pastoral staff
Rev. Msgr. Christopher J. Heller, Pastor
Rev. Joseph V. Arevalo, Associate Pastor
Rev. Ethel Anarado, Associate Pastor
Rev. Francis A. Samuel, OIC Resident/Associate
Deacon Barry P. Croce
Deacon Michael J. Leyden
Deacon John F. Sullivan
Dr. Marie Drohan, Music Director
Mrs. Barbara McNulty, Youth Ministry Director
Ms. Claire Moulé, Faith Formation Director
Mrs. Marion Peckholdt, Nursery School Director
Mrs. Kathryn Raniere, Parish Outreach Director
Mrs. Jane Zollo, Parish Operations Manager
Stewardship Services Director

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

cemetery office
Monday to Thursday 9:00am to 12:30pm
Please call in advance to make an appt. during these hours.

faith formation office
Mon to Thurs 9:00am to 4:00pm
Fri Closed

hispanic office
Fri 7:00 to 9:00pm

outreach office
Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM
Other times by appt. (669-4544)

food pantry
Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM
Other times by appt. (669-0068 x 128)

thrift shop
Mon, Wed, Fri 10:00am to 3:00pm

parish phone numbers (area code 631)
Parish Office 669.0068
Cemetery Office 699-0068 Ext. 107
Faith Formation 587.4717
Nursery School 661.4559
Outreach 669.4544
Hispanic Community 669.0068 x131
Thrift Shop 669.5574
Youth Ministry 669-0068 x 108
Fax 669.9175

E-mail: parishoffice@stjosephsbabylon.org
WebSite: www.stjosephsbabylon.org

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.

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.

Second Sunday of Lent + February 21, 2016
**At this Mass, we remember:**

**Monday, February 22**
1 Pt 5:1–4, Ps 23: 1–3a, 4–6, Mt 16:13–19
7:45 Annabelle Milano
9:00 Mary Guarneri

**Tuesday, February 23**
Is 1:10, 16–20, Ps 50:8–9, 16b–17, 21, 23, Mt 23:1–12
7:45 Henry Estrada
9:00 Dorothy Anne Tempera

**Wednesday, February 24**
Jer 18:18–20, Ps 31:5–6, 14–16, Mt 20:17–28
7:45 People of St. Joseph
9:00 George Shannon

**Thursday, February 25**
Jer 17:5–10, Ps 1:1–4, 6, 1 Cor 10:1–6, 10–12, Lk 13:1–9
7:45 People of St. Joseph
9:00 Geraldine Fahmy

**Friday, February 26**
Gn 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a, Ps 105:16–21, Mt 21:33–43, 45–46
7:45 Lawrence Schaefer
9:00 Antoinette Mariani

**Saturday, February 27**
Mt 7:14–15, 18–20, Ps 103:1–4, 9–12, Lk 15:1–3, 11–32
9:00 Austin Moran

At this Eucharist, we will have the Communal Anointing and the Blessing of the Sick, Families and Caregivers. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is for those who have not already been anointed during a particular illness or burdensome condition. Those already anointed, family members, friends and caregivers are welcome to join us at the Eucharist that morning and receive the Blessing of the Sick or the Blessing of Family, Friends and Caregivers.

**Weekend Celebrations (barring last minute changes)**
4:00 Confessions Today Fr. Joe
5:00 People of St. Joseph Fr. Francis

**Sunday, February 28 ~ Third Sunday of Lent**
Ex 3:1–8a, 13–15, Ps 103:1–4, 6–8, 11, 1 Cor 10:1–6, 10–12, Lk 13:1–9
7:00 People of St. Joseph Fr. Chris
8:45 John Dowling Fr. Ethel
9:30 Dennis Radesky Fr. Joe
10:15 Al Candreva Fr. Ethel
11:45 Nina Montuori & Margaret Guzzado
5:00 Donia Cassar Fr. Francis
Our Parish Mission Statement

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

Liturgy

We Assemble for Prayer

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

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

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

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

Hospitality Sunday

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.M.C.:
Sgt. Lauren Colantropo
Sgt. Colin M. Leitch
Malik Rodriguez
Nelson Sanchez, Jr.
PFC Joshua J. Coughlin

U.S. Army:
SPC Elliot Chodkowski
SSG Josuah Insull
LTC John Kallo
SSG David C. Ray
Eric Stein
LTC Jon J. Uebel
PV2 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.A.F:
Maj. Matthew G. Bland
AB Christopher Signoretti
SSGT Brandon Ward

Sacrificial Giving

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

Month: January 2016
Actual Collection: $111,640.00
Budgeted Collection: $115,392.00

God Bless You!

Hospitality Sunday

Today is Hospitality Sunday, February 21st, please join us for Hospitality after the 8:45am Mass through the 11:45am Mass in the Hospitality Center.
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 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
Annual Adult

ST. PATRICK – ST. JOSEPH
DINNER DANCE
SATURDAY MARCH 5, 2016
7PM-11PM
Church of St. Joseph
Msgr. Nolan Hall
39 N. Carll Ave., Babylon, NY
631-669-0068

Tickets on sale after all Masses Feb. 20/21 and Feb. 27/28
Tickets are also available at the Parish Office

Tickets are $25 per person
Includes: Buffet dinner, beer, wine, soda, coffee, tea,
Irish soda bread and cookies

HURRY: Only 300 tickets will be sold

Music by Tom White and the “Spin Around Sound”
Entertainment by: “Mise Eire Step Dancers”
and
“AOH Saffron United Pipe Band”
Bring some pocket money for: Raffles and
“50/50”

For information and tickets contact:
Dom (631) 669-1092, Frank (631)587-6384 or
Larry (631)539-8565
St. Joseph Catholic Church
Invites You to a Parish Mission

March 7, 8, & 9, 2016
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM
There will be a different and additional morning session on Wednesday at 10:00 AM

“The Road to Emmaus”
Presenters:
Deacon Glenn & Linda Harmon

We welcome Deacon Glenn and Linda to our parish. They have been in full time ministry for 24 years giving over 500 parish missions and retreats. They have shared the love of the Lord and their Catholic Faith to well over 100,000 people around the United States and Canada.
They have written 2 spiritual books that have been read by people around the world.
Deacon Glenn and Linda have been married for 45 years and have been blessed with 2 daughters and 4 grandchildren.
Their style of teaching and preaching is very practical and down to earth. They come across to their listeners as a couple who has personally experienced the love, mercy, forgiveness, hope, and healing of our Lord Jesus Christ.
This parish mission is designed to strengthen our relationship with God, our Church and one another. It will also assist you in spiritually experiencing the Holy season of Lent.

Come Prepared to Be Blessed!!
Rediscover Jesus

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

This Book Discussion meeting is:

Sunday, Feb. 21, 1:30pm to 3:30pm
in rooms 252A, 258 & 259

Group size limit: 15 people.
Bring your copy of the book.

Golden Wedding Liturgy

This spring, couples that have been married fifty years or more will be honored at liturgies on Sunday, April 10 at the Church of St. Lawrence the Martyr in Sayville and on Sunday, April 24th at the Church of Maria Regina in Seaford. Both liturgies will begin at 2:30pm. Couples may register for One liturgy. Registration forms and complete instructions can be obtained at the Parish Office. Registration must be received by the Office of Worship by March 25th for the April 10th liturgy and by April 8th for the April 24th liturgy. If you have any questions you may call 516-678-5800, extension 207.
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 at 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

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.
Bridge for Peace

Presents

“Lord is it I?”

Sunday, March 13th, 2016

3pm

Bring the family and friends to this dramatic presentation of
The Last Supper at

St. Joseph, Msgr. Nolan Hall
39 North Carll Ave., Babylon, NY 11702

Free will offering to support the ongoing ministry of Bridge for Peace
Information call Sharon at 631-321-8986 or Bfp @ 631-730-3982
Bridge for Peace - Healing to the Nations
www.bridgeforpeace@optonline.net
Second Sunday of Lent - Cycle C

Liturgy...

STATIONS
THE WAY OF THE CROSS
“Father, forgive them, they do not know what they are doing.”

Please note the new time this year for Stations of the Cross
It takes place at 2pm on Fridays during Lent in the Church.
All are welcome.

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

For more information please call
Valerie Stone
631-617-9246

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
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

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

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

Look for more information soon.

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.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED! 5

Sponsored by the CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS of the AMERICAS Court Bishop Mc Donnell # 1403
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.

A Suggested ‘Grocery List’ for Our “40 Cans for 40 Days” Lenten Food Drive:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Canned Vegetables: all varieties</th>
<th>Ready-Made Pasta: macaroni &amp; cheese, ravioli, spaghetti-o’s</th>
<th>Mayonnaise, Ketchup Coffee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canned Fruit: all varieties</td>
<td>Sauces: all varieties of tomato, pasta, gravy</td>
<td>Milk Products: powdered, shelf stable, Velveeta, canned milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canned Meat: tuna, chicken, ham, beef-stew, turkey, spam</td>
<td>Boxed Instant Mashed Potatoes</td>
<td>Peanut Butter / Jelly / Jam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soups: all varieties</td>
<td>Pasta, Rice and All Varieties of Dry Beans</td>
<td>Boxed Cereals, Pancake Mixes: all varieties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juices: all fruit varieties (need for apple, orange), ‘fusion’ vegetable juices</td>
<td>Hamburger Helper: all varieties</td>
<td>Canned Protein Shakes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bean Products: refried, ranch, pork &amp; beans</td>
<td>Paper Towels</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: We cannot accept expired food or raw food.
**St. Vincent de Paul**

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

The St. Vincent de Paul Society consists of members that contribute in different ways. Though our meetings are held every two weeks on a Monday morning, attendance is never mandatory. Our work consists in helping families in need, making home visits, and helping with food collection and distribution. These opportunities to help are communicated through email so that members can volunteer at their own convenience. If you would like to join us in serving the poor, please contact us at: SVdPEDC@aol.com

We would like to thank an anonymous donor for their very generous gift to St. Vincent de Paul.

**Social Ministries**

**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.

**Thrift Shop News**

Vases ~ 1/2 price
Frames ~ 1/2 Price
Coats for the entire family ~ $2.00

IMPORTANT NOTE: Please DO NOT leave any donations on the outside steps when the Thrift Shop is closed.

Like us on Facebook, We have a page!
The Level 6 trip to the synagogue has been changed to Thursday, February 25th from 6:00-7:30pm. This trip takes the place of class for level 6 students the week of February 22nd. The Congregation Beth Sholom is located at 441 Deer Park Avenue in Babylon. Please try to carpool (parking is limited) and please arrive 10 minutes early to allow time to sign in.

Level 3 & 4 are required to attend an Instructional Mass on Monday, February 29 @ 6pm in Nolan Hall.

Level 1 Forgiveness Celebration – Thursday, March 3rd @ 7pm in the Church.

Level 6 Interview Sheets are due at any Mass the weekend of March 5th-6th.

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.

My good deed for the week was: Allie & Ella cleaned their rooms, Madison helped her parents, Olivia helped with the laundry & did her homework, Elizabeth helped her nana, Matteo donated toys and clothes to Big Brothers & Big Sisters, Julia brought food to her grandma, Taylor read more, Skylar & TJ did chores, Alex helped his dad on a project, Emmanuel woke up early to get to school on time, Maxwell was a better listener at homework time, Nailea tried her hardest at school, Rebecca spent time with her father, Brook, Marta, Peyton & Jason shoveled snow, Abigail put her clothes away, Jack walked the dog, Kayla & Cassidy helped their parents, Claire made her brother a snack, Joanna washed the dishes, Shannon followed directions, Ronan was kind, Lexie helped her sister, Harley fed the dogs, Sansai kept his cousins busy and happy, Charlie helped his mother, Asha & Alyssa helped around the house, Thomas & Melanie helped put away the clothes, Thomas & Melanie did homework without being asked, Violet cheered up a sad friend, Grace helped her friend clean her desk at school, Madeline helped her mom, Owen helped his grandpa cross the street, Alex helped clean, Markus shared with his friend and John protected a girl from being bullied.
Lent has begun.
Teens interested in helping with our Holy Week Family Services, please let us know now so we can include you on the planning.
Please remember to add prayer to your list of daily activities.

**Upcoming Activities:**

High School meeting 2/22. 7pm in the Madonna Room. Newcomers Welcome!

SERVICE TEAM: Are you working at the 3/6 St Patrick/St Joseph Dance? Must be on the Volunteer list. Please email youth@stjosephsbabylon.org

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**Thank you for supporting our Panera Fundraiser!**

Despite the wet and windy weather – we handed in over 75 flyers! St Joseph Parish packed Panera from 4 – 8pm.
Check the Website for more pictures.
...and **special thanks to Panera staff!!**

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**You do not have to be a youth group member to attend these events –**
But you do need tickets. Newcomers welcome. Check website for more details.
Grade 8 and above please.

**March 2nd**—Chris Padgett at St John Nepomoceme in Bohemia Free Will Donation.
Joining us? Please RSVP by 2/26

**Sunday March 13**—Roller Skating at United Skates of America (6PM – 8:30PM)
Tickets $16 includes Admission, Skates, unlimited pizza & soda, and game tokens.
This is a private event so you MUST have your tickets in advance.
Please email youth@stjosephsbabylon.org to get your tickets.
Check website for Permission Slip & Ticket Info.
Lent means “Spring” or “Rebirth.” If you think your life needs no renewal or rebirth, ask a friend or family member who’s always honest with you! Pope Francis has another take on it: we all from spiritual illnesses, so why not look to Jesus the Divine Physician for some cures? See if these any of these leave you with a desire to change your life this Lent!

1. The disease of thinking we are “immortal”, “immune” or downright “indispensable.” It is the disease of the rich fool in the Gospel, or people with a superiority complex or narcissism. The antidote to this plague is the grace of realizing that we are sinners and able to say heartily; “We are unworthy servants. We have only done what was our duty” (Lk 17:10). Visit a cemetery or war memorial, to counteract our “indispensability.”

2. Another disease is the “Martha complex” of excessive busy-ness, found in those who immerse themselves in work and inevitably neglect “the better part” sitting at the feet of Jesus (cf. Lk 10:38-42). Jesus called his disciples to “rest a while”(cf. Mk6:31), because neglecting needed rest leads to stress and agitation. Cure: regular, deep breaths often!

3. Then too there is the disease of mental and spiritual “petrification.” It is found in those with cold and/or stony hearts, those who hide under a pile of papers, and turn into paper pushers and not people of God (cf. Heb 3:12). The cure? Practice being a Christian, with Jesus qualities of humility, unselfishness, detachment and generosity.

4. The disease of excessive planning and of functionalism. We contract this disease because “it is always more easy and comfortable to settle in our own sedentary and unchanging ways. The cure? The Church shows her fidelity to the Holy Spirit by not trying to control/tame that Spirit of freshness, imagination, and newness.” Let God’s Spirit work!

5. The disease of poor coordination. Once its members lose communion among themselves, a group loses its harmonious functioning and its equilibrium; it then becomes an orchestra which produces noise: its members do not work together and lose the spirit of fellowship and teamwork. When the foot says to the arm: “I don’t need you,” or the head says to the body, “I’m in charge,” they create discomfort and scandal. Cures? Recognizing each and ALL gifts/tales of others.

6. There is also a “spiritual Alzheimer’s disease”. It consists in losing the memory of our personal “salvation history,” our past history and encounter with the Lord. The cure: deep recollection of our spiritual roots & Christ’s forgiving attitude.

7. The diseases of rivalry & vainglory. When our appearance, the colors or brands of our clothes, or our awards & titles become our primary objectives in life, we are apt to be men and woman of deceit. Cures include working cooperatively with others as partners, and allow ourselves to be non-competitive with each other.

8. The disease of existential schizophrenia, a disease of those who live a double life, one removed from practical contact with concrete people. In this way they create their own parallel world, where they set aside all that they teach with severity to others and begin to live a hidden and often dissolute life. For this most serious disease conversion is most urgent and indeed indispensable (cf. Lk 15:11-32). Cures: listening/action experiences of unity/solidarity with real people.

9. The disease of gossiping, grumbling and back-biting. It is a grave illness which begins simply, but takes over a person, making him/her become a “sower of weeds” (like Satan), and in many cases, a cold-blooded killer of the good name of our neighbors & friends. Cures? Speaking affirmations or others, or nothing at all, and refusing to be a negativity incubator.

10. The disease of idolizing superiors. This is the disease of those who court their superiors in the hope of gaining their favor. They are victims of careerism and opportunism; they honor persons and not God, and they serve thinking only of what they can get and not of what they should give. Cure? Keeping our eyes on the prize of God’s glorious love and ways.

11. The disease of indifference to others. This is where each individual thinks only of him/herself, and loses the sincerity and warmth of human relationships. Or when we learn something and then keep it to ourselves rather than sharing it in a helpful way that could benefit and assist others. Cure: a joyful openness/sharing without jealousy or deceit.

12. The disease of having a glum or dour face: those who think that to be serious we have to put on a face of melancholy and severity, and treat others with brusqueness and arrogance. In fact, a show of severity and pessimism are frequently symptoms of fear and insecurity. Cures: A heart filled with God is a happy heart; practice joy with humor each day.

13. The disease of hoarding. When someone tries to fill a void in his/her heart by accumulating material goods, not out of need but only in order to feel secure. The fact is that we are not able to bring material goods with us to the next life! Cure: do an inventory of your inner/outer moving vans; examine what goods you do not need, & let others have them.

14. The disease of closed circles, where belonging to a clique becomes more powerful than belonging to the Church, and, in some circumstances, to Christ himself. This disease enslaves its members and becomes a cancer which threatens the harmony of the Body and causes evils such as self-destruction.

15. Lastly: the disease of worldly profit, & forms of self-exhibition. When someone turns his/her his service into power, and his power into a commodity in order to gain worldly profit or even greater power. This is the disease of power-hungry persons who accumulate power and are ready to slander, defame and discredit others to keep or gain more power. Cures: recognizing the power Christ Jesus has in us, and that our first allegiance is to him always. Fr. Chris
THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY:
SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT SIN

“I am a sinner. This is the most accurate definition. It is not a figure of speech, a literary genre. I am a sinner.”

Those words of Pope Francis from a 2013 interview get right to the heart of the mystery of sin in our life. The simple fact is that sin is a reality. We can’t rationalize it away, and we can’t find excuses; we sin. As much as we try to blame others and try to find all sorts of reasons to say it’s not our fault, the unvarnished truth is we sin.

Ironically, though, it’s only by admitting the truth of our sinfulness that we can truly discover and experience the inconceivable depth and richness of God’s mercy. As Pope Francis remarked in 2010, “Only we big sinners have this grace of knowing what salvation really means.” That’s because to understand what sin is, we first have to start with God’s love.

We are profoundly loved by God with a love that is unconditional and life-giving. God has given us the gift of life. Through baptism, God has given us the gift of union with Christ and with each other in the Church. In the face of God’s free gift, the only proper response on our part is a response of love that is given back to God, a love that makes our life a gift to Him and that leads to living in the way He asks us to.

Sin sets itself against God’s love for us and turns our hearts away from that love. Like the sin of Adam and Eve, it is disobedience, a revolt against whereby we desire to have a mastery over our life that in truth belongs to God. Sin is an inordinate love of self, even to the point of putting oneself before God. It is a proud exaltation of self, in contrast to the obedience of Jesus, whose observance of the Father’s will brought about our salvation.

Sin can be likened to a disorder or sickness. Take the example of our physical health: sometimes we are seriously ill, and sometimes we just have a cold. So, too, with spiritual health: sin can be serious (mortal) or less serious (venial).

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that “sin is an offense against reason, truth, and right conscience; it is failure in genuine love for God and neighbor caused by a perverse attachment to certain goods. It wounds the nature of man and injures human solidarity.” (1849)

Sin is a personal act, but our sins can sometimes lead others to commit sin. Our participation in collective wrong-doing can lead to “social sin,” sin that gives rise to social situations and institutions that are contrary to the very nature of God.

The awareness of sin in our life should lead us to immediately trust in God’s mercy. We have the great gift of being able to seek God’s forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance. The Sacrament of Penance brings us the experience of God’s love and mercy, proving to us His desire to keep us always close to Him as His beloved sons and daughters. ✝
Jesus went to the top of the mountain, because he needed to see the big picture. It was not a matter of geography. It was a matter of history. He needed to view his impending death, in the context of God’s historical purpose for the world. He looked back to Moses, who had led his people out of Egypt. Like all good Jews, he was sure that this was something that God had done. He looked back to Elijah, the great prophet, who had warned of judgment and promised redemption. Both of these men “spoke of his passage which he was about to fulfill in Jerusalem”. They assured him that his death would complete the divine purpose, which they had only begun. That perspective was his greatest need. Nothing is more difficult to accept than an untimely death, that makes no sense and has no meaning.

Jesus sought new knowledge. He was young, much too young to die. He loved life and wanted to go on living. It was not that he was afraid to die. He could face that. The one thought he could not endure was that his death would be an isolated tragedy, that had no meaning. He needed to know that it would count for something. Given the assurance that God was in it, he could handle anything. That day on the mountain, he looked beyond the moment. He saw a divine purpose that spanned the ages. He saw his life and death as part of that purpose. And the strength of that vision enabled him to face the cross with courage and honor. On a clear day, he saw forever.

I am aware, of course, that you and I are not Moses or Elijah. And we certainly are not the Christ. But we are living, breathing, human beings, with far-reaching influence. Our brief lives will still be speaking and working, long after we are dead and gone. Let us do it well, my friends. Future generations are counting on us. On a clear day, you can see forever.
LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW

Each year a hardy group of the faithful converges on Washington, D.C. to mark the January 22nd anniversary of the Supreme Court decision in the Roe v Wade case that has compromised the rights of the unborn in this nation. Over the years our parish has had a presence in this mostly silent protest and recently the movement has grown on college campuses. Student governments fund buses, classes are rescheduled, and young people are now championing the cause of those who promote The Right to Life.

You might remember our first snow storm this year, a blizzard actually. And we also know that it was more severe as we looked south of New York. The Pennsylvania Turnpike was especially affected and cars, buses, and trucks were stranded for days. Yet amid the fear, uncertainty, and cold something beautiful occurred.

Students from as far away as Wisconsin and other Midwestern states were among those stranded. They did, however, realize this was also an opportunity to live out the Gospel message that was bringing them to Washington. They began to welcome strangers who were stuck in their cars into the more spacious (and warm) buses. They gave them food. They gave them water. They gave them a place to rest. They cleaned their cars. And they did something else.

Knowing that the plows were still hours away and cognizant of the reason they were there in the first place, the students decided to have an outdoor mass. Rather than building a snowman or a fort, they built an altar. Then they took tree branches and made a cross. They had guitars, a bullhorn, umbrellas, and priests with vestments, so they began a mass on a snowy altar on a snowy hill on a very snowy day. All were welcome as they shared a beautiful Eucharist and one each would always remember.

PRAYER

Bountiful Provider, You give us wisdom You give us strength, You give us opportunity. Sometimes they come in combinations and something beautiful occurs. Give us the Grace we need to learn from the young Right to Life Pilgrims so that we also know that You are in our midst. This we ask in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Stewardship...

Stewardship Sound Byte

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who practice a spiritual work of mercy - instructing the ignorant - through service to our parish’s religious education program as a catechist or other educational minister.
RCIA

The RCIA Team asks for your prayers for the following Catechumens who will be receiving their three sacraments (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) at the Easter Vigil this year.

At the 10:15am Mass on Sunday, Feb. 14th, Fr. Chris led us in a Rite of Sending for these Catechumens. They met later in the day with Bishop Murphy at the Rite of Election at St. Joseph Church, Ronkonkoma. At that ceremony and prayer service they joined with other un-baptized people from across Long Island. Bishop Murphy Blessed them all and asked God to guide them so they might have a spiritually fruitful Lent.

Catholic Ministries Appeal 2016: Loving Others as Christ Would

Please: Make a Difference in Someone’s Life by donating to the Catholic Ministries Appeal. Make checks payable to: Catholic Ministries Appeal
Parish ____________________________ Pledge: $_______
Name ____________________________ Down payment: $_______
Address ____________________________
City, State, Zip: ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________
Signature: ____________________________ Date: __________

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SEGUNDO DOMINGO DE CUARESMA - CICLO C

**REXLEXION**
Pedro, Santiago y Juan querían construir una “choza” para Jesús y quedarse allí en la montaña, donde tomó lugar su transfiguración. Pero el Hijo de Dios, el Escogido, sabía que tenía que seguir hacia su crucifixión. Nosotros también debemos levantarnos de la adoración, para hacer cuanto podamos para apresurar la venida del Reino.

Estamos muy agradecidos esta semana a todos los administradores de nuestra parroquia que practican una obra de misericordia espiritual instruyendo a los estudiantes a través de programa de educación religiosa de la parroquia como catequista u otro ministro de educación.

**Intercesiones por la Vida**
Para aquellos que viven en el corredor de la muerte en nuestro país: que a través de nuestras oraciones puedan recibir el don del arrepentimiento, y que todos puedan llegar a conocer el valor de sus vidas;
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*  
Month of January

Colecta: $111,640.00  
Gastos: $115,392.00

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

**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 cuaresma.


**CATEQUESIOS 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 Ultreya todos los domingos a las 12:30pm. 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) 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.
“Soy un pecador. Esta es la definición más precisa. No es una forma de hablar, un género literario. Soy un pecador.”

Esas palabras del Papa Francisco durante una entrevista del 2013 va directo al Corazón del misterio del pecado en nuestra vida. El simple hecho es que el pecado es una realidad. No podemos realizar a que desaparezca, y no podemos encontrar excusas; pecamos. Por mucho que tratemos de culpar a los demás y tratar de encontrar todo tipo de razones para decir que no es culpa nuestra, la pura verdad es que pecamos.

Irónicamente, sin embargo, es solo admitiendo la verdad de nuestra condición de pecadores que realmente podemos descubrir y experimentar la profundidad inconcebible y la riqueza de la misericordia de Dios. Como Francisco comentó en el 2010. “Solo nosotros los grandes pecadores tenemos esta gracia de saber lo que la salvación realmente significa.” Eso es porque para entender lo que es el pecado, primero tenemos que comenzar con el amor de Dios

Estamos profundamente amados por Dios con un amor que es incondicional y vivificante. Dios nos ha dado el don de la vida. Por el bautismo Dios nos ha dado el don de la unión con Cristo y con los demás en la Iglesia. En el rostro del don gratuito de Dios, la única respuesta adecuada de nuestra parte es una respuesta de amor devuelto a Dios, un amor que hace que nuestra vida sea un don a El y que nos lleva a vivir en la manera que El nos pide.

El pecado se levanta contra el amor de Dios por nosotros y aleja nuestros corazones de ese amor. Al igual que el pecado de Adán y Eva, es desobediencia, una rebelión deseando tener el dominio sobre nuestra vida, que en realidad pertenece a Dios. El pecado es un amor desordenado y de si mismo, hasta el punto de ponerse delante de Dios. Es una exaltación orgullosa de si, en contraste con la obediencia de Jesús, cuyo cumplimiento de la voluntad del padre nos trajo nuestra salvación.

El pecado puede ser comparado con un trastorno o enfermedad. Tomemos el ejemplo de nuestra salud física: a veces estamos gravemente enfermos, y a veces solo tenemos un refriado. Así también la salud espiritual: el pecado puede ser grave (mortal) o menos grave (venial).

El catecismo de la Iglesia Católica nos enseña que “el pecado es una ofensa contra la razón, la verdad, la conciencia recta: es faltar al amor verdadero de Dios y al prójimo causado por un apego perverso en ciertos bienes. Hiere la naturaleza del hombre y atenta contra la solidaridad humana.” (1849)

El pecado es un acto personal, pero nuestros pecados a veces pueden conducir a otros a cometer pecado. Nuestra participación en malas acciones colectivas puede llevar a “pecado social”, el pecado da lugar a situaciones sociales e instituciones que son contrarias a la naturalza misma de Dios.

La conciencia del pecado en nuestra vida debe llevarnos a confiar de inmediato en la misericordia de Dios. Tenemos el gran don de ser capaz de buscar el perdón de Dios en el Sacramento de la Penitencia. El Sacramento de la Penitencia nos trae la experiencia del amor y la misericordia de Dios, lo que demuestra Su deseo de mantenemos siempre cerca de El como sus hijos e hijas amados.
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