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

Weekday Mass Schedule
Mon to Fri 7:45, 9:00am Church
Saturday 9:00am Church
Holydays See Special Schedule the Sunday before each Holyday

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.

Marriage
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.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time + February 7, 2016
At this Mass, we remember:

**Monday, February 8**
1 Kgs 8:1–7, 9–13, Ps 132:6–7, 8–10, Mk 6:53–56
7:45 People of St. Joseph
9:00 George Shannon

**Tuesday, February 9**
1 Kgs 8:22–23, 27–30, Ps 84:3–5, 10–11, Mk 7:1–13
7:45 People of St. Joseph
9:00 Jean Leszczynski

**Wednesday, February 10**
Jl 2:12–18, Ps 51:3–6, 12–14, 17, 2 Cor 5:20–6:2, Mt 6:1–6, 16–18
7:45 People of St. Joseph
9:00 Alice McGurk
12:15 Cheryl Curley-Visel
7:30 People of St. Joseph

**Thursday, February 11**
Dt 30:15–20, Ps 1:1–4, 6, Lk 9:22–25
7:45 Graciano & Catalina Argosino
9:00 Joseph Alfred Russo

**Friday, February 12**
Is 58:1–9a, Ps 51:3–6, 18–19, Mt 9:14–15
7:45 Ravi Maharaj & Brandon Lochan
9:00 People of St. Joseph

**Saturday, February 13**
Is 58:9b–14, Ps 86:1–6, Lk 5:27–32
9:00 Albert Candreva

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)
4:00 Confessions Today Fr. Joe
5:00 People of St. Joseph Fr. Ethel

**Sunday, February 14 ~ First Sunday of Lent**
Dt 26:1–10, Ps 91:1–2, 10–15, Rom 10:8–13, 1 Th 4:1–13
7:00 People of St. Joseph Fr. Francis
8:45 Bill Tuma Fr. Chris
9:30 People of St. Joseph Fr. Ethel
10:15 Robert Christie Fr. Chris
11:45 Antoinette Dorothy Fr. Francis Colamartino
5:00 Robert & Sally Christie Fr. Joe
Ashes will be distributed at the following Masses on Wednesday, February 10th:
7:45am, 9am, 12:15pm & 7:30pm
All these Masses will be in English and held in the Church.

We will also have prayer services with Ashes at
3:45pm & 5:15pm in Nolan Hall.
They will be covered by a Deacon in English.

We will have a 7:30pm Mass in Nolan Hall, that Mass will be in Spanish.
When Pope Francis came to the East Coast last fall, he made a powerful impression on both believers and non-believers. To illustrate: in speaking at St. Patrick’s Cathedral, our Holy Father wasted no time in setting the tone for Evening Prayer, a reflection very much in solidarity with our whole-hearted embrace of Stewardship.

He first encouraged us to receive and release to others the Spirit of Gratitude with which God has endowed us. This Spirit of Joy proclaims God’s wondrous love for us, and invites us to participate in renewing the faces and hearts of all those God sends into our lives. Giving thanks and remembering, then, become hallmarks of the Christian life, action and reflection for each of us takes a personal and communal responsibility. (Remember: the Spanish language translation for Stewardship = Corresponsabilidad).

The Pope’s second theme, the Spirit of hard work, is a beautiful outgrowth of the first theme: as we recognize how blessed we are, we become “spontaneously impelled to serve the Lord, and finding expression in a life of commitment to our work. Christians gradually comprehend that it is a holy privilege, an ongoing opportune moment of grace, to practice total stewardship, one that is imbedded in every dimension of our beings. May I suggest that during the month of January (and beyond!) during this Extraordinary Holy Year of Mercy, we might apply Pope Francis’ two fundamental themes to our renewed lives, an attitude of gratitude and the joy of hard work, to the issue of human life. What follows are several suggestions of ways to live as a Steward of Mercy:

- Support the Right to Life March in Washington DC, either by personally going or sponsoring someone’s food and transportation for the day.
- Pray each day, at the same time of day if possible in order to develop a positive rhythm and habit, for the Holy Innocents of all time: those whose earthly lives were deliberately and prematurely ended.
- Shop for and donate new baby items to Birthright, the Life Center, or your Parish’s baby shower.
- Transport the donated baby items to the location where they can most easily be distributed to struggling families.
- Fast one day a week (even if it’s just during daylight hours) to demonstrate your solidarity with our sisters and brothers who are currently refugees and immigrants, forced against their will to abandon their homes.
- Adopt a retired priest, and send him a card on his birthday or on his ordination anniversary, as one means of saying “thank you” to him for his service to the church.
- Take that coat you have not worn (or have not been able to fit into for several years), and donate it to a thrift shop, Penn Station, or specific police precincts.
- Find out and shop for the specific foods your local church or civic food pantry can use, and make a donation, since the demands for food continue to rise.
- See which neighborhood organizations close to your home are accepting wash-up kits and ready-to-eat foods for homeless people, and for those who cannot or will not go to shelter.

The opportunities to be a Steward of Mercy are limitless. As you thank God for the life you love, create the legacy of love for those who hunger and thirst for ordinary and everyday comforts.

Love,
Father Chris
Financial Information

Because many of our Parishioners either use Faith Direct or give monthly, we are changing our method of reporting Sacrificial Giving. Going forward, we will include monthly amounts in the bulletin. We will also include additional financial information on a quarterly basis.

Sacrificial Giving for December
Actuarial – $98,458
Budget – $92,314

Christmas
Actuarial – $104,273
Budget – $99,000

The Finance Committee has reviewed results of operations for the first quarter of the current fiscal year (September 30 – November 30, 2015). A summary follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Prior Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$646,275</td>
<td>$679,591</td>
<td>$688,786</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>639,417</td>
<td>636,123</td>
<td>642,010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6,858</td>
<td>43,468</td>
<td>46,776</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Revenues are higher than budget primarily because Nursery School enrollment is higher than we expected. Expenses are below budget due to lower health insurance costs.

The full Parish financial report for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2015 can be found on the parish website. Go to www.stjosephsbabylon.org and under “About” on the home page click the link for Financial Information for the report.

Thank you for your ongoing and generous support to our Parish. As we move forward, please know that I carry you in prayer every time I celebrate the Eucharist: it is you, each and all of you, who help me to see clearly the faces of the members of the Body of Christ here at St. Joseph!

With Love,
Fr. Chris
ST. JOSEPH
PARISH PRESENTS:
MARDI GRAS
“The Feast Before the Fast”
Tuesday, February 9
6pm - 8:30pm in Msgr. Nolan Hall

Admission $8 per person,
ages 2 and up.
Tickets are available at the Parish Center
Calling All Scouts

Scout Sunday Mass

Sunday, February 7th, 2016
9:30am in Msgr. Nolan Hall

All Parish Boy and Girl Scouts and their families are invited to attend this Mass. A special blessing will be given to all as they continue on their journey to make the world a better place through scouting!

Thank you!

Rediscover Jesus

How About Leading a Discussion on the book we gave out at Christmas: Rediscover Jesus: An Invitation by Matthew Kelly?

Come to a facilitators’ meeting on Wednesday, February 3, 2016 From 7:45pm to 9:30pm in Room 253 A.
We will decide on a common list of discussion topics or ideas.

Book Discussion Times:
- Mon Feb 8 7:00pm to 9:00pm
- Sat Feb 13 10am to 12:00 noon
- Sun Feb 21 1:30pm to 3:30pm

Group size limit: 15 people.
Bring your copy of the book
To register: call 631.669.0068, ext 105 or by e-mail:
azakrewski@st.josephsbabylon.org
St. Joseph Sociable Single Seniors

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 17th, 2016 at 7pm in the O’Connell Room. Dinner will be Loin of Pork, potatoes and broccoli. We will celebrate Valentine’s day with a “Make your own Sunday” for dessert. As always, we will also be serving coffee, tea and cold drinks.

The cost per person is $15.00, please make checks out to St. Joseph RC Church and mailed to my home by Feb. 13th.

PLEASE REMEMBER: WE CAN NO LONGER ACCEPT PAYMENT AT THE DOOR.

Music Ministry

St. Joseph’s 10:15 Choir would like to take this opportunity to welcome Catholic singers to join a community of likeminded Catholic voices. If you are age fourteen or older and can easily carry a tune you are invited to be part of the renowned St. Joseph’s Choir. Male voices are particularly needed this time however, all voices are invited! They are currently preparing for the glorious music of the highest Holy Days of the liturgical year and the winter is a wonderful time to join them! The choir has the privilege of enhancing the sung worship each Sunday at the 10:15 mass, Holy Week, First Eucharist celebrations, Confirmation, Christmas Eve, and perform a renowned yearly December Benefit Concert for the benefit of the Mercy INN Soup Kitchen. (Concert generated donations of $9200 in December) You may call Dr. Drohan at 631-539-0957 or send an e-mail to musicdirector@stjosephsbabylon.org. You may also see her after the 10:15 Sunday mass or attend the next rehearsal on Thursday in room 254 of the Parish Center. You are promised a most enjoyable evening.

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.
Save The Date

Little Rock Bible Study

The primary role of a prophet is to speak for God, to see and hear as God sees and hears, and then to pronounce words of correction and hope. In Isaiah we will encounter the holiness of God, hope for a messianic king, prophecies of restoration, and challenges for exiles returning to their homeland.

Bible Study

Little Black Lenten Book

Our Little Black Lenten Book is available for $1.00
Please see Usher.

Cemetery News...

The Christmas flowers, trees, sprays, wreaths, blankets, etc. will be removed from the graves starting the week of February 8, 2015. If there is something that you would like to personally remove and keep, please remove said item before the week of February 8th.

If you have any questions regarding the Cemetery, please call: 631-669-0068 ext. 107 and I will be happy to assist you.

Thank you, Theresa O’Donovan

CDA 70th Annual Communion Breakfast

Saturday, May 21, 2016
9:00 AM Mass
Church of St. Joseph
Breakfast Immediately Following
The O’Connell Room
Guest Speaker - TBA
$25.00
Mary Alice Markham
Chairlady

13 Sessions
Thursdays, 2/18/16 – 5/26/16
(No sessions 3/24/16 & 4/28/16)
7:30 – 9:00 PM
O’Connell Room
$17/person for Study Materials
Please register so materials can be ordered for you.
Contact Carol Pellegrino at 631-587-3511 or email - jcjmpell@optonline.net
LAZARUS MINISTRY

On Saturday, **February 13th, 2016**, 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 Baptistry 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.

Bereavement Support Group

**WIDOW AND WIDOWERS BEREAVEMENT**

**Support Group 50 and over**

**8 Week Program**

**Fridays, March 4th - April 29th, 2016,**

**7:30pm, in the Parish Center**

**Book Club News**

**Book Club**

Meeting on Thursday, March 10th, 2016 at 7:30pm in Room 255.

The book discussion will be on “The Gods of Guilt” By Michael Connelly

All are welcome
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”

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS
Court Bishop McDonnell #1403

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS Court Bishop McDonnell #1403 invites all women of the Parish to
STATIONS OF THE CROSS ACCORDING TO MARY
Come and share in this unique prayer experience, hearing the words and thoughts of our loving Mother as she follows her son Jesus on the road to Calvary, Wednesday, February 10, 2016.
Doors open at 7pm, prayer service begins promptly at 7:30pm in the O’Connell Room. Refreshments and general meeting will follow.

Our girls are sewing "pillowcase dresses" for girls in Haiti as part of the Annual Mother/Daughter celebration.

Look for more information soon.

Our girls are sewing "pillowcase dresses" for girls in Haiti as part of the Annual Mother/Daughter celebration.

Look for more information soon.
The Knights of Columbus and Catholic Daughters of St. Joseph Parish are sponsoring a food drive during Lent, which we are calling "40 Cans for Lent".

The food drive will start on Ash Wednesday February 10, 2016 and run until March 20th.

All food collected will be delivered to the St. Joseph Food Pantry and Outreach. Throughout the year our Parish Outreach Program serves many in need of food, and in need of hope.

We invite you to join us in this Lenten food drive. During these 40 days of Lent we are asking each family to consider setting aside one can of food for each day of Lent. So when you come to Mass to feed your soul, you can also help feed those in need.

We will be setting up collection stations for non-perishable food items at three locations on our Church grounds. They will be marked by the "40 Cans for Lent" banners, and located at the main entrance to our Church, at Nolan Hall and in the hall near our Parish Office.

For every 1,000 lbs. of food we collect, the Knights of Columbus will also donate $100 to St. Joseph Food Pantry, up to a $500 total donation.

Thank You, Holy Father
Whenever the temperature drops, the volunteers here at Outreach can’t help but wonder and worry about our homeless population. We continue to offer support through referrals for services, advocacy, listening and offering direct help. Along with socks, hats, and local vouchers, we supply “emergency food bags” containing food that can be consumed without the benefit of heating or refrigeration. Please help us by donating the following items:

Individual cans or pouches of tuna or chicken, Granola or cereal bars, Liquid instant breakfast, Water bottles, Snack size fruit, Pudding and Jello, Small size snacks – chips, pretzels, cheese and crackers, cookies and individual canned soda or juice.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Catholic Charities CSFP provides FREE food to seniors.
Eligibility criteria include: age 60 and over, live in New York and meet income guidelines. Call 516-623-4568 to see if you are eligible or to find one of the locations.

St. Vincent de Paul

Is there a family you know who needs assistance?
Call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul 669-4544.

During the month of February, the food pantry is in need of certain items. Please check the list to see the most needed items. Any non-perishable food donations are always welcome.

The next meeting of the St. Vincent DePaul Society is on Monday, February 8, 2016 at 9:35 in Room 256 of the parish center. All are invited to attend.

Thank you for your Food Pantry Donations!
Our Food Pantry is most in need of these items:
Rice, Coffee, Apple Juice, Mayonnaise, Jelly, Mac & Cheese, Ketchup, Mustard, Pasta Sauce, Paper Towels & Toilet Paper. Gift Cards from supermarkets are in demand and would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your past and future donations.

Social Ministries

Thrift Shop News
All Clothing ~ 1/2 price
Valentine’s Day Items ~ 1/2 Price

IMPORTANT NOTE:
Please DO NOT leave any donations on the outside steps when the Thrift Shop is closed.
There will be no Faith Formation classes on Tuesday, February 9th or Wednesday, February 10th. Tuesday is the Mardi Gras Celebration and Wednesday is Ash Wednesday (please see the bulletin and/or website for Mass & service times).

The Faith Formation Office will be closed the week of February 15th for winter recess and there will be no classes that week.

Please take a copy of the book Rediscover Jesus by Matthew Kelly on your way out of Mass or pick up a copy in the Faith Formation Office. There will be several opportunities to share your thoughts about the book in a book discussion. The dates will be posted in the bulletin soon.

Operation Rice Bowls – our level 4 students will be participating in Catholic Relief Services’ Operation Rice Bowl during Lent. We are inviting any parishioners who would like to participate in this Lenten project to pick up a Rice Bowl in the Church or hall. The proceeds from the rice bowls are given to Catholic Relief Services, an organization that helps people around the world. The rice bowls will be collected at the Masses on the weekend of March 19 & 20.

Level 4 Parent & child meeting – Thursday, February 11th @ either 4pm or 7pm in Nolan Hall. We will be doing a review of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and talking about what to expect for Operation Rice Bowl.

My good deed for the week was: Cassidy emptied the dishwasher, Joseph helped take down the Christmas tree, Kylie helped her grandma, Caitlyn, Alyssa, Morgan, Gianna, Michael, Domenick, Michael, Kaitlyn, Julian, Andrew, Cate & Olivia helped clean the house, Gabriella, Athena, Meghan, Curtis, Emily, Joseph & Dylan helped with the laundry, Sarah picked up someone’s lost key and returned it to them, Alexa & Justin were being good, Seamus & McKenna babysat their cousins, Kaelynn, Charleigh, Haley & Brooke were being kind, Jake made a donation to the poor, Paige fed the dog, Kaitlynn cooperated with her mom, James, Jonathan, Michael & Sophia emptied the garbage, Amanda, Nicholas, Christopher & Marta did chores, Alex helped his brother find his ball, Jake & Storm helped their parents, Nicky shared his iPad with his brother, Landon cleaned the car, Taylor helped a friend with math, Angelina helped with the food shopping, Francesco, Gavin & Henry made their beds, Maggie helped her friend, Anna colored with her baby sister so her mom could finish baking, Nick helped clean, Mark, Nick & Gianna helped a friend at school, Sam cleaned the table for dinner, Ryan cleaned the table after dinner, Katie & Eamon helped their family, Erika took care of her sister, Nikki, Catherine, Michael, Benjamin, Claire, Erica, Emma & Andre helped their moms, Shane fed the dogs, Skyler donated winter clothes, John held the door for people at the doctor’s office, Steven & Joseph honored God, Christina & Emily helped, Jack, Marissa, Lindsey & Abigail took care of the dog, Rebecca helped her friends study, Nailea respected her mom, Maxwell said grace at dinner, Emmanuel worked to see the positive in situations, Elizabeth helped her Nana make meatballs, Jackson & Alexandra helped take down Christmas decorations, Lily Anne celebrated with her family, Joe, Ryan & Caitlin did the dishes, Casey was being grateful for everything around her, Finn & Jack called their grandparents to talk, John did peer mentoring at school, Liz walked her friend’s dog, Liz & Corey gave their friends tickets/tokens for Chucky Cheese, Rohan held the door for someone, Dulce helped her sister, Ainsley & Clare helped move furniture.
YOUTH GROUP HAPPENINGS

Youth Group is open to all in grades 6 – 12. Some activities are grade specific. Most are open to all.

THANK YOU!! To everyone who supported our Paint Night & Panera Fundraisers.
Check the website www.stjosephsbabylon.org for lots of pictures.
Special thanks for behind the scenes help and for raffle donations: Elizabeth & Joe Caponi,
Janet, Mary, Joyce, Anna, Sarah, Trish, Pauline, and Modern Warrior.

LENT BEGINS THIS WEEK.
Teens interested in helping with our Holy Week Family Services, please let us know now so we can include you on the planning.
SELFIES WITH ASHES ∆ - Please take your picture and email it to youth@stjosephsbabylon.org

High School group meets every Monday 7pm in the Madonna Room.
Our HS Teens will be working at the Soup Kitchen on February 20th—to join us please email:
youth@stjosephsbabylon.org
You must be registered in advance. Adult Chaperones needed too. Thank you.

OPEN GYM NIGHT ∆ Friday 2/12. Volleyball ∆ Scooter Races. 6:30-8pm
Please bring a donation with you for our Outreach Pantry.

PBJ GANG—
Next PBJ Gang: Thursday 2/18—yes it is during School Winter Recess.

Tickets will be available next week to attend these events.
Only Students in grade 8 and above please.
Permission Slips and Tickets are necessary. Check next week and the website for more details.

March 2nd—Chris Padgett at St John Nepomoceme
March 13—Roller Skating at United Skates of America
January 21, 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The Diocese of Rockville Centre will join all the dioceses of the nation in celebrating National Catholic Schools Week from January 31st – February 6, 2016. The theme for this year is Catholic Schools – Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service. This theme encompasses concepts that are at the heart of Catholic education. Our schools strive to build community, share faith, increase our students’ knowledge and encourage dedication to service. Each time I am in one of our schools I encounter teachers, administrators, and parents committed to making sure that each student lives up to his or her potential to learn and to be formed in the Catholic faith.

Catholic schools have a rich history in supporting the work of on-going evangelization of the Catholic community in the United States. Our schools are built on the bedrock of the teachers and administrators who dedicate their time and talents to educating all children. We must also recognize our priests, religious and support staff for the work they do each and every day to spread the Gospel to our young people. Together we make great things happen on a daily basis in our Catholic schools.

Our Diocese has much to be proud of. Our Catholic elementary and high schools are wonderful examples of academic and spiritual excellence. Our schools are committed to always growing in faith and living the Gospel. We invite you to come and see this for yourselves during Catholic Schools Week where you will experience our Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Rockville Centre
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The Holy Father has sent us all a Message for this Lent of the Jubilee of Mercy. I want to call your attention to it and urge you to read it. It is beautiful, concrete and opens up to us rich and inspiring ways to make this Lent a deep and wonderful journey of faith as we seek God’s merciful love and receive it during the forty days that we travel together to celebrate the Sacred Triduum of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Lord and Savior.

In his letter, Pope Francis says: Let’s not waste the season of Lent! He goes on to call Mary, the perfect icon of the Church which evangelizes and is evangelized by the Holy Spirit. We too, who make up the Church, must imitate Mary and open ourselves to the Spirit as she did at the Annunciation. Led by the Spirit this Lent we can become ourselves evangelizers of God’s mercy by our words and our actions.

Pope Francis commends to us the time honored Corporal and Spiritual “Works of Mercy”. He says, God’s mercy transforms our hearts to become merciful, inspiring us to love of neighbor. Take one a day or use them to do an act of kindness. Corporal: feed the hungry; give drink to the thirsty; clothe the naked; welcome the stranger; care for the sick; visit the prisoners; bury the dead. The Spiritual: convert the sinner; instruct the ignorant; counsel the doubtful; comfort the sorrowful; bear wrongs patiently; forgive injuries; pray for the living and the dead.

For me the most beautiful part of his message is when he speaks of God’s merciful love for His Chosen People and the faithfulness of His love as a covenant that, despite all the sins of God’s people, He will always be faithful, always forgives, and will never cease to love us. The Pope takes that and invites us to see God’s compassion for us His people as a model and an inspiration of marriage between a man and a woman and the love that brings children into the world as part of a family. God’s unceasing, faithful love (Hebrew: hesed) culminates in the Incarnation of His Son as the bridegroom who does everything to win over His bride, the Church. He even dies for her!

And He does that for us now and always. Make this Lent a time when you open yourselves up to that love, experience that love through the reconciling and healing sacrament of Penance; let this love heal your hearts and renew your faith and your commitment to your spouse, your children, your parents, all the members of your family, your neighbors, your friends, all from whom you may be alienated. God offers that love to you. You who accept His love then must be givers of that love to others.

May God’s words of love and reconciliation dwell in our hearts this Lent of Mercy and may God bless our Church here on Long Island and make us instruments of His merciful love to others.

Faithfully yours 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
Two friends were walking through the desert. During some point of the journey they had an argument, and one friend slapped the other one in the face. The one who got slapped was hurt, but without saying anything, wrote in the sand: “TODAY MY BEST FRIEND SLAPPED ME IN THE FACE.”

They kept on walking until they found an oasis, where they decided to take a bath. The one who had been slapped got stuck in the mire and started drowning, but the friend saved him. After he recovered from the near drowning, he wrote on a stone: “TODAY MY BEST FRIEND SAVED MY LIFE.”

The friend who had slapped and saved his best friend asked him, "After I hurt you, you wrote in the sand and now, you write on a stone, why?" The friend replied "When someone hurts us we should write it down in sand where winds of forgiveness can erase it away. But, when someone does something good for us, we must engrave it in stone where no wind can ever erase it."

LEARN TO WRITE YOUR HURTS IN THE SAND AND CARVE YOUR BENEFITS IN STONE.

Author Unknown
THE ICING ON THE CAKE

We often find ourselves in situations that we never thought would befall us. How we handle them is based on the character we have developed throughout our lives. Consider what happened to my friend, Fr. Mark.

A highly respected college administrator and biology instructor, a few of Fr. Mark’s good friends had planned a party to honor him for the many contributions he had made to those he had served during his tenure at the school. Everything was top shelf, and all he had to do was pick up a rather large and rather elaborately decorated cake. The responses to the invitation to his party approached 100%, the weather for the outdoor party was cooperating, and Fr. Mark was arriving at the bakery in time to pick up the cake and get it to the house well before the party was to begin.

Fr. Mark was alone when he picked up the cake so he carefully placed on the back floor of his car as he made his way to the party. Cautious not to exceed the speed limit on his way, Fr. Mark did all he could to ensure that his cargo arrived safely and securely to its final destination.

The hostess happily greeted Fr. Mark and was eager to see if the baker had followed her precise instructions regarding the way the cake would look. When she anxiously lifted the top of the box which housed the cake, she gasped. The entire landscape of the cake’s only recently iced top had shifted; in fact, it was worse than that… it resembled the South Shore of Long Island after Super Storm Sandy. The hostess was livid and gave him looks throughout the night to remind him of that feeling.

Though he did his best to engage the guests that had come to honor him, Fr. Mark was bothered by what he realized was his carelessness. Not terribly creative, thoughts of repair were out of the question. Suddenly, he knew how he could somewhat salvage the evening.

When it came time to cut the cake, Fr. Mark went to the kitchen, picked up the cake, and carried it to the area where all were assembled. A few steps before he arrived at the spot where the cake would be displayed, he pretended he tripped and that the momentum of such movement brought the cake… that’s right… directly into his face. Now it was time for the guests to gasp and lament the embarrassment that poor honoree must be feeling.

Instead a great sense of relief surrounded Fr. Mark, because he knew he had faced one of his failings head on. The hostess had to smile as well, and by the end of the night all was forgiven.

PRAYER

Loving and Compassionate Father, there are times in our lives when we find ourselves falling astray feeling helpless to get back on our road to salvation. Give us the Grace we need to always know that You are with us; help us assess the situation and devise a way to help ourselves; and learn to make amends to those around us as well. Help us also to know how to forgive ourselves. This we ask in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

7 February 2016

Reflections

Stewardship...

Stewardship Sound Byte

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who respond to God’s generosity in their own lives by being generous to the poor, feeding the hungry and consoling the sorrowful, both within our parish and outward to the wider community.
Respite for Children with Special Needs

Every fourth Friday of the month, Parish Outreach offers Respite for children with special needs from 6-8 p.m. Adult and teen volunteers spend time with the children in a structured recreational program while the parents have two hours to relax. As you can see, we all have a great time! If you are interested in participating in this Respite program, please call Kathy at Parish Outreach at 669-0068 ext. 128 for further information.

Thank You from CDA

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS
Court Bishop McDonnell #1403

On January 13th, CDA #1403 held its annual Baby Shower for the Long Island Life Center. Due to the outstanding generosity of the Parishioners of St. Joseph, we are proud to say it was a great success. People dropped off gifts in the basins in Church and the Hall, ranging from diapers to lovely outfits. Our wonderful parents at our nursery school came the day of the shower and donated hundreds of pieces gently used clothing as well as furniture. The meeting received monetary donations from Knights of Columbus, St. Joseph the Carpenter Council, Jr Catholic Daughters 1403 and a Parishioner who urged her company to also make a donation. A special gift of a beautiful christening dress and homemade blanket was donated to LI Life Center by Rose Gallo, CDA member in memory of her baby daughter, Rosemarie. Each and every year this baby shower is how we begin our calendar year in our Court. We the members turn out that night, with our own gifts for these babies. Everyone who Participated shared our motto, “Unity and Charity” for our Lord’s children.

Thank you again for everything you did.

Thank You!
Stephanie Conley, Regent and all members of the Court
REXINTON
En las lecturas de hoy, tanto Isaías como Pedro escuchan el llamado de Dios y se sienten indignos. Pero asegurados por Dios, responden y siguen el llamado. ¡Oiga yo la voz de Dios preguntar ¿“A quién mandaré?”? ¡Estoy preparado para responderle, “¡Heme aquí Señor, Mándame a mi!”?

Estamos muy agradecidos esta semana por todos los administradores de nuestra parroquia que responden a la generosidad de Dios en su propia vida por ser generosos con los pobres, alimentar a los hambrientos y consolar a los tristes, tanto dentro de nuestra parroquia como en el exterior por la comunidad en general.

Intercesiones por la Vida
Por los legisladores que trabajan para preservar la vida y la libertad de todo ser humano; que Dios bendiga sus esfuerzos para consagrar esa convicción en el derecho norteamericano;
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”
1/24/16
Actual Collection $11,658.00
Budgeted Collection $23,895.00
(-1,237.00)
1/31/16
Actual Collection $22,670.50
Budgeted Collection $23,895.00
(-1,224.50)

CURSO BIBLICO
TODOS LOS MARTES DE:
7:30PM — 9:30PM
SALON # 256
Para más información llamar @ Antonia (631) 422-5433

LAS HORAS DE OFICINA DEL MINISTERIO HISPANO SON:
DOMINGOS DESPUÉS DE LA MISA
FONO: (631) 669-0068 Ext. 131
PADRE JOSEPH AREVALO Ext. 104

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. No en cuarentena.


CATEQUESIS 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.

UNCIÓN 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 Ulitrea 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 más información llame a Ana Ramos. (631)617-2129.

COMUNIDAD DE MARIA: Siguiendo los mensajes de Maria Reina de la Paz y sobre temas de Maria 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.

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

HERMANAS UNIDAS: Todos los jueves 9:00 - 11:00am en el Salón # 252A. Comunicarse con Adriana Mascari al Tel. (631) 681-0005 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.
Quinto domingo ordinario - Ciclo C

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. 7, 14, 21 y 28 de febrero. 6, 13, y 20 de marzo.

Horario para la Catequesis en Español
2015 - 2016
DOMINGOS
10:00AM — 11:00AM

FECHAS DE LOS EVENTOS
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

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 todos los domingos COMPLEMENTO DEL PROGRAMA.

Miercoles de Ceniza - El principio de la Cuaresma
La imposición de las cenizas nos recuerda que nuestra vida en la tierra es pasajera y que nuestra vida definitiva se encuentra en el Cielo.
La Cuaresma comienza con el Miércoles de Ceniza y es un tiempo de oración, penitencia y ayuno. Cuarenta días que la Iglesia marca para la conversión del corazón.
Las palabras que se usan para la imposición de cenizas, son:
- “Concédenos, Señor, el perdón y haznos pasar del pecado a la gracia y de la muerte a la vida”
- “Recuerda que polvo eres y en polvo te convertirás”
- “Arrepiéntete y cree en el Evangelio”.

Origen de la costumbre
Antiguamente los judíos acostumbraban cubrirse de ceniza cuando hacían algún sacrificio y los nínivitas también usaban la ceniza como signo de su deseo de conversión de su mala vida a una vida con Dios.
En los primeros siglos de la Iglesia, las personas que querían recibir el Sacramento de la Reconciliación el Jueves Santo, se ponían ceniza en la cabeza y se presentaban ante la comunidad vestidos con un “hábito penitencial”. Esto representaba su voluntad de convertirse.
En el año 384 d.C., la Cuaresma adquirió un sentido penitencial para todos los cristianos y desde el siglo XI, la Iglesia de Roma acostumbra poner las cenizas al iniciar los 40 días de penitencia y conversión.
Las cenizas que se utilizan se obtienen quemando las palmas usadas el Domingo de Ramos de año anterior. Esto nos recuerda que lo que fue signo de gloria pronto se reduce a nada.
También, fue usado el periodo de Cuaresma para preparar a los que iban a recibir el Bautismo la noche de Pascua, imitando a Cristo con sus 40 días de ayuno.
La imposición de ceniza es una costumbre que nos recuerda que algún día vamos a morir y que nuestro cuerpo se va a convertir en polvo.Nos enseña que todo lo material que tengamos aquí se acaba. En cambio, todo lo bien que tengamos en nuestra alma nos lo vamos a llevar a la eternidad. Al final de nuestra vida, sólo nos llevaremos aquello que hayamos hecho por Dios y por nuestros hermanos los hombres.
Cuando el sacerdote nos pone la ceniza, debemos tener una actitud de querer mejorar, de querer tener amistad con Dios. La ceniza se le impone a los niños y a los adultos.

Horario de miércoles de Ceniza
8:00 p.m. Misa (Español)
Salon Nolan

Via Crucis (Salon Nolan)
Viernes durante la Cuaresma
Español a las 7:00p.m.
Serving Families In Our Community For Over 75 Years

Proud Dignity Memorial® Provider

Advanced Funeral Planning
Veterans Benefits

Claude R.

Boyd-Spencer Funeral Homes

www.boyd-spencer.com

Charles H. Spencer, Director

448 West Main Street | Babylon 631-669-2400

Our newest location -

255 Higbie Lane | West Islip 631-669-8338

John R. Auer
(631) 321-5600
johnauer@allstate.com

Your local Allstate Agent
©2011 Allstate Insurance Company

Village Vanity
Hair Salon & Boutique
135 Deer Park Ave, Babylon Village
(631) 422-2222

Weichert
Realtors
Ferreri-Gromus
170 Deer Park Ave, Babylon
(631) 661-6900

Selling a Home? Sick of Your Home?'s problems? Let us help you sell your home and make your bucket list come true.

Chris
Korte

Both Veterans of the U.S. Army

Specializing in Vacation Resorts & River Cruises

Make your Bucket List & Vacation Dreams Come True!

American Express Travel Representative
(631) 893-4232
www.kortetravel.com

#198 FOR ADVERTISING: THE CHURCH BULLETIN INC., 200 DALE ST., W.BABYLON, NY 11704-1104 (631) 249-4994 • www.thechurchbulletininc.com • PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS