughout the year. Please consider supporting the *Friends of Music* at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church for the 2018 season.

Contributions will be used to directly support the music program at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church including Advent Lessons and Carols, concerts, additional brass, woodwind and string instruments for special liturgies for Christmas, Easter and Pentecost. Acknowledgments are made in programs for our concerts and special musical offerings throughout the year as well as in our parish bulletin. Contributions can be given at any of the following levels:

- St. Cecilia (\$350 or more)
- St. Gregory the Great (\$200 to \$349)
- St. Augustine (\$100 to \$199)
- St. Ambrose (\$50 to \$99)
- St. Hildegard of Bingen (up to \$49)

It will be primarily through the support of the *Friends of Music* that we will be able to continue to produce high-quality music in our majestic church for the praise and glory of God. To make a contribution by mail, simply send a check made payable to OLPH to:

OLPH Friends of Music
210 South Wellwood Avenue
Lindenhurst, NY 11757

If your contribution will be in memory of someone or in honor of an occasion such as an anniversary, birthday, etc., please make note of the event and/or person(s) name(s).

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Chris Ferraro at cferraro@oloph.org or (631) 226-7725 ext. 210. Thank you for your support of our Music Ministry.

With Gratitude to the 2018 Friends of Music

As of March 26, 2018

St. Cecilia

- Mr. Thomas Curry, *In memory of Lorraine Curry*
- Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco, *In memory of Marsille and William S. DeGrocco*
- Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Ferraro
- Mrs. Annette Walsh, *In memory of Mary Beth Walsh and in honor of Kevin Walsh*
- Mrs. Annette Walsh, *In honor of Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco*

St. Gregory the Great

- Msgr. Daniel Hamilton, *In memory of Richard and Catherine Hamilton*
- Mrs. Sheila Lanza, *In memory of Larry and Michael Lanza*
- Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Powers
- Mrs. Mary V. Savino, *In memory of Michael P. Savino*
- Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas A. Vilardi
- Mrs. Ann Marie Wagner

St. Augustine

- Anonymous
- Mr. and Mrs. David Barrett, *In memory of Ryan Barrett*
- Mrs. Joan Hosey, *In memory of Philip Hosey*
- Mr. James Kendall
- Mr. and Mrs. John Reynolds
- Mrs. Janina Soroka, *In memory of John Soroka and Maria and Anthony Jankowsky*

St. Ambrose

- Mr. and Mrs. Edward Beyrer
- Mrs. Patricia Dow, *In memory of William R. Dow*
- Mrs. Deborah Duffy
- Mr. and Mrs. Richard Haas, *In memory of Gary and Marie Foster*
- Mrs. Patricia Little, *In memory of Jane Doyle Gustafson*
- Mrs. Linda Matera, *In memory of Mildred and Nicholas Alfieri*
- Mrs. Maura Maynard, *In memory of Mario DeMarco*
- Mrs. Marlene Rief, *In memory of Michael V. Sansalone*
- Mr. and Mrs. Dick Singh
- Ms. Linda Zarzycki, *In memory of Beverly Colling*
- OLPH Adult Choir, *In memory of Mario DeMarco*
- OLPH Adult Choir, *In memory of Consiglia Bulzomi*
- The Volpe Family, *In memory of Ryan Barrett*

St. Hildegard of Bingen

- Mr. and Mrs. Carl D'Angelo
- Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ferraro, *In honor of the Ferraro Family*
- Mr. and Mrs. William Kienle
- Mr. and Mrs. William Kienle, *In memory of Donald Chiodo*
- Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Figalora, *In memory of Peter Vitkevich*
- Mrs. Rosaleen Walters, *In memory of George Walters*
- Miss Angela Zoccali, *In memory of Angela Del Bianco and Nancy Zoccali*
- Knights of Columbus Council 794 Ladies Auxiliary, *In memory of Deceased Members of the Ladies Auxiliary*

Join the *Friends of Music* at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church and be a part of our music history!

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

- † Blue Door Thrift Boutique: Tricia Buckley—631.561.5790—thebluedoor@oloph.org
- † Catholics for the Freedom of Religion: Kathy Feldman—631 225-9864—cdfeldman@optonline.net
- † Community Meal: Gigi Gracey—631.943.0095—gigigracey1962@gmail.com—Mary Leon—mleon719@yahoo.com
- † Golden Age Society: Dolores Barone—631.957.3432
- † Homeless Ministry: Regina Muir—631.226.2709—rmuir11@aol.com—Peggy Pannullo—631. 921.5994—justin97@aol.com
- † Hospital Visitors: Peter O’Neill—631-226-6340—oneillp@optonline.net
- † Middle Ages: Gail Tonnessen—631.957.1449—gtonness@optonline.net
- † Nursing Ministry: Regina Muir—631.226.2709—rmuir11@aol.com
- † Respect Life Committee: Louise Perrotta—631.412.3831—louiseperrotta@optonline.net
- † St. Bernard League: Deacon Doug Smith—631-226-7725—dsmith4475@aol.com
- † St. Vincent de Paul Society: Deborah Deasy—631.226.7725, x. 234
- † Senior Moments/Spirituality: Fran Grasso—631.956.3003—sixfingers13@gmail.com
- † Special Needs Ministry: Jessica Becker—631.226.6175—jbecker@oloph.org—Caroline Grogan—631.225.7688—straightclaw@optonline.net

NEW Food Pantry List!
CANNED MEAT
CANNED TUNA
PASTA SAUCE WITH MEAT
CANNED SOUP WITH MEAT
PANCAKE MIX/SYRUP
CANNED FRUIT
FRUIT JUICES
PEANUT BUTTER/JELLY
COOKIES
SUGAR
 Thank you
 for your continued generosity.
 Cut out this list and bring it with you
 when you go shopping!

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Located in the “New” School Building

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 Noon

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

Today as we celebrate the feast of Easter we find the challenge of also seeing and believing the resurrection that comes through our own lives of self-sacrifice which brings new life to others.

Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will show the love of the Risen Christ by bringing your love to those who live in fear and doubt, loneliness and dread.

† A LIVING MEMORIAL

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

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

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

OUR MISSION

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Long Island is part of an international organization of Catholic laymen and women who join together to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to the needy and suffering in the tradition of our founder, Blessed Frédéric Ozanam, and patron, Saint Vincent de Paul.



“Those who love the poor in life will have nothing to fear in death...”
- Saint Vincent de Paul

*As a Living Memorial
to the life of*

A donation has been made by

*To the
Society of St. Vincent de Paul
of Long Island*

Please accept our sincere condolences for your loss.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

HOMELESS MINISTRY

DONATIONS

We are in need of the following:

- Men's pants (jeans & sweat pants) - larger sizes
- Women's new underwear (sizes 5,6,7)
- Heavy hoodies - L to 3 XL
- Winter hats (skull type)/gloves - men & women
- Sneakers - 10, 11, 11.5, 12, 13, 15
- Work boots (in good condition)
- Gently used tents

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

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

MIDDLE AGES

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

**Our next gathering is
Tuesday, April 3
General Meeting**

Tuesday, April 17: Movie Night – “The Shack”

7:00 p.m. in Room 24

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

SENIOR MOMENTS GIVE YOURSELF A CHALLENGE

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

Our next meeting:
**Tuesday, April 10
9:00 a.m. in Room 24**

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



COMMUNITY MEAL MINISTRY

OLPH's **Community Meal Ministry** has served hundreds of meals to members of our parish community. Generally held on one Sunday 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, April 15
Come and pray with us
at the 12:00 p.m. Mass
& then join us for*

VIRTUS TRAINING

VIRTUS TRAINING

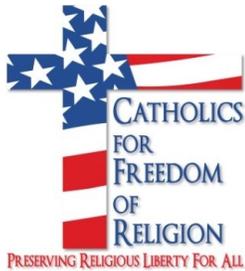
**THURSDAY, APRIL 12
7:00 p.m. in ROOM 1**

**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 to the Virtus training schedule.
Find the date and OLPH to register.



CATHOLICS FOR FREEDOM OF RELIGION



FOCUS ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Freedom of Worship's Assault on "Freedom of Religion":

The right to live, work and worship according to one's faith is a freedom foundational to the United States. The Founders were clear, and the Bill of Rights makes it foundational to our Constitution, that the government should not infringe on the free exercise of religion.

In recent years, however, Americans have faced attempts to water down this robust understanding of religious freedom to a mere "freedom to worship."

"Freedom of worship" means religious beliefs need to go in the Closet—or into four walls of a home or house of worship—and that faith should remain a private affair that is relegated to personal activities or weekend worship services.

"Freedom of religion" means religious believers can say and do as their conscience dictates in the public square. It includes freedom of worship but is also the right to evangelize, change their religion, have schools and charitable institutions, and conduct their jobs and businesses according to their conscience and religious beliefs.

"The freedom of religion is much more than just the freedom to worship," said Sen. James Lankford. "Worship confines you to location. Freedom of religion is the right to exercise your religious beliefs—it is the ability of Americans to live out their faith or choose to have no faith at all." (firstthings.com; wsj.com, 6/10/16; ncregister.com, 8/18/16)

"Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; ..."
First Amendment to the Bill of Rights

Action Steps:

1. Pray that all Americans will cherish our freedoms.
2. Learn all 5 freedoms in the First Amendment.
3. Contact Catholics For Freedom of Religion at 631-896-8331 to arrange a speaker for your parish or ministry group.

IMPORTANT NOTICE AFFECTING ALL CHILDREN OF THE PARISH

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

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

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

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

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

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

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

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

OFFICE HOURS:

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

Looking for something fun for your children to do over the summer?
 Join us for **Vacation Bible Camp**
July 16th-20th
 Call April Kleinlaut for more details!



Level 6: There will be a Parent Meeting on Wednesday, April 4 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss next year's program!

Level 7: There will be a Parent Meeting on Wednesday, April 4 at 7:30 p.m. to discuss next year's program and for a presentation on the topic of Social Justice!

Registration Is Now OPEN



Letters with details about re-registration have now been mailed to all families with students in our program. Registration for returning families begins April 3rd. After June 15th, there will be a \$25 late fee for ALL registrations.

We continue to encourage all families with children who will be beginning 1st grade (or older) who have not yet begun religious education to register for religious education. We welcome anyone interested in registering or learning more about our program to make a "New Family Appointment" or to 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 2018-2019 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!

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
Linda Coppola, Business Office Assistant	214	lcoppola@oloph.org
Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco, Pastor	206	msgjrjoe@oloph.org
Jacqueline Dwyer, Parish Secretary	212	jdwyer@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 Jeffrey Gaab at (631) 965-0076 or e-mail at jsg375@gmail.com to begin the process.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

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

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)
Eileen Corticchia
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Greg Guido
Sonia Hansen
Joselyn Kalt
Melissa McLaughlin
Kevin Sabella, Jr.
Kevin Sabella, Sr.
James Totino
Peter Triolo
Adele Venezia

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

YOUR PARISH TRUSTEES

Gerry Chille
John Reynolds

YOUR PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

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

YOUR PARISH LITURGY COMMITTEE

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

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

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:

Charles Pinho & Milagros Vaia

First Announcement:

James O'Connor & Elizabeth Triolo

WE REMEMBER

We remember those who have died in our parish.

“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.”

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.

PERPETUAL HELP MASS THURSDAY, APRIL 5 6:30 A.M. MASS

Alberta Zero	Requested by Eileen Salvi
Angela Burrzano <i>(Healing Intention)</i>	Requested by B. Aiello

WE BELIEVE

We pray for the sick of our parish...

<i>Beata Konopka</i>	<i>Peggy McCloud</i>
<i>Kathy Stanton</i>	<i>Peter Masak</i>
<i>Marilyn Russo</i>	<i>John Anglin</i>
<i>Theresa Gloria Madonia</i>	<i>Guido (Guy) Gagliano</i>
<i>Paula DiBernardo</i>	<i>Loretto DiNardo</i>
<i>Mary Clark</i>	<i>Dominick Barone</i>
<i>Nettie Deasey</i>	<i>Joseph Doyle</i>
<i>Patricia Lamprecht</i>	<i>Richard Olson & Donor</i>
<i>Rose Pentaleri</i>	<i>Mary Condra</i>
<i>Alvin Wickenheiser</i>	
<i>Jean DeStasio</i>	

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

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

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

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

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



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, April 2— Monday within the Octave of Easter

6:30	Richard Oliveri Jr.
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12:15	Perrotta Family
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TUESDAY, April 3— Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

6:30	Stefania Filipkowska
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12:15	Joseph Franz
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WEDNESDAY, April 4— Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

6:30	Louis Picano
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12:15	Joseph Cannizzaro
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THURSDAY, April 5— Thursday within the Octave of Easter

6:30	Perpetual Help Mass (Listing on p. 21)
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12:15	Benedict Barbera
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FRIDAY, April 6— Friday within the Octave of Easter

6:30	Margaret Mehm
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12:15	William M. Meehan Jr.
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SATURDAY, April 7— Saturday within the Octave of Easter

8:00	Margaret Brogan
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Vigil for SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

4:00	Special Needs Mass—Auditorium
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5:00	Theresa Savo & Maureen Henry
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Sunday, April 8 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

8:00	For the People of the Parish
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10:00	Living & Deceased Members of the Holy Name Society
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12:00	Adeline Spatafora
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5:00	Nicole Dicostanzo
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PARISH CALENDAR

Monday, April 2, 2018

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 24
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10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
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7:00 p.m.	Devotions	Church
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Tuesday, April 3, 2018

6:45 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
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7:00 p.m.	Middle Ages	Room 24
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7:00 p.m.	Adult Confirmation	St. Mark
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8:00 p.m.	Community of Praise	Room 16
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Wednesday, April 4, 2018

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 24
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10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
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12:45 p.m.	Exposition	Church
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1:45 p.m.	Legion of Mary	Room 24
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5:30 p.m.	Level 6 Classes	School
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6:00 p.m.	Van Run	Room 12
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7:30 p.m.	Family Life Monthly Meeting	Cafeteria
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7:30 p.m.	Level 7 Classes	School
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Thursday, April 5, 2018

1:00 p.m.-on	Church closed for cleaning	Church
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7:00 p.m.	Spanish Prayer Group	Cafeteria
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7:00 p.m.	Respect Life Meeting	Room 18
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7:30 p.m.	Baptismal Prep Class for Parents	Room 16
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7:30 p.m.	RCIA	Room 2/19
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7:30 p.m.	VBC Planning Session	Room 12
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8:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous	Room 24
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Friday, April 6, 2018

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 24
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10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
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7:30 p.m.	Catholics For Freedom of Religion	Room 18
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Saturday, April 7, 2018

8:30, 10:00	Levels 1-5 & Sp. Ed. Classes	School
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1:30 p.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 24
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1:30 p.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
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4:00 p.m.	Confessions	Church
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6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer/Adoration	Church
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7:30 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
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Sunday, April 8, 2018

10:00 a.m.	RCIC	Room 18
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10:00 p.m.	RCIA	Church
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10:00 a.m.	Pre-Cana Session	Room 10
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12:45 p.m.	Junior Legion of Mary	Room 24
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1:00 p.m.	Exposition	Church
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3:00 p.m.	Divine Mercy	Church
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3:30 p.m.	Benediction	Church
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6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer/Holy Hour	Church
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8:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
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**OFFERING UPDATE
Palm Sunday—March 24/25**

Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	453	147	\$3,291.00
8:00 a.m.	447	164	4,425.00
10:00 a.m.	742	184	4,446.00
12:00 a.m.	850	67	4,672.00
5:00 p.m.	355	58	1,959.50
Total coin:			17.35
Mail-ins:			628.00
Children's Env.		29	75.08
Faith Direct			2,424.25
TOTAL	2,847	649	\$21,938.18
Palm Sunday	2,884	721	\$22,359.47
Candles			\$953.72
Poor Box			\$407.45

**FR. FIDELIS
NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

Move Around With Us, Inc.

is a non-profit organization created by Fr. Fidelis to help young Nigerians who are in desperate need of wheelchairs, crutches, canes, walkers, etc. but cannot afford such luxuries. **You can help!** If you have (in good condition) and no longer need such items please contact Fr. Fidelis at the rectory who, with the Pastor's permission, will collect and arrange for the items' transport overseas.

(Charitable donation tax letter available upon request)



The Lord is risen! As Christ's disciples, we are called to go forth and spread the good news of His Resurrection. Our parish's many ministries are examples of how many of you answer that call. Our ministries require not only gifts of time and talent, but also of financial help. Please prayerfully consider supporting Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish with electronic donations through Faith Direct. You can sign up online by visiting www.faithdirect.net using our church code: NY286.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!

God Bless You,

**UPDATE YOUR
PARISH CENSUS INFORMATION!**

We are continuing the process of updating our Parish Census Database with "Phase II" of the process. A large mailing has gone out to all registered parishioners who did not return updated Census Forms during "Phase I." **When you receive that mailing, please complete the Census Form and return it as soon as possible.** It is vitally important that we keep our census information as accurate and up-to-date as possible.

Your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions about whether or not you have updated your records, you can always call the parish office and ask. You can also stop down and pick up a new Census Form at the rectory any time during normal business hours. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

**DEADLINES FOR
BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

Editing and sizes are at the discretion of the editor.

**April 8—passed
April 15—April 6
April 22—April 13**

PREPARING FOR

Sunday, April 8, 2018

Second Sunday of Easter

*Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."*

John 20:29

Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of the early Church, beginning in Jerusalem and ending in Rome. Today's reading describes how the community of believers continued to grow even after Peter and John had been ordered by the Temple leaders not to preach in Jesus' name. What is most important about this community is that they were "of one heart and mind." Because of this, they were able to share what they had and take care of the needy in their midst. This should lead us to reflect on our own parish today. Are we of one heart and mind?

1 John 5:1-6

For John, believing and loving are intimately related. "Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God, and everyone who loves the Father loves also the one begotten by him." To be a believer means to adhere in loving reverence to authentic Christian teaching: "For the love of God is this, that we keep his commandments." Belief in Jesus as the Son of God leads to the victory that overcomes the world. What a hopeful message when we feel overcome by the world – the victory is ours in Christ Jesus!

John 20: 19-31

Today's Gospel is for all of us who have not seen Jesus but still believe. The first apostles were given the great grace of seeing the risen Jesus face to face, of talking and even eating with him. But we, two thousand years removed from these awesome events, are like doubting Thomas at times. We struggle with belief. We have moments of doubt and uncertainty. But day after day, in season and out, we profess with our lips and believe in our hearts that Jesus is our Lord and God. Because of this, Jesus calls us "blessed." What good news!

Readings for the Week

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

Monday, April 2, 2018:

Acts 2:14,22-33 + Matthew 28:8-15

Tuesday, April 3, 2018:

Acts 2:36-41 + John 20:11-18

Wednesday, April 4, 2018:

Acts 3:1-10 + Luke 24:13-35

Thursday, April 5, 2018:

Acts 3:11-26 + Luke 24:35-48

Friday, April 6, 2018:

Acts 4:1-12 + John 21:1-14

Saturday, April 7, 2018: Vigil

Acts 4:13-21 + Mark 16:9-15

Sunday, April 8, 2018:

Acts 4:32-35
+ 1 John 5:1-6
+ John 20:19-31

Gospel Reflection

Rising to New Life

"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad." Easter is the great celebration of victory of life over death.

Ours is an Easter religion. We do not deny or turn away from the evils that surround us: the wars that have killed some 100 million people in our (last) century; the poverty that grips more than half of the human race; the hunger that kills millions every year and ruins the lives of millions more; the discrimination that divides the human family into contending parties.

We do not deny these miseries, but we refuse to surrender to their power because of our faith in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Suffering will be vindicated; death will be overcome; a new life will arise: that is the Easter message of the paschal mystery.

"Let us feast with joy in the Lord." Just as Christ passed through death to resurrection, so too will the world pass through its suffering to the glory of a new life.

There is no room for despair: our Easter faith tells us that God will "raise us up and renew our lives." This is the 'day which the Lord has made.' Alleluia! Take fresh hope, brothers and sisters of the whole world! With Christ our Passover everything is possible! Christ goes forward in our future!

*Pope John Paul II,
Easter Message, 1991*

PRAY AND PLAY: A DAY TRIP TO ENDERS ISLAND ON THE LONG ISLAND SOUND AND FOXWOODS CASINO

MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2018

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and
Christ the King Church, Commack

Led by:
Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco, Christopher Ferraro
and Suzanne Richards

\$110 per person includes:

- Deluxe motor coach transportation - the bus will depart from Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Lindenhurst at 6:00 a.m. and then Christ the King Church, Commack at 6:30 a.m. The bus will return to both churches between 9:30 and 10:30 p.m.
- Mass, spiritual talk, free time and hot lunch at St. Edmund's Retreat House, Enders Island, CT.
- Four hours of free time at Foxwoods Casino with a \$10 slot-play bonus package. Tanger Outlets at Foxwoods provides an alternative for those who choose not to gamble.

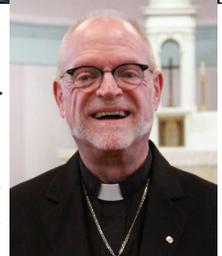
For more information contact: Chris Ferraro
cferraro@oloph.org or 631-226-7725x 210

PILGRIMAGE TO IRELAND - JULY 23-AUGUST 1

Dublin ♣ Belfast ♣ Westport ♣ Galway ♣ Cliffs of Moher ♣ Wexford ♣ Wicklow



Are you ready to discover Ireland's treasures? Our hosts, Steve and Michele Warner, themselves Dublin residents, will share their vast experience of the Republic of Ireland touching on pastoral, historical and ecclesial points of interest along the way. After years of touring with the University of Notre Dame Folk Choir, they will help bring us close to many of the vital traditions of Ireland's spiritual heritage. Every day will include Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours ... as we journey together through the land of saints



and scholars and much more! Our chaplain will be Fr. Paul Colloton, OSFS, who led our recent Parish Mission . We hope you will consider joining us! For more information, or to get a full brochure, email Chris Ferraro, Tour Coordinator, at cferraro@oloph.org or contact Peter's Way Tours - peter@petersway.com or (516) 605-1551. The cost of the trip, which includes round-trip airfare from New York, is \$3,790.



Supporting Dramatic Missionary Growth
on Long Island and Beyond

Hands of Christ's Mercy



Alleluia! Christ is risen; truly, He is risen! That Easter greeting offers all of us hope, encouragement and perseverance.

At this special time of year, let us witness Christ's Resurrection by bringing hope and encouragement to others.

Let us remember those of our neighbors who are hungry and in need, and consider sharing our many gifts with them.



One way to do this is by donating to the **Catholic Ministries Appeal** so that we can continue to bring hope and encouragement to those in need in our Long Island community. Last year, *because of you* we were able to serve more than 600,000 people in our community.

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

Parish _____ Pledge: \$ _____

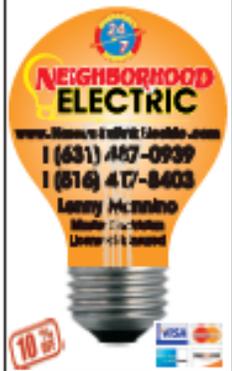
Name _____ Down payment: \$ _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

For more information about the **Catholic Ministries Appeal**, please visit <http://www.drvc.org/CMA> or call 516-678-5800 ext. 296.

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