parish office
Mon to Thurs. 9:00am to 4:00pm, 7:00 to 9:00pm
Fridays Closed
Sat 9:00am to 1:00pm

office hours
Holidays
Saturday 9:00am Church
Sunday Church 7:00am, 8:45am, 10:15am, 11:45am, 5:00pm
Nolan Hall 9:30am
Nolan Hall 11:30 am Misa Dominical Español

we celebrate the Eucharist
Sunday Mass Schedule
Saturday Vigil 5:00pm Church
Sunday Church 7:00am, 8:45am, 10:15am, 11:45am, 5:00pm
Nolan Hall 9:30am
Nolan Hall 11:30 am Misa Dominical Español

we celebrate the sacraments
Baptism
Parents are requested to call the Parish Office at least two months before child’s birth to make arrangements. New Parents’ Instruction Class will be held on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 7:30pm to 8:30pm in Room 257. Baptism is celebrated every Sunday of the month at 1:30pm except during the Lenten Season.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)
Anyone who wishes to join the Catholic Church should call the Parish Office.

Reconciliation (Confession)
Saturday 4:00 to 4:45pm in the Church or call the Parish Office for an appointment.

Matrimony
Couples are requested to call at least six months before the wedding for an appointment with a Priest or Deacon to set the date and make arrangements. No arrangements can be made by phone.

Anointing of the Sick
Fourth Saturday of the month at the 9:00am Mass or call the Parish Office.

Welcome to all new Parishioners, we invite you to register at the Parish Office.
The First Sunday of Advent + December 6, 2015
**Newly Baptized**

Sadie Rose Baierwalter,  
Lucia Reese Ingenito,  
Jason Edward Michalowski,  
Griffin M. Ross & Leana E. Schmidt

---

**Preparing for Marriage**

**Banns Posted**

**First Time**  
No Bands  
**Second Time**  
Alberto Squatrito & Jessica Jalal  
**Third Time**  
No Bands

---

**For Our Sick**


---

**Bread & Wine for the Eucharist**

In memory of Peter John Figoski

---

**Altar Rose**

In memory of Barbara McClusky

---

**For Our Deceased**

Please pray for the families and souls of our deceased members including Michael Yandolli, John J. Canning, JR. & Jennie Grasso.

---

**REFLECTION FOR TODAY**

Good stewards believe that God, who has begun this good work in them, will carry it through to completion. In words and deeds, they can sing with the Psalmist, “The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy!”

---

**Mass Schedule & Readings For The Coming Week**

**Monday, December 7**

Is 35:1–10, Lk 5:17–26  
7:45 Intentions of Carol & Henry Jacobi  
9:00 Mary Kelly

**Tuesday, December 8**

7:45 Belen A. Nanes  
9:00 Alfred Miller  
12:15 Ann Elizabeth Sutton  
7:30 Ann Mecca

**Wednesday, December 9**

Is 40:25–31, Mt 11:28–30  
7:45 Steve Bevacqua  
9:00 Viola Rebecchi

**Thursday, December 10**

Is 41:13–20, Mt 11:11–15  
7:45 Attilio, Domenico & Nick Ventura  
9:00 Barbara McCluskey

**Friday, December 11**

Is 48:17–19, Mt 11:16–19  
7:45 Thanksgiving to Jesus  
9:00 Rolland Tetraul

**Saturday, December 12**

Zec 2:14–17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1–6a, 10ab, Lk 1:26–38 or Lk 1:39–47  
9:00 Libby & Tony Scafa  
**This Eucharist is the monthly bereavement Liturgy where we remember those who have died at any time and especially those who have died in the previous month or whose anniversaries occur during this time. Lazarus Ministry will be present to welcome you and offer guidance.**

**Weekend Celebrations** (barring last minute changes)

**Confessions Today**  
4:00 Confessions Today  
5:00 Peter John Figoski

**Preparing for Marriage**

Ravi Maharaj & Brandon Lochan  
Edward S. McKeown  
Intentions of James Conte  
Shawn & Patricia Tripp

---

**Sunday, December 13 ~ 3rd Sunday of Advent (Year A: First Scrutiny)**

Zep 3:11–18a, (Ps) Is 12:2-6, Phil 4:1–7, Lk 3:10–18  
7:00 Maryann Arcese  
8:45 People of St. Joseph  
9:30 Joan McClusky  
10:15 Larry Ward  
11:45 Ester, Jack & Carmela Nicastri  
5:00 Keith O’Donnell
Our Parish Mission Statement

The Parish of St. Joseph is a Roman Catholic Community of Christ’s Disciples:
We Welcome. We Worship. We Witness.

Sacrificial Giving

Thank you for your generosity in returning to God and God’s work some of what God has given to you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Actual Collection</th>
<th>Budgeted Collection</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/22/15</td>
<td>$21,133.00</td>
<td>$23,895.00</td>
<td>-2,762.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/29/15</td>
<td>$21,605.00</td>
<td>$23,895.00</td>
<td>-2,289.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

God bless you!

Liturgy

We Assemble for Prayer

The Eucharist
Each day and each weekend, we celebrate the Eucharist, the Summit & Source of Catholic Christian Spirituality.

Benediction
We celebrate Benediction on the third Sunday of the month at 2:30pm in the Little Chapel.

Rosary
We pray the Rosary before the 9:00am Eucharist Mondays through Saturdays.

Nocturnal Adoration
A Holy Hour with the Blessed Sacrament is offered on the First Friday of each month, from 9:00pm to 10:00pm in the Church.

Men’s Spirituality Group: Witness and grow in Faith. Meets every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the Church.

Prayers for Our Service Men & Women

We continue to pray for the following military personnel and their families:

U.S. Navy:
PO3 Joshua D. Benoit
Lt. Michael Catalano
Lt. John T. Izzo
Lt. Caroline Mayer
PO2 Kristen Tice
PO1 Rasheen Tice

U.S. Army:
SPC Elliot Chodkowski
SSG Josuah Insull
LTC John Kallo
SSG David C. Ray
Eric Stein
LTC Jon J. Uebel
PVT Danny Bornschein
Pvt. Edwin Zambrano
PFC Dominick Pititto
Lt. Stephen Scuderi
Pvt. Mark Ospina
Lt. Joseph A. Vanderveldt, III

U.S. Coast Guard:
PO1 Benjamin Flad
Capt. Matthew W. Sibley
F.A. Madison Mulders

U.S. Marine:
Maj. Matthew G. Bland
AB Christopher Signoretti
SSGT Brandon Ward

Lazarus Ministry

LAZARUS MINISTRY

On Saturday, December 12, 2015, at the 9:00 AM Eucharist, we will have our monthly Liturgy for the Commemoration of the Dead. All those who have lost a loved one, at any time in the past, are invited to join us. We especially welcome the family and friends of those who have died in the previous month or whose anniversaries occur during this time. A table will be placed in the Baptistery for family members to place pictures of those who have died. A lectern will be set up for family or friends to write the names of those to be remembered at the General Intercessions. There will also be an opportunity to remember each loved one by name in the Book of the Dead. Members of the Lazarus Ministry will be present to welcome you and to offer guidance; please let them know when you arrive. For questions or further information, please call Barbara Schade, 968-8793.
The Road Less Travelled to Christmas:
Are You Ready for New Options?

Some of us are still stuffed from the overstuffing of ourselves we did over the Thanksgiving weekend, and the bathroom scale did not disguise the consequences for a single day! The same thing can occur in the purchasing and giving of Christmas presents to excess. In the last ten years, this idolization of consumerism has received a name: affluenza!

But we all know that there are new options and alternatives for the coming gifting season, and some of them are quite simple:

Try consuming or using half as much of as many things as you can. Start with shampoo, detergent and toothpaste, then get creative and see how many others you can come up with. Half as much is sometimes twice as good (eating, for example), and always twice as thrifty.

Give gifts of time and service in lieu of things. For example, the offer to babysit children and infants of exhausted parents could be a blessing both to their household and marriage. Or the promise to shovel someone’s walk and driveway, whatever this winter brings us. For the young ones, they can offer to clean their siblings’ rooms.

Use an extended group model for gifting: rather than everyone gifting everyone, let everyone in the group pick the name of someone in the group for whom they will shop, and put a dollar limit on it.

You can read the entire list of 100 suggestions on how to give and live more simply this year at: http://www.pbs.org/kcts/affluenza/escape/action/index.html.

Happy Advent,

Father Chris
Christmas at St. Joseph

**St. Joseph Christmas Party**

Bereavement Group, Moving On Group and Sociable Singles are invited on
Monday, December 14th, 2015 6pm - 9:30pm
La Famiglia Restaurant
90 West Main Street, Babylon

Family Style Complete Dinner & Open Bar
$45.00 Per Person
Make check payable to: St. Joseph Church
Drop off in the Parish or mail it to : St. Joseph Church, 39 North Carll Avenue,
Babylon , NY 11702, Attention: Lorraine DeCanditis.

If you would like to reserve a table, please request that on your check and include who and how many people you will be sitting with.

Thank you!

---

**Christmas Party for Bereavement, Moving On & Sociable Senior Singles**

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**Ho Ho Ho….**

The Knights of Columbus would like to invite you to join them for

**Breakfast with Santa**

Sunday, December 13th from 10am - 12pm in the O’Connell Room

Menu will include: Pancakes, sausage, juices, cookies, coffee & tea. There is no fee for this event.

Please bring a small gift, wrapped and with your child’s name on it for Santa to present to your child.

Please RSVP by Dan Tergesen at dmtergesen@optonline.net or calling him at 631-422-3563. Please indicate the number of adults and children attending.
St. Joseph Church
11:45am New Mass Experience
Evaluation One: from October to mid-November, 2015

We thank you for participating in our evaluation. Please answer each statement to the best of your ability.

Introduction
The total number of 11:45am Masses that I have attended, from October 4th up to and including today is ________.

Part One: Please answer Y for Yes and N for No to the statements in this section about publicity for this Mass.

______ received a printed invitation
______ personally invited by word-of-mouth
______ read notices in the bulletin and/or on website
______ saw a flyer posted at a local merchant or store
______ sign on the Parish lawn
______ saw Fr. Chris’interview on News 12
______ sent or gave a personal invitation to one or more people. If so, how many? ________

Part Two: Please rate EACH of the following elements on a scale of 1 to 5 of importance to you, where 1 is the lowest and 5 is the highest.

1                                     5
lowest                           highest

______ hearing God’s Word
______ homily content
______ homily length
______ hospitality greeters
______ hymn lyrics
______ hymns sung before Mass
______ Mass length
______ musical selections
______ new hymn books
______ receiving the Eucharist
______ ‘takeaway’ thought
______ words of hope and encouragement
______ other things: ____________________________

Please choose ONE OF THE ABOVE ITEMS, which is very important to you___________________.
And please tell us WHY it is important to you:
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

Please tell us what you find effective at this Mass:___________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

And what you find not working: __________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

Is there anything else you would like to say at this time about the Mass, please tell us:
____________________________________________________________________________________
Part Three: Demographic Information

Please check one answer in each section

I am...
- Female
- Male

My age...
- 14-18
- 19-30
- 31-45
- 46-59
- 60-74
- 75 & over
- prefer not to say

Check the one (s) that best apply:
- I'm looking for a parish to belong to
- I belong to St. Joseph Parish
- I belong to a different parish
- I'm not a member of any denomination
- I am a member of a non-Catholic Christian church
- I belong to a non-Christian denomination
- I consider myself a non-practicing Catholic

Thank you again for participating in this survey!

“If the Lord does not build the house, then in vain do the builders labor.”

Psalm 127
The Mercy INN Benefit Concert raised over $11,000 last year through "drop in the basket" donations.

St. Joseph's Choir has presented a concert of beautiful and inspirational music each December with all proceeds benefiting this Soup Kitchen for over 20 years.

The Mercy INN addresses the issue of hunger in the community by providing hot, nourishing meals in a dignified, comfortable and respectful manner to those who seek our help. The Mercy INN operates a single soup kitchen in Wyandanch, New York and we have no paid employees, except for a part-time custodian. They very much count on the generosity and talents of the Church of St. Joseph to be able to continue serving the poor all year.

On Sunday, December 13th at 7 PM the concert will begin with a moving candlelight procession to the altar where the choir, soloists, strings, harpsichord and trumpets will perform selections from Vivaldi's GLORIA and Handel's MESSIAH and two other very beautiful selections. Please arrive early as the church is put in darkness promptly at 7 PM. Cash or checks may be made payable to the Mercy INN Soup Kitchen. Donation suggestion: $30 family; $15 individual. Our hope is to surpass last year's total. Contributions may also be dropped off at the Parish Office any time in an envelope with the "Mercy INN Soup Kitchen" written on the front.
Interested in Sharing Your Musical Gifts at St. Joseph

The Church of St. Joseph, Babylon would like to invite a musician who can lead our youth on instruments and in song at the Sunday 5 PM liturgy. Guitar and vocal skills are desired; music degree preferred but will consider one's experience and musical talent. Rehearsals are held in the church prior to mass. The candidate should exude spirituality, enthusiasm, and enjoy working with teenagers. Other optional worship opportunities may arise during the year that highlights the band. Send all contact information with your résumé and letter(s) of recommendation to the Pastor: By mail to Msgr. Rev. Chris Heller at Church of St. Joseph 39 N Carll Ave, Babylon, NY 11702; or via e-mail at CHeller@stjosephsbabylon.org with “Youth Band Leader Position” in the subject area.

Liturgy...

As soon as the Holy Spirit overshadowed the womb of the Virgin Mother, God immediately became one of the human family.

In like manner when a child is conceived in his mother’s womb, he becomes one of us.

This little human being now dwells among us.

So that the world may understand this truth,

COME PRAY WITH US!

If you find that the world hates you, know it has hated me before you - John 15:18-21

ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR LIFE

“And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us” - John 1:14

DECEMBER 8/9, 2015

9PM Monday TO 1AM Tuesday

NATIONAL HOUR OF UNITY IS 12AM TO 1AM

Join in Unity of Prayer across America to protect LIFE, LIBERTY and HIS CHURCH!!!

If my people...humble themselves and pray, and seek my presence and turn from their evil ways, I will hear them from heaven and pardon their sins and

So that the world may understand this truth,

COME PRAY WITH US!

If you find that the world hates you, know it has hated me before you - John 15:18-21

ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR LIFE

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If my people...humble themselves and pray, and seek my presence and turn from their evil ways, I will hear them from heaven and pardon their sins and
Jubilee Year of Mercy  
December 8, 2015

Dear Brothers and Sisters: Disciples of Christ,

Pope Francis has called for a Jubilee Year of Mercy to begin Wednesday, December 8, 2015 and to continue until November 22, 2016. In his Bull of Indiction he tells us, Jesus Christ is the face of the Father’s mercy and then goes on We want to live this Jubilee Year in light of the Lord’s words: MERCIFUL LIKE THE FATHER.

With gratitude to the Holy Father for this initiative, I write to all of you, the members of the Church of Rockville Centre, to invite us all to set out on a pilgrimage of mercy here in our Diocese beginning on December 12th. Inspired by the Pope’s letter, Misericordiae Vultus, we as a Church will have many opportunities to live mercy and to let the Father’s mercy flood our hearts and make our hearts like that of His Son. I urge all of you to read prayerfully the Holy Father’s letter which can be found on the Vatican website, www.im.va under Pope Francis and the rubric “Bulls.” He gives us all a moving explanation of divine mercy, the mercy that forgives, embraces and renews, and transforms every human heart open to receive God’s grace.

In our Diocese I have designated four pilgrimage places. Each place, Saint Agnes Cathedral in Rockville Centre, The Basilica of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary in Southampton, The Shrine of Our Lady of the Isle in Eastport, and The Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington, will have a specific day every week during the Jubilee Year when priests and others will be available to receive pilgrims who come to enter through the Holy Door to confess their sins, pray before the Blessed Sacrament, join in devotions and receive the Lord’s blessing in Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

There will be a pilgrimage as well to the Basilica Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington on September 24, 2016. Parishes and deaneries will be organizing events. During Lent the priests will preach on the themes of mercy during this special season.

The Jubilee Year will be officially opened in our Diocese on Saturday December 12th at the 5:00PM Mass in Saint Agnes Cathedral which will also be televised by Telecare. These and many other moments to encounter the Father’s mercy can be found on our website www.drvc.org.

For the moment I write to urge you to begin NOW to prepare your hearts and those of your families, parishioners and friends truly to live mercy so that the balm of the Father’s mercy may heal everyone and we all become merciful as the Father is merciful, the Father whose mercy is greater than any sin and more fulfilling than any other promise of life.

May the Merciful Father enter our hearts and transform our lives so that we might be His instruments of mercy to one another and the entire world.

Yours devotedly in Christ,

Bishop of Rockville Centre

PO Box 9023, Rockville Centre, New York 11571–9023 • telephone 516.678.5800 • fax 516.678.3138 • www.drvc.org
Membership Organizations

St. Joseph the Carpenter Council #14771 is a Membership Organization of St. Joseph Parish. Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to men 18 years of age and older.

Meetings are normally held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 8PM in the O’Connell Room.

For membership information contact: Larry Dell’Erba at 631-539-8565. For additional information about the Knights of Columbus and St. Joseph the Carpenter Council: Just Google “Knights of Columbus St Josephs”

Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Meet Helen our newest JCDA member.

Meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of each month - September thru June. Come and visit one of our meetings and mingle with our members and learn how we work in UNITY and CHARITY to help others less fortunate.

For more information: Contact: Stephanie Conley 631-422-0175

Catholic Daughters of the Americas - Court Bishop McDonnell #1403

We welcome all our Catholic sisters to add their names to the roster of the largest Catholic women’s organization in the world through Court Bishop McDonnell #1403

Tell a friend!

Meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of each month - September thru June. Come and visit one of our meetings and mingle with our members and learn how we work in UNITY and CHARITY to help others less fortunate.

For more information:
Contact: Stephanie Conley 631-422-0175

Golden Age Club

The Golden Age club meets every Wednesday 12:30PM - 2PM in the O’Connell Room, St. Joseph’s Babylon. Seniors are invited to play cards or bingo and enjoy desserts and friendship with us.

5 NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED! 5

If you are giving or getting a new phone for Christmas, please save the old phones for us. We will have gift wrapped boxes in the lobbies of the Church, Nolan Hall & the office for phones to be deposited beginning next weekend. The phones will be reprogrammed for endangered women to call for emergency assistance.

Thank you for your support,
Many blessings to you this Christmas.
Second Sunday of Advent - Cycle C

Outreach

Angel Brigade

At Outreach, we meet many local families who are struggling financially during these challenging times. As Christmas approaches, we are looking for a few Angels willing to “Adopt a Family” both financially and through prayer. We will match you with a family and offer gift suggestions, including sizes. If you are interested in joining our Angel Brigade this Christmas, please email us at kraniere@stjosephsbabylon.org with your name, phone number, and any special requests pertaining to the size of the family, etc. If you prefer, you can call Outreach at 669-4544 and leave your name along with your phone number and email address. Please consider joining our Angel Brigade this season. As one of our “adopted” families from the past wrote, “We had an amazing Christmas. ...My heart is filled with the love of God and the kindness of strangers.”

All requests to join our Angel Brigade must be received by December 14th.

Thank you!

With sincere thanks ..... Thank you for your generosity at Thanksgiving. We were blessed with food donations, supermarket gift cards, and turkeys. Our Outreach clients were met warmly by St. Vincent de Paul volunteers who walked them through the pantry gathering all their Thanksgiving needs. We are thankful to work closely with these compassionate, good-hearted Vincentians who work relentlessly to keep the pantry stocked and then reach out to the families in such a loving way. We would like to send special thank you to Catholic Daughters for the candy bundles, St Joseph Nursery School for the apple juice and food donations and to, Torta Fina Bakery in Babylon for baking 80 special Thanksgiving loaves that we distributed to our Outreach families.

We are truly blessed!
St. Vincent de Paul

Is there a family you know who needs assistance?
Call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul 669-4544.
This weekend is our ANNUAL DOOR COLLECTION!!
This is the only collection that is held all year to help with the finances needed to help the needy.
Please be as generous as you can. If you are not able to help this weekend at the Masses, you can send your check made out to St. Vincent de Paul Society to St. Joseph’s Outreach.

We are busy collecting food for our Christmas Distribution. Donations of food and food cards are welcome. They can be put in the bins in the lobbies of the church and hall, or brought to Outreach on M, W, F, from 9:30 to 12:30.
Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

The next meeting of the St. Vincent de Paul Society is on Monday, December 14, 2015 at 9:35 in room 256 of the parish center. All are invited!

Christmas Giving Tree

Tags are now available on our Christmas Giving Tree located at the Church entry ways. Please take a tag and help our Outreach clients this Christmas. We ask that you purchase the gift, attach the tag, and return it to Parish Outreach or the Parish Office by December 14.

Thanks for all you do!

Social Ministries

Thank you for your Food Pantry Donations!
Our Food Pantry is most in need of these items: Turkey Gravy, Cranberry Sauce, Mashed Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes, Stuffing, Rice, Coffee, Apple Juice, Mayonnaise, Paper Towels & Toilet Paper. Gift Cards from supermarkets are in demand and would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your past and future donations.

Thrift Shop News

Shoes ~ 1/2 price
All Clothing ~ 1/2 price
Linens ~ 1/2 price

IMPORTANT NOTE:
Please DO NOT leave any donations on the outside steps when the Thrift Shop is closed.
Level 2 Reconciliation Service will take place on Saturday, December 12 at 11am & 1pm.

Level 5 Mass Booklets are to be returned at any Mass this weekend.

Level 3 – please come to any Mass next weekend, December 12-13th to receive your Advent plaque.

Level 1 @ 9:30am Mass on Sunday, December 20th. Please bring in donations for the Outreach Office (please check the bulletin to see what is needed – the bulletin can be found on our website).

There will be no Faith Formation classes beginning Monday, December 21st through Wednesday, December 30. We will resume classes on Monday, January 4th. The Faith Formation Office wants to wish you and your family a wonderful Christmas Season.

My good deed for the week was: Erica, Shane, Caedon, Nicholas & Sean helped their moms, Ayden prayed every day, Justin cleaned his room, Gabriella, Jacob, Sophia & John helped their grandmothers, Gina helped her grandfather, Sophia shared with her brother, James & Michael stacked wood, Lauren & Devin cleaned the basement, Rohan visited his elderly neighbor, Joseph helped his sister and helped clean the house, Hannah & Kristen helped with the groceries, Lucy donated cereal, Aaron took out the garbage, Gavin made his bed, Matt did chores, Gina helped her mom and dad and studied hard for school, Avery & Anna participated in a breast cancer fundraiser, Matthew listened to his mom, and Susanna & Ava participated in a walk for cancer.

Visit our website @ www.stjosehsbabylon.org for information regarding upcoming meetings, events and other parish news. You may find all the information in our handbook on the website.
Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry is open to all in grades 6—12.
Some activities are grade specific, but most are open to all. Please join us!

THIS WEEK:

Monday 12/7—HS Meeting 7pm in the Madonna Room. If you have your Rosary, please bring it. Thanks.
NEWCOMERS WELCOME. Grade 8—12.

Friday 12/11—Open Gym Night 6:30—8pm Grades 6—12.
Donation: Please bring a pair of new men’s white or black socks or a $5 Dunkin Donuts Gift Card. Thank you.

Sunday 12/13—Breakfast with Santa 8am—1pm 4 Teens needed to assist.

We’ve been busy!

November we had a small group of us to make our PBJ Sandwiches but we managed nearly 200 of them!
Thank you to all who joined us. Special thanks to Tiarnan & Mom for delivering them.
We also bagged breads for the Thanksgiving Day Mass an annual tradition which was a lot of fun.

A moment to offer some Youth Ministry Thanks!

Youth Group is not a requirement for any student it is a calling, a desire, a wish to stay connected with their faith in a fun and prayerful environment. I would like to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU to all the parents and grandparents who continue to encourage their children to stay involved in their faith after Confirmation. It is NOT easy but the bonds that are formed and the faith that is strengthened are priceless.

Thank you.

THANK YOU  TIME.  TALENT.  TREASURE.  THANK YOU
Second Sunday of Advent - Cycle C

Stewardship of Treasure...

We thank the 494 households who have given the Parish a financial commitment card. And thanks to all who faithfully support our Parish with their donations. We invite those who have not yet handed in a financial commitment card to please do so as soon as you possibly can. Again, thank you for your ongoing generosity to St. Joseph Parish!

Honor Roll News

During the school year of 2014-2015, some of our student parishioners earned academic recognition at Kellenberg Memorial High School.

Congratulations to the inductees, we are very proud of these students from our Parish!

Father Chris

Brooke Baldassare & Hollis Hansen has been inducted in the National Honor Society.

Zachary Baldassare has been inducted in the National Junior Honor Society

Save The Date

PASTA DINNER

IF YOU ARE STILL IN A “COOKING MOOD” AFTER THE HOLIDAYS CALL SHARON SARAGNESE OR PAT WEISS TO TALK ABOUT MAKING SOME PASTA FOR THAT NIGHT.

OR, IF YOU LIKE TO WRAP GIFTS AND THINK YOU MIGHT HAVE SOME ENERGY LEFT AFTER CHRISTMAS CALL SHARON OR PAT TO TALK ABOUT WRAPPING THE RAFFLE BASKETS

PAT WEISS  631-661-0255
SHARON SARAGNESE  631-321-8986

Pasta Dinner

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18th 2016
6PM-9PM
PLACE - Monsignor Nolan Hall
PLEASE SAVE THE DATE FOR AN EVENING OF FUN, MUSIC, PRIZES AND GOOD FOOD.
Memorial Poinsettias

Each year during the Advent season, as we prepare for the celebration of the Birth of our Savior, our thoughts turn to the memories we hold dear in our hearts.

For so many of us who have lost a beloved family member or someone dear to us, it is also a time of remembrance for our departed loved ones.

As a way of perpetuating their memory at this joyous time, we invite you to memorialize one of the many Poinsettia plants that will grace our altars in the coming weeks.

Poinsettias will be placed in our Church, Hall, and Capilla (chapel). Your contribution of $20.00 will make this effort possible. A list of all Poinsettia donors will be published in our Parish bulletin in January.

The closing date is Monday Dec. 21 at noon.

Please drop off your donation and order form to the Parish Office, or put it in the collection by the weekend of Dec. 20th.

Know that you and all your loved ones will be remembered as our generous benefactors as we celebrate the Christmas season!

--------------------------Poinsettia Order Form--------------------------

Please accept my contribution of $ _____ for (___) Poinsettia plants(s) to be placed in the Church, Hall or Chapel of St Joseph Parish.

Please print: In Memory of:

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________

Requested by:

(Name of Benefactor) __________________________ (Phone Number) __________________________
Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

This Tuesday, December 8th the Church begins what many consider a momentous event. As most of us know December 8th is the day the Church annually celebrates the Feast of the Immaculate Conception; our faith belief that our Blessed Mother, Mary, was kept free from Original Sin from the moment of her conception in the womb of St. Anne in order for her to be a pure vehicle, a tabernacle for the Son of God, Jesus to be conceived by the Holy Spirit and live and grow for his nine month (is there any reason to wonder why the Church believes life in the womb is sacred from the moment of conception?!) gestation period. This year in addition to this annual feast day we begin the Jubilee Year of Mercy as declared by our Holy Father, Pope Francis. Friends, this is a big deal! It not as if the Church has a jubilee year each year; the last jubilee year was celebrated in the year 2000. What is our Holy Father attempting to teach us with this jubilee year declaration?

When I was a boy we studied the Baltimore Catechism that helped teach us about our faith. I will admit that as a boy the overall sense I had of God from all the teaching I received, the preaching I heard was that God was a stern God, a God who could and did become angry with we human beings; a God who would punish we sinful people when God determined we needed correction. Friends, I am a bit older today (actually a lot older!). I have a far different understanding of our God today. I see and believe our God to be a God whose love for us is beyond understanding, a God who continually whispers His love song to us. Our God is a Love that would compel God to be born among us AS ONE OF US, completely human as well as completely divine. And this God, Jesus the God-man would give his life for us and then rise to new life in order for us to begin to live new life here and now and then come to know the fullness of new life when we leave this world and step into eternity. This God, this love/Love desires that nothing stand between His love and us, a God who desires to forgive any and all of our sins. All we need to do is turn to God and with genuine contrition ask our God to forgive us. And in and through our Lord Jesus Christ forgiveness is given to us. Don’t take my words for this, listen to what Pope Francis said earlier this year:

“First of all, God always forgives us. He never tires of this. It’s we who get tired of asking for forgiveness. But HE does not tire of pardoning us. When Peter asked Jesus: ‘How many times must I forgive? Seven times?’ – Not seven times: seventy times by seven. ‘Namely always. That’s how God forgives us: always. But if you have lived a life full of so many sins, so many bad things, but in the end, a bit repentant, you ask for forgiveness, He will immediately pardon you! He always pardons us.’”

As a boy I recall how nervous I was as I prepared to go to confession (today we refer to this life giving sacrament by a more accurate term, Reconciliation). I recall how nervous I would get, anxious whether the priest would get angry with me and verbally rebuke me. The truth is at times this did occur; again, the understanding of God by most people, including priests was far different than what many people understand today. Today I look forward to seeing my confessor. I know that one of the most powerful ways that our God communicates with us is through other people. When I speak with my confessor I know that our Lord is speaking with me, guiding me, loving me. I urge all of us to seek out a good priest and enter into the beautiful Sacrament of Reconciliation. Allow God to love you; allow our Lord Jesus to forgive you and love you.

Sisters and brothers Iôn convinced this is what this Jubilee Year of Mercy is all about. Pope Francis, guided by the Holy Spirit is telling us that our God desires an intimate and loving relationship with each and every one of us. Nothing, NOTHING can stand in the way of this love/Love IF we seek God’s love. It up to us because God never forces us or compromises our free will. I say once again don’t take my word for this; listen to what Almighty God, all Loving God says to us:

“Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you. See, upon the palms of my hands I have engraved you” (Isaiah 49:15-16a).

Those same hands that were pierced through for love of me, and you.

Deacon Barry
GIVING TUESDAY

I am writing this reflection on “Giving Tuesday”. This day sort of snuck up on me, so I did some research and found that it actually started in 2012 by the 92nd Street Y and the United Nations Foundation as more or less a response to the commercialism of the Black Friday and Cyber Monday. This movement to create an international day of giving will now be celebrated on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, and you can donate to your favorite charity...if you have anything left in your checking account after that crazy weekend.

I did not have to go far to learn about “Giving Tuesday” today, as I received numerous emails from charities I support asking for a donation. “Why me?” I first wondered. “Is not my regular support enough?” The answer came almost immediately as I have been on the inside of some of these charities and know how difficult it is to convince people to help out. It is often hard to measure the needs of a Catholic middle school in the poorest district in the State with a group that supports research for autism. How about buying a water filter for a village in Guatemala or textbooks for women with literacy issues? Should I support the formation of young men who want to become Catholic priests or college students who can no longer afford to pay the tuition for their next semester? Should I flip a coin? Three coins?

Fortunately my somewhat cynical nature turned to one of appreciation as I realized that these were actually grace-filled moments. “Love God and love your neighbor.” Right? Are not these opportunities to do the latter? And if we do the latter are we not also doing the former?

Before I confuse you even more, I will draw this to a close. I will then go to my computer and make a small donation to five of the six groups that approached me. While the amounts may not make a great difference, those on the other side of my computer will know that someone cares about the causes they serve. I do not give blindly; I know the structure of each group and where the money goes. All I know is I am called to share.

Giving Tuesday. Grace-filled Tuesday.

At least for me.

PRAYER

Boundless and Ever-present Father, there are many whose struggles seem to never go away. During this season of Advent You again call us to embrace such people and to help in any way we can. Give us the Grace we need to recognize both true need and the true meaning of the phrase, “Love your neighbor.” This we ask in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

6 December 2015

Reflections

Stewardship...

Stewardship Sound Byte

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who strive to respond to God’s grace through service to our parish and the wider community, especially our Parish Social Ministries and Senior Services.
Congratulations Athena!

Athena is a brand new catechumen, a beginner in the faith. She is 11 years old. We were so happy to welcome her into our St. Joseph community. By making the sign of the cross on all her senses, we asked Jesus to help her to continue to grow in faith, hope and love. How Blessed are we!

Fr. Chris

RCIC News

Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Bishop McDonnell 1403 invites you to a Birth Rite Baby Shower for the benefit of THE LIFE CENTER on Wednesday, January 13th, 2016 in the O’Connell Room at 7:30 pm (doors open at 7:00 pm)

Come enjoy the party and support the women and men who have made the good decision to have their babies.

Please bring “new” baby items such as diapers, bottles, outfits and formula and you can place items in the bassinettes you will find in the Church, and Hall over the next few weeks.

Unwrapped gifts please.

The collection of all items will start on Sunday, December 13th.

We also accept gently used, in good condition, strollers, car seats, play gym sets, etc. for additional information for delivery of larger items, contact: Ginny Messina at 631-587-0408

CDA

News From Outside the Parish

Kindergarten Kafe at Our Lady of Lourdes School Join us for refreshments and conversation...
Wednesday, December 9th at 8:30am or 12pm in the Parish Center.
Parents of four year olds who will be five by Dec. 1st, 2016 are invited to join us about an informative session about Full Day Kindergarten program. Please RSVP to the School Office by calling 631-587-7200 ext. 100 or email Mrs. Gregg at agregg@ollschool.org.
**REFLEXION**
Los buenos administradores de los bienes de Dios creen que Dios, quien ha empezado esta buena obra en ellos la llevará a cabo. En palabras y obras, ellos pueden cantar con el Salmista, “¡El Señor ha hecho grandes cosas por nosotros, estamos llenos de alegría!”

Agradecemos esta semana a todos los administradores de nuestra parroquia que se esfuerzan por responder a la gracia de Dios a través del servicio a nuestra parroquia y la comunidad en general, especialmente a nuestro Ministerio

**Intercesiones por la Vida**
Por todos los que se dedican a la investigación médica, para que puedan ser guiados por el amor de la Iglesia por la verdad;

Roguemos al Señor:
Señor, escucha nuestra oración.

**Contribución Semanal**
Agradecemos a todos y a cada uno de ustedes por aportar su contribución para nuestra parroquia de San José.

“La unión hace la fuerza”

Colecta 11/29/15: $ 21,605.00
Gastos: $ 23,895.00
$ (-2,289.00)

Colecta 11/22/15: $ 21,133.00
Gastos: $ 23,895.00
$ (-2,292.00)

**BAUTISMO:** Tercer domingo de cada mes. Clase: Segundo domingo de cada mes. Venir a la oficina del Ministerio Hispano con dos meses de anticipación o llame @ (631) 669-0068, Ext. 131. Traer el certificado de nacimiento original del niño.

**RITO DE INICIACIÓN CRISTIANA PARA ADULTOS:** (RICA) Les invitamos a una preparación espiritual de conversión a la fe católica. Llame a la Sra. Julietta Mieles, al (631) 669-0068, ext. 131.

**CATEQUESES DE NIÑOS Y ADULTOS:** Llamar a la oficina del Ministerio Hispano. (631) 669-0068, ext. 131.

**MATRIMONIO:** Las parejas que desean casarse, deben inscribirse con seis meses de anticipación. Llamar al Padre Joe Arévalo al (631) 669-0068 ext. 104.

**PRE-CANA:** Llame a Ruth y Salomón @ 631-592-9474.

**RECONCILIACIÓN:** Sábado a las 4:00pm o llamar para una cita, al Tel. # 669-0068 ext. 104.

**UNCION DE LOS ENFERMOS:** Llamar a la oficina principal (631)669-0068 Ext. 100.

**CURSILLO DE CRISTIANDAD:** Los invita a vivir un fin de semana con Cristo. Tenemos Ulltreya todos los domingos a las 12:30pm. en el Salón # 256. Mas información llame a Cristina Vera @ 631-327-6141.

**RENOVACION CARISMATICA:** Tiempo de encuentro con Dios. Les invitamos a experimentar el amor de Dios de una manera diferente al escuchar un mensaje de buenas noticias y esperanza para su vida y la de su familia. Todos los viernes @ 7:15 p.m. Para mas información llame a Ana Ramos. (631)617-2129.

**COMUNIDAD DE MARIA:** Siguiendo los mensajes de María Reina de la Paz y sobre temas de María en general) - Sábados de 7:00pm-9:00pm. Comunicarse con Adriana Mascari, al (631) 587-3072 - (631)681-0005.

**COMITE:** El primer sábado de cada mes a las 10:00am en el salón # 256. Para la agenda, llamar a Ana Ramos al Tel. (631)617-2129.

**ROSARIO:** Domingos a las 11:00am en la Capilla.

**HERMANAS UNIDAS:** Todos los segundos domingo de cada mes, en el salón # 256, después de la misa.

**EL APOSTOLADO DE LA CRUZ:** Todos los jueves de 9:00 - 11:00am en el Salón # 252A. Comunicarse con Adriana Mascari al Tel. (631) 587-3072 o Luz Marina López al (631)321-6861.

**INTENCIONES PARA UNA MISA:** Ver a Herminda y Ana Elia López después de la misa.

**HORA SANTA:** Cuarto domingo del mes, inmediatamente después de la misa de las 11:30am.
Horario para la Catequesis en Español 
2015 - 2016 
DOMINGOS 
10:00AM — 11:00AM

FECHAS DE LAS CLASES
Los grupos de estudiantes que asistirán al Centro de Formación se reunirán solamente cuando un voluntario del Centro esté presente. Las clases se dictarán durante 27 domingos. 6, 13, 20 y 27 de diciembre. 3, 10, 17, 24 y 31 de enero. 7, 14, 21 y 28 de febrero. 6, 13, y 20 de marzo.

Por favor sean puntuales. El horario está sujeto a las condiciones climáticas. Si desea alguna información por favor llame a la oficina de Educación Religiosa @ (631) 669-0068 Ext. 131.

ES ESENCIAL LA ASISTENCIA A LA SANTA MISA TODO LOS DOMINGOS COMO COMPLEMENTO DEL PROGRAMA.

FECHAS DE LOS EVENTOS
Prender el Árbol de Navidad 
6 de diciembre de 2015
Miércoles de Cenizas 
10 de febrero de 2016
Jueves Santo 
24 de marzo de 2016
Vía Crucis en el Lago “Argyle” Padres/estudiantes 
25 de marzo de 2016 a la 1:00pm
Reconciliación y ensayo candidatos de la Vigilia 
26 de marzo de 2016 a las 10:00am
Vigilia Pascual 
26 de marzo de 2016 a las 8:00pm
Reconciliación y Ensayo Primera Comunión 
23 de abril de 2016 a las 10:00am
Primera Comunión 
1 de mayo de 2016 @ 11:30am
Confirmación de adultos 2016 
15 de mayo de 2016 @ 11:30am

DICIOEMBRE 8
Misa para celebrar la Inmaculada Concepción de María 
Hora: 7 pm.
Lugar: Nollan Hall

DICIOEMBRE 15
Inicio 
Hora: 7:00 p.m
Lugar: La Capilla

DICIOEMBRE 12
Virgen de Guadalupe Emperatriz de América 
Serenata, Rosario y Misa 
Hora de 7:00 a.m. a 10:00 a.m.
Lugar: Capilla

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