St. Joseph R. C. Church
39 North Carll Avenue, Babylon N. Y. 11702
Parish Phone (631) 669-0068 - Parish Fax (631) 669-9175
Website - www.stjosephsbabylon.org

Pastoral Team
Rev. Charles N. Mangano,
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
Deacon Julio Murillo
Dr. Marie Drohan, Music Director
Mrs. Barbara McNulty, Youth Ministry Director
Ms. Claire Moulé, Faith Formation Director
Mrs. Patricia Taggart, Nursery School Director
Mrs. Sigrid Villalobos A., Director of Outreach
Mrs. Jane Zollo, Parish Operations Manager/
Stewardship Services Director

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 1:45pm.

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.
First Sunday of Advent - Cycle C

The Sacraments of Life

Preparing for Marriage
Banns Posted

First Time ~
No Banns

Second Time ~
Robert Farrell & Andrea Mancuso

Third Time ~
Joseph Gervasio & Jenna Curley
Joseph Kastaner & Samantha DeBrunner
William Bloodnick & Kiera O’Leary

For Our Sick

For Our Deceased
Please pray for the families and souls of our deceased members.

Altar Rose
In memory of Laura Ann Farrell

REFLECTION FOR TODAY
“At an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come,” says today’s Gospel. Good stewards know that they are accountable to God for all they have and are and strive to live in readiness for His coming.
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The holy season of Advent has begun and we now shift the liturgical color to purple. We also use the color purple during the holy season of Lent (prior to Easter) which represents repentance, the turning away from our sinful ways, having a change of heart, so we can receive the fullness of God's love and mercy through the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus. During Advent, there is still an underlying theme of repentance, but there is also the gratitude for the first coming of Jesus Christ and the longing for His second coming. Advent prepares our hearts to receive the fullness of God's love and mercy through the Incarnation, God choosing to take on our flesh in order to redeem us. The word Advent comes from the Latin, Adventus, meaning coming (not only Christmas but the second coming).

During the last two weeks of Advent you will hear a scripture reading outlining the lineage of Jesus. The list of names seems to go on and on. The purpose of this reading is to remind us that, as we also have a lineage from which we come, so does Jesus. This lineage of Jesus proves to us that He was totally and fully human. He had ancestors. Jesus was also totally and fully God. God comes to us in the flesh of Jesus and does so in order to bring us hope and light to our darkness, the darkness of our sin and despair. He comes to pull us out of it, to redeem us.

In the wisdom of Mother church, she realizes that her children need time to prepare their hearts for the great feast of Christmas, so Advent is designated the four weeks prior to Christmas. The first two weeks focus on the future, 2nd coming, of Christ. Are we prepared? Are we prepared to see the Lord face to face? If not, what is the unfinished business of our lives? What do we need to repent of? What behavior or sin do we need to root out of our lives with God's help? Who do we need to forgive with God's help, etc.? Let's allow Christ to help us this Advent. The last two Sundays of Advent focus on the fact that Christ came in the flesh over 2000 years ago. He took on our sufferings and paid the price for our sins, willingly and lovingly. We rejoice at this truth because without Him we have nothing and we are nothing. We are lost and have no power to save ourselves. We must rely on God's grace for everything and for this we are grateful. Now is that time of year to once again, with God's grace, make Jesus, Lord of our lives.

Years ago someone came to me and shared how she felt led by God to purchase a children's Bible. She said to me: "As I have been reading the Bible I have learned about the word covenant and how the word means an agreement between two people. God made a covenant with us. God said through the incarnation of Jesus His Son: See, I love you, now let me love you. But now, I have been asking myself, so what is my response to this love, to God's love? My awareness is that I am being invited to love Him in return." Praise God. What an awareness she has been given. Life is about responding to the awesome love God has given us. That's why we need to take time before Christmas (Advent) and time before Easter (Lent) to reflect on all of this. We live very busy lives and many are dealing with life’s trials, tribulations and sufferings. All this can easily blind us to God's love for us. Often we don't reflect on the great mystery of how God has loved us and continues to love us today. That's why we have little blue books at the doors of the church for your daily Advent reflection. That's why we have parish missions during these holy seasons, to remind us of these great truths and help our hearts to open to the truth. These materials and events help us to allow God to redeem us on a daily basis. In turn, it assists our soul to desiring to love God and others in return.

Please see the bulletin for our upcoming Advent Mission with Fr. Tony Stanganelli starting next weekend.

Have a great week walking with God. Remember, with God in you, you can do the unthinkable, unimaginable and even forgive what you think is unforgivable.

Peace and blessings,

Fr. Charles
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.

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

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

U.S. Army:
SPC Elliot Chodkowski
SSG Josiah Insull
LTC John Kallo
SSG David C. Ray
Eric Stein
LTC Jon J. Uebel
PVz Danny Bornschein
Sgt Edwin Zambrano
PFC Dominick Pittito
Capt. Stephen Scuderi
PFC Mark Osipina
2LT Anthony C. DiBiasi
PV2 Alexandra Diaz

U.S.A.F.:
Maj. Matthew G. Bland
AB Christopher Signoretti
SSGT Brandon Ward
MSGT John Hatzidakis

Sacrificial Giving

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

As of 11-11-16

Actual Collection $26,394.00
Budgeted Collection $25,923.00
+ 471.00

God Bless You!

Parish News

Handicap Ramp
This week a handicap ramp was built by the back entrance of the rectory which the priests use so the rectory can be handicap accessible. The diocesan preference is that every building be handicap accessible. Included in this project was the redoing of those back steps which were incorporated into the ramp. The steps were very steep and awkward to climb. The curbing was also redone since so much of it had chunks of concrete missing along with areas of concrete that had lifted making it a tripping hazard. Now it will be safer for people to walk over and on the curb.

Mass Time Change
Starting the first Sunday of Advent, November 27th the 11:45am Mass will become the 12 noon Mass giving more time following the 10:15am Mass to set up the sound equipment for the next Mass. Baptisms will start at 1:45pm.
Welcome
Our pastor, Fr. Charles Mangano, his brother priests, Fr. Joe Arevalo, Fr. Ethel Anarado, Fr. Francis Samuel and our Pastoral Team welcome you to St. Joseph. If you are visiting us for the first time, you are our honored guests and we pray that you will consider making St. Joseph your church home. We are here to assist you in your spiritual growth and maturity as together we give glory to God through our worship, prayer and service in the name of Jesus Christ. We are committed to the fullness of Roman Catholic teaching and to the promise of salvation that the Church offers to all believers. May God accomplish a great work in you among us.

Office Hours/Parish Office
(631) 669-0068
Mon. to Thurs. 9:30am to 9:00pm
Fridays 9:30am - 7:30pm
Sat. 9:30am to 6:30pm Sun. 9:30am -1:30pm

Cemetery Office
(631)669-0068 Ext. 107
Monday to Thursday 9:00am to 12:30pm
Please call in advance for an appt. during these hours.

Faith Formation Office
(631)587-4717
Mon. to Thurs. 9:00am to 4:00pm / Friday Closed

Hispanic Office
(631)669-0068 x131
Friday 7:00 to 9:00pm

Outreach Office
(631)669-4544
Monday, Wednesday & Thursday
9:30am to 1:30pm
Other times by appt. (631-669-4544)

Food Pantry
Monday, Wednesday & Thursday
9:30am to 1:30pm
Other times by appt. (631-669-0068 x 128)

Thrift Shop
(631)669-5574
Monday, Wednesday & Thursday
10:00am to 3:00pm
Nursery School - (631)661-4559
Youth Ministry - (631)669-0068 x 108
Parish Office Fax - (631)669-9175
E-mail: secretary@stjosephsbabylon.org
WebSite: www.stjosephsbabylon.org

MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION

Calling All Cake Bakers
The Ministry of Consolation would like to invite you to join our team of cake bakers.

The delivery of a home-made cake to a bereaved family in our local area is such an unexpected, pleasant surprise that says—

We are a welcoming community, we understand your pain and sadness. Your act of kindness is never forgotten by the family receiving your gift.

The Ministry of Consolation is such a beautiful and loving Ministry. Please join us so we may continue to lighten the burden for families at a difficult time in their life.

Bakers are on a rotating schedule.
Please call Barbara Schade, 631-968-8793 or 631-669-0068, ext. 160.

If you’re not a baker, but would like to know more about us, please call us about other opportunities.
During the season of Advent, our Blessed Mother stands as a model for us as one who stands in awe before the mystery of God and is able to surrender to that mystery. She who is full of grace teaches us how to open our hearts to that very same grace that empowers us to surrender. Our mission will offer us the opportunity to explore contemplative prayer as a means of opening our hearts to that life-giving divine encounter.

Presenter: Father Anthony Stanganelli

Father Tony Stanganelli was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Rockville Centre in March of 1979. Since his ordination, Father has served as an associate pastor in Our Lady of Lourdes, Saint Edward’s, Saint Catherine of Sienna (where he first met Father Charles in 1990), and in Saint Philip Neri. Father Tony also taught in the seminaries at Cathedral College in Douglaston and in the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington after receiving a graduate degree in theology at the Gregorian University in Rome. Father has served as pastor in Holy Spirit in New Hyde Park, Saints Philip and James in Saint James and is presently the pastor of Saint Brigid’s in Westbury.

Father Tony is no stranger to the people of Saint Joseph’s in Babylon as he was invited by his classmate, Father Chris, to be part of a Lenten Mission in 2010. Father Tony gladly returns to us in Babylon to share his faith and to draw us into the mystery of contemplative love modeled so beautifully by our Blessed Mother.

Mission Schedule

Monday, December 5th:
9:00am  Mass, Presider - Fr. Tony
9:30am  Mission Talk
7:30pm  Mission Talk by Fr. Tony with Confessions Following

Tuesday, December 6th:
9:00am  Mass, Presider - Fr. Tony
9:30am  Mission Talk
7:30pm  Mission Talk by Fr. Tony

~Hospitality to follow in the O’Connell Room after the close of the mission~
CHRISTMAS CRECHE LIGHTING

SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 3, 2016
ST. JOSEPH PARISH
FRONT LAWN

Immediately following the 5pm Mass in Msgr. Nolan Hall. This year we’re lighting the beautiful custom-made Crèche that houses the life-sized figures of The Holy Family

All are Welcome!
Refreshments following in the O’Connell Room

Donated baked goodies wanted!
If you can donate a plate of cookies, brownies, cupcakes or other holiday treats, Please call Sigrid at (631)669-0068 x128 as soon as possible!

Thank you!
Ho Ho Ho....

St Joseph the Carpenter Knights of Columbus will be hosting Breakfast with Santa on Sunday, December 11th in the O’Connell Room from 10:00AM to 12:00PM
All are invited
Menu will include Pancakes, Sausage, Juice, Cookies, Coffee & Tea.

Santa will make an appearance, so please bring a small gift for Santa to give your child, wrap and tag with child’s name. Best of all it's FREE

Please RSVP to Dan Tergesen at dmtergesen@optonline.net or calling me at 631-422-3563. Please indicate the number of adults and number of children attending.
Grandchildren Welcome

Please join us for our Annual Christmas Pageant
December 11th, 2016 - 3pm in the Church
The Messiah Concert Benefit

SAVE THE DATE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

THE MESSIAH BENEFITS MERCY INN SOUP KITCHEN

Through the generosity of the Church of St. Joseph, St. Joseph’s Choir and friends from the Babylon Methodist Church will present a free concert on Sunday, December 11th at 7:00 PM. The program will feature highlights from Handel’s MESSIAH and Pergolesi’s MAGNIFICAT directed by Dr. Marie Drohan and accompanied by soloists, Sophisticated Strings, harpsichord and flute. The concert will include other beautiful choral selections and will be preceded by a moving candlelight procession so early arrival is encouraged.

The choir has sung on Fox 5 and on European national television and in the presence of many prominent figures, including Pope Benedict XVI, Pope John Paul II, Cardinal Bevilqua, Cardinal Egan, the late Cardinal O’Connor, Helen Hayes, Ossie Davis and the jazz legend, Dave Brubeck. They presented concerts and sang with the Salzburg Cathedral Choir and Orchestra during their third European concert tour to the Czech Republic, Austria and Germany.

The Soup Kitchen is experiencing cuts in state aid and is in dire need of donations, especially due to the ever increasing numbers of the poor. Although there is no admission charge, donations are encouraged. Checks may be made payable to The Mercy INN. Recommended offering: $15 per person; $30 per family; donations of any amount are greatly appreciated! If you are unable to attend, please consider dropping your contribution off at the parish office.

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE MERCY INN SOUP KITCHEN.
First Sunday of Advent - Cycle C

Special Prayer Events

Vocation Events

November 11-13: PRO Young Men’s Retreat at the Seminary in Huntington

December 21: College \ Young Adult Encounter at the Seminary at Huntington

January 20: Vocations Holy Hour at St. Patrick’s, Bay Shore at 7pm

For more details call (516) 678-5800 Ext. 214 or log onto www.longislandpriest.com

National Night of Prayer for Life

On Thursday, December 8th, which is the feast of the Immaculate Conception, join our Pastor, Fr. Charles, as we join parishes throughout the Nation in prayer during our prayer vigil for life. It will take place in the church here at St. Joseph. This National Night of Prayer will begin with the 7:30pm Feast day Mass. The prayer service will continue after Mass from 8:30p.m to 11:30p.m. The prayer vigil will consist of exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the rosary, scripture readings, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, a spiritual slide presentation, music, other prayers, Benediction and much more. Please join us as we pray for those whose lives are being mistreated or abused in any way, such as: the elderly, the poor, and especially the unborn. Let us together bow down before the Blessed Sacrament and ask our Lord and Lady's help for these, our brothers and sisters. Let us spend these four hours with our Lord and promote the value of all life by praying for all those in need. If you can NOT join us for all four hours, please join us when you can. All are welcome.

Memorials

Memorials: A special thank you to Barbara Conti for memorializing the bells in the church which now ring during the consecration of the Mass and the Vittorio family for memorializing the bells in Msgr. Nolan Hall. Also, a parishioner called wanting to memorialize a vestment for her deceased husband. Therefore, we ordered a purple vestment for Advent. We are also in need of 4 purple stoles for the priests to wear when hearing confession collectively. They are $350.00 each. If anyone would like to memorialize one of the purple stoles please call Alice at (631) 669-0068 Ext. 171.

Apostleship of the Cross

♫WHO WE ARE♫

♫COME AND SEE♫

Apostleship of the Cross
(Spirituality of the Cross)

First Meeting:
Church of St. Joseph
39 N. Carll Avenue Babylon, NY 11702
Friday December 2nd
From 10-11:30am Room#259

Contact: Adriana P. Mascari
631-681-0005
apdelacruzNy@yahoo.com

The Apostleship of the Cross, in the Church, is a group of Christians who follow Christ, Priest and Victim, and who are moved by the Holy Spirit to:

♫ Discover in their lives the salvific meaning of suffering accepted in love.
♫ Offer to the Father, through the hands of Mary, Christ, Priest and Victim.
♫ Offer the daily sacrifices and crosses of their lives with Christ, Priest and Victim, for the salvation of souls and the benefit of priests.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Meeting

Mark Your Calendar - December 3, 2016

Our next meeting will be Saturday, December 3rd after the 9am Mass. We will gather in the O'Connell Room. We encourage all to attend. Sign Up sheets for Masses on December 8 and Christmas Eve will be available. Thank you!
St. Joseph’s Sociable Single Seniors
Metropolitan Opera House At Lincoln Center

Carmen
Georges Bizet’s Masterpiece

Saturday, February 11, 2017
Theater Tickets Are Non Refundable. Travel Insurance is Recommended. Itinerary Subject to Change. All Trips Are Rain or Shine

Trip Includes:
♦ Rear Orchestra Ticket to "Carmen"
♦ Leisure Time at Lincoln Center
♦ Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation
♦ All Tips & Taxes (Except bus driver)

Cost is $155/pp and includes admission to The Met and transportation. Lunch is on your own. $100 deposit will hold your space. Checks should be made out to St. Joseph Church and sent to Lorraine DeCanditis. Deposits due by November 30th.
Call for address and/or more information: 631-553-0160.

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:________

Catholic Ministries
Parish: St. Joseph Church, Babylon
Goal 2016: $134,300
Pledged: $116,259.00
# of Gifts: 340
Collected: $114,204.00
Avg/Gifts: $341.94
Goal %: 86.57%
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 margotdenza@yahoo.com 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 669-0068 x 128 or x 158 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 1st.

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 Best Market in West Babylon, Douglas Elliman Real State, United Methodist Church, Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Division and St Joseph’s Nursery School for all their food donations. Torta Fina Bakery in Babylon for baking 80 special Thanksgiving loaves that we distributed to our Outreach families.

We are truly blessed!
Social Ministries

**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 15th.

Thanks for all you do!

**Thrift Shop Sale News**

All Clothing & Jewelry - 1/2 Price

**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!

**St. Vincent de Paul**

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul 631-669-4544.

Thank you all for the very generous contributions to the St. Vincent de Paul Society from our annual door collection last weekend. Your kind generosity will be greatly appreciated by so many of the needy families in our area. Members of our society helped distribute food to those in need this Thanksgiving holiday. They also participated in the BABYLON ENDS HUNGER DRIVE on Nov. 5, helping package over 10,000 meals for the hungry in the U.S. and Haiti.
The Faith Formation Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-4pm. If you come between the hours of 9am – 9:30am, you will need to call the office to enter the building: \textbf{631-587-4717}.

Faith Formation Re-registration is now closed for the 2016-2017 year.

\textbf{Confirmation Rehearsal – Monday, November 28\textsuperscript{th} in Nolan Hall.} For those at the 10am Mass, the rehearsal will be at 5pm and those at the 1:30pm Mass, rehearsal is at 7pm.

\textbf{Confirmation will be celebrated on Tuesday, November 29\textsuperscript{th}.} Please pray for our Confirmation Candidates, their catechists and sponsors and their families as they celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation.

\textbf{Level 2 – Reconciliation – will be held on Saturday, December 10\textsuperscript{th} at either 11am or 1pm in the Church.} Parents should have received a letter with your child’s Reconciliation date and time, along with their First Holy Communion date and time.

\textbf{Level 5 Mass Booklets are to be returned at any Mass the weekend of December 3\textsuperscript{rd} & 4\textsuperscript{th}.} Please remember to bring your Mass attendance envelopes and place them in the collection basket.

\textbf{Level 3 students are expected to attend any Mass the weekend of December 10\textsuperscript{th} & 11\textsuperscript{th} to receive an Advent gift.} Please remember to bring your Mass attendance envelopes and place them in the collection basket.

\textbf{My unique Good Deed for the week was:} Sedona helped her Girl Scout Troop, Skylee helped her friend on the bus, Emily helped put away the toys at the aftercare program, Daniel and Brendan helped their dad paint, Kaitlynn gave her extra coupons for people waiting in line, Ainsley and Clare danced and helped at the Iona pipe band concert and Cate helped the art teacher clean up.

\textbf{Thank you to Mrs. Oliva’s Level 1 class for their Thanksgiving donations for the Outreach Office.}
Enjoy a Blessed Advent Season.

Congratulations to all of our Level 8 Students as they prepare for Confirmation this week!

No High School Meeting Monday 11/28 due to Confirmation Rehearsals. Middle School will meet Wednesday 11/30 (7:30-8:30) in Room 260

ATTENTION—TEENS IN GRADE 8 - 12
Would you like to join us for Advent Adoration for Teens, Sunday, 12/4 at St. Thomas More in Hauppauge. The evening will include, prayer, social, and a presentation by The Bosco Boys. Call or email me by 11/28 to reserve your spot. We will be praying with our friends from other parishes!

Parish Lighting of the Creche — Saturday 12/3 after 5pm Mass. Teens — can you help serve? Sign up now please.

PBJ GANG is in need of supplies. We are also now collecting items to assemble into “Blessings Bags” for the homeless. Items needed:

- Creamy Peanut Butter
- Grape Jelly
- Plastic Gloves
- Plastic Table Cloths
- Chapstick
- Travel Sized toothpaste and shampoo and hand lotion
- Toothbrushes
- Pocket-sized tissues
- Granola Bars
- Cereal Bars
- New Men’s white socks
- Adult-sized warm gloves
- Handwarmers
- Snack size canned fruit and pudding

Please check out our website for additional activities www.stjosephsbabylon.org
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

Junior Catholic Daughters invite girls between the ages of 10 through 17 to join us as we celebrate our faith and grow closer to God through service to others. Come join us every first and third Tuesday of each month at 7 pm in the O'Connell room. Come be a part of something fun and rewarding!!??

For more information Contact Deb Thorman-Yusko (deb.thorman@gmail.com)

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 here in Babylon. Ladies, be our guest the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm in the O'Connell Room. Doors open at 7pm. Mingle with our members, and learn how we work in UNITY and CHARITY to help others less fortunate. For more information: Contact: Dorothy Buckley @ 631-539-8522.

Happy Birthday to the Golden Age Group Ladies
LAZARUS MINISTRY

On Saturday, December 10, 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 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, 631-968-8793.

Ministry News

We’re forming a new ministry!

St. Joseph Parish “Restoration” Team

If you like repairing, restoration and general cleanup projects and are interested in helping to make our Parish and Parish grounds look like new in the future, then we want to hear from you!

We’re also looking for a team leader to coordinate and oversee this ministry.

Please call Jane at (631) 669-0068 x159 or email her at stewardship@stjosephsbabylon.

Thank you!
The Toe-Tapper

Joan Sparks

One day a wise man came to a small town. He needed a place to stay so he went to the first church he found. Inside, a small group of people argued about how they could best please God.

“‘I’ll help you,’” the man said, “‘but you must promise to use what I do to glorify God.’”

“Oh, we will,” the people assured him. “We will.”

He gave each of them gifts—one was to be a pianist, another a flutist. To one he gave a cello, to another a violin, and to yet another he gave the role of toe-tapper.

The people worked long and hard to prepare a song of praise for the church. The music became more and more beautiful.

One afternoon during practice the violinist said to the pianist, “I’m so glad I have the important job of playing the violin. I’d sure hate to be only a toe-tapper.” The toe-tapper was so hurt that he went home.

The next day, when the group met to practice, nothing came together right. Finally, the flutist said, “Without the toe-tapper here I don’t know when to come in for my part.” They started over time and time again, but the music sounded terrible.

It was then that the violinist spoke up in a very sad voice. “I’m sorry. This is all my fault. I thought I was so important that I didn’t need the help of the toe-tapper. I was wrong!”

So he led the way to the toe-tapper’s house and asked him to come back with them. The toe-tapper agreed and once again the music was beautiful.

Then, on Sunday, they played their music in church. God looked down and smiled.

I think he even winked at the toe-tapper.

Who is the Toe-Tapper in your life?
Youth, we have been assured, is wasted on the young. The older I get...and older I am getting...the more I understand this important adage. While things were happening in my teens that seemed to be overwhelming, I was too absorbed in my own little world to realize all of the people who were going out of their way to help me. My parents especially took the brunt of my unappreciative nature, as did most of my family and some of my teachers. One person who was probably in the middle was Jim Volkland.

When I started my freshman year at St. Mary’s High School in Manhasset, I had dreams of making the basketball team. I had played for two years at St. Boniface in Sea Cliff, so I thought I had somewhat of a shot. Two minutes into the tryouts, I realized that I had probably played my last game for a school team, but I still wanted to somehow be involved. I spoke with Brother Kenneth Robert FMS, the Athletic Director at the school, and he said I could be the freshman team manager; it was up to the coach. That meant that I would go to all the practices, keep score at the games, and do whatever else the coach might need. The next day Brother Kevin introduced me to the Freshman Coach, Mr. Volkland, we spoke, and he gave me the job.

Mr. Volkland was young, a former pitcher at St. John’s University, and just beginning his career in education. As it turned out, I would also be his manager for the next three years as coaching turnovers eventually landed him the varsity job. I enjoyed my time with him and developed a certain level of confidence in myself over the years. So much so, that I was the basketball manager at Providence College at a time when they were a national power...and at a time when my whole life changed.

I am not sure why, but I never felt a closeness to many people at St. Mary’s. I went to my 35th reunion, recognized very few people, and decided it was probably my last visit to the school. I am still on the mailing list, however, and send a contribution each year. This entitles me to notices of upcoming events and last spring I read that Mr. Volkland was going into the St. Mary’s Hall of Fame. I decided I would attend.

Having not seen him in over 50 years and fearing I may not get a chance to speak with him let alone be remembered, I brought a letter which basically thanked him for the chance he gave me as a freshman and explained the many doors it opened over the years that followed. When I approached him, he remembered me right away, and I had to chance to thank him in person for what he did for me so long ago.

Last weekend I went to his wake as his valiant fight with cancer had finally ended. I introduced myself to his wife, explained who I was, and found it surprising that she had heard my story. Seizing that chance to say thank you had made a big difference.

For both of us.

PRAYER

Provident God, You give us many opportunities to do the right thing or others which always turns out to be the right thing for ourselves. As we prepare for Advent, give us the Grace we need to recognize such chances and to act upon them. This we ask in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Stewardship...
Catholic Ministries Appeal

A few weeks ago a parishioner came up to me and asked how much more money we need in order to reach our Catholic Ministries Appeal goal. He said that whatever our parishioners give financially to the appeal from now until December, he would match it, up to $10,000.00, so we can reach our goal. This parishioner is giving a great gift for the sake of the ministries of the diocese and our own parish since we will then receive a rebate if we reach our goal. Our Appeal goal set by the diocese is $134,300.00. So far parishioners have pledged $116,259.00. We need $18,041.00 more to reach our goal. I invite you to please consider making a pledge to the Catholic Ministries Appeal which helps thousands in need here on Long Island. If you send your pledge directly into the diocese, please make sure you attach a note and write in the memo of your check that it is to be applied to St. Joseph’s Parish in Babylon.

Blessings Fr. Charles

CYO News...

CYO registration is now open for the 2017 Volleyball season for girls 5th - 12th grades. Visit the parish website, www.stjosephsbabylon.org, under Youth Ministry for details and sign up.

Please note these IMPORTANT DATES:

Saturday, December 3rd - Uniform fitting in the gym from 10am - 12pm
Saturday, December 17th - Sign up deadline. You will not be able to sign up after that date.

For more informations email Jennifer Weiss at jennifer127.jc@gmail.com.

We look forward to a great season!
**Intercesiones por la Vida**

Por aquellos cuyo trabajo contradice el Evangelio de la Vida, para que podamos amarlos lo suficiente para decir la verdad en la caridad y el amor;  
Oramos al Señor,  
Señor, escucha nuestra oración.

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**La Paz empieza con Nosotros**

El Adviento nos invita a buscar con corazón y alma, por la luz de la esperanza y la promesa de paz en un mundo oscurecido.  
En este tiempo de transición, oremos que Dios guíe a los líderes de nuestra nación:  
Oh Dios, damos gracias por el privilegio para expresar nuestro amor al prójimo con nuestro voto. Oramos por la unión y la sanidad en nuestro país y en el mundo. Oramos especialmente por los líderes recién elegidos a cargos políticos en nuestro país. Concédeles integridad y sabiduría para servir al bien común y proporcionar ayuda y oportunidad a las personas necesitadas. Aliéntanos mientras trabajamos con ellos para lograr el progreso hacia la justicia y la paz, que sabemos que es posible.  
En el nombre de Cristo, Amen.

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**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.  

**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:** Proximo Curso Prematrimonial 12 de febrero de 2017. Llame a Ruth y Salomón Aguilar @ 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 CRISTIANIDAD:** Los invita a vivir un fin de semana con Cristo. Tenemos Ultreya todos los domingos a las 12:30pm. en el Salón # 256. Mas información llame a Cristina Vera @ 631-327-6141.  

**RENOVACIÓN CARISMÁTICA:** 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 a 7:15 p.m. Para mas información llame a Ana Ramos. (631)617-2129.

**COMUNIDAD DE MARÍA:** 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)681-0005.

**COMITÉ:** 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. 12:30pm.  

**MONAGUILLOS:** Ver a Felipe y Claudia Rodas.

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**REFLEXIÓN**

“A la hora que no esperes, vendrá el Hijo del Hombre”, dice el Evangelio de hoy. Los buenos comisarios saben que son Responsables ante Dios por todo lo que tienen y son y se esfuerzan por vivir preparados para Su venida.

Estamos agradecidos esta semana por los administradores en nuestra parroquia que usan la temporada del Adviento no sólo para preparase para la venida de Cristo, sino para reconocerlo más de cerca en el aquí y ahora.
La palabra ADVIENTO es de origen latín y quiere decir VENIDA. Es el tiempo en que los cristianos nos preparamos para la venida de Jesucristo. El tiempo de adviento abarca cuatro semanas antes de Navidad. Una costumbre significativa y de gran ayuda para vivir este tiempo es La corona o guirnalda de Adviento, es el primer anuncio de Navidad.

**Origen:** La corona de adviento encuentra sus raíces en las costumbres pre-cristianas de los germanos (Alemania). Durante el frío y la oscuridad de diciembre, colectaban coronas de ramas verdes y encendían fuegos como señal de esperanza en la venida de la primavera. Pero la corona de adviento no representa una concesión al paganismo sino, al contrario, es un ejemplo de la cristianización de la cultura. Lo viejo ahora toma un nuevo y pleno contenido en Cristo. El vino para hacer todas las cosas nuevas.

**Nueva realidad:** Los cristianos supieron apreciar la enseñanza de Jesús: Juan 8,12: «Yo soy la luz del mundo; el que me siga no caminará en la oscuridad, sino que tendrá la luz de la vida.». La luz que prendemos en la oscuridad del invierno nos recuerda a Cristo que vence la oscuridad. Nosotros, unidos a Jesús, también somos luz: Mateo 5,14 «Vosotros sois la luz del mundo. No puede ocultarse una ciudad situada en la cima de un monte."

En el siglo XVI católicos y protestantes alemanes utilizaban este símbolo para celebrar el adviento: Aquellas costumbres primitivas contenían una semilla de verdad que ahora podía expresar la verdad suprema: Jesús es la luz que ha venido, que está con nosotros y que vendrá con gloria. Las velas anticipan la venida de la luz en la Navidad: Jesucristo.

La corona de adviento se hace con follaje verde sobre el que se insertan cuatro velas. Tres velas son violeta, una es rosa. El primer domingo de adviento encendemos la primera vela y cada domingo de adviento encendemos una vela más hasta llegar a la Navidad. La vela rosa corresponde al tercer domingo y representa el gozo. Mientras se encienden las velas se hace una oración, utilizando algún pasaje de la Biblia y se entonan cantos. Esto lo hacemos en las misas de adviento y también es recomendable hacerlo en casa, por ejemplo antes o después de la cena. Si no hay velas de esos colores aún se puede hacer la corona ya que lo más importante es el significado: la luz que aumenta con la proximidad del nacimiento de Jesús quien es la Luz del Mundo. La corona se puede llevar a la iglesia para ser bendecida por el sacerdote.

**La corona de adviento encierra varios simbolismos:**

**La forma circular:** El círculo no tiene principio ni fin. Es señal del amor de Dios que es eterno, sin principio y sin fin, y también de nuestro amor a Dios y al prójimo que nunca debe de terminar.

**Las ramas verdes:** Verde es el color de esperanza y vida. Dios quiere que esperemos su gracia, el perdón de los pecados y la gloria eterna al final de nuestras vidas. El anhelo más importante en nuestras vidas debe ser llegar a una unión más estrecha con Dios, nuestro Padre.

**Las cuatro velas:** Nos hacen pensar en la obscuridad provocada por el pecado que ciega al hombre y lo aleja de Dios. Después de la primera caída del hombre, Dios fue dando poco a poco una esperanza de salvación que iluminó todo el universo como las velas la corona. Así como las tinieblas se disipan con cada vela que encendemos, los siglos se fueron iluminando con cada vez más cercana llegada de Cristo a nuestro mundo. Son cuatro velas las que se ponen en la corona y se prenden de una en una, durante los cuatro domingos de adviento al hacer la oración en familia.

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