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 Eucharist

Sunday Mass Schedule
Saturday Vigil - 5:00pm Church
Sunday Church - 7:00am, 8:45am,
10:15am, 12:00pm, 5:00pm
Nolan Hall - 9:30am
Nolan Hall - 11:30am -
Misa Dominical Español

Weekday Mass Schedule
Mon. to Fri. - 7:45am, 9:00am Church
Saturday - 9:00am Church

Welcome to all New Parishioners. We invite you to register at the Parish Office.

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.

December 11, 2016 ~ Third Sunday of Advent
At this Mass, we remember:

**Monday, December 12**

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab, Lk 1:26-38 or 1:39-47

7:45 Rosalie Salerno  
9:00 Mildred Fagan

**Tuesday, December 13**

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13, Mt 21:28-32

7:45 James & Anna McGroggan  
9:00 Mary E. Meyer

**Wednesday, December 14**

Is 45:6b – 8, 18, 21b-25, Lk 7:18b-23

7:45 Anthony Scheriff  
9:00 Immaculata DeMarco

**Thursday, December 15**

Is 54:1 – 10, Lk 7:24-30

7:45 Anthony Scheriff  
9:00 Rita Passaro & Dennis O'Donnell

**Friday, December 16**

Is 56:1 – 3a, 6-8, Jn 5:33-36

7:45 Andrew D’Orta  
9:00 Deacon Geoffrey Aniansel

**Saturday, December 17**

Gn 49:2, 8-10, Mt 1:1-17

9:00 Intentions of Deborah Rentz

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

4:00 Confessions Today  
Fr. Charles

5:00 Thomas Sheehan  
Fr. Francis

Deseased members of the Langan Family  
Stella Yannucci

**Sunday, December 18 ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Is 7:10-14, Ps 24:1-6, Rom 1:1-7, Mt 1:18–24

7:00 James Simmons  
Fr. Joe

8:45 Stella Tomaselli  
Fr. Charles

9:30 Maria & Vittorio Mastrocola  
Fr. Ethel

10:15 Attilio, Domenic & Ventura Families  
Fr. Charles

12:00 Encarnacion Culpepper  
Fr. Ethel

5:00 People of St. Joseph  
Fr. Francis

Reflection for Today

Each of us has his or her own role to play in the coming of the Kingdom of God. John the Baptist was called to be the herald of the Messiah, preparing the way of the Lord. To what is the Lord calling me?
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you to all who helped make our parish Advent mission this past week a success. Fr. Tony Stanganelli, Pastor of St. Brigid Church in Westbury, was the speaker and he truly inspired us. He invited us to have a contemplative heart like Mary in order to receive the fullness of God’s presence in the empty places of our lives. Our complete awareness of God with us, within us, is what changes everything for us. It changes how we deal with situations and people, it changes how I feel and what I think.

This weekend, December 10\11, we have Christians from the Holy Land (Bethlehem) selling Olive Wood Carvings in the gymnasium. All the money from the sale goes to help the Christians who are suffering in the Holy Land. A representative will be speaking after communion at all the Masses.

Monday, December 12\th is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, so in honor of this feast there is a large image of our Lady in the sanctuary. This is exactly what she looked like as she appeared to Juan Diego (a 57 year old man) at Tepeyac hill near Mexico City in December, 1531. How do we know this is how she looked when she appeared to him? This is how. On his way to Mass on December 9\th, the feast of the Immaculate Conception, Juan Diego saw an apparition of a beautiful young girl surrounded by light. Everything around her was glistening. She told him of her love for the people of Mexico and asked that the local Bishop build a chapel or church on the spot where she had appeared so people can come and pray. Juan then went to the Bishop and explained Mary’s request but the Bishop, who did not believe Juan Diego, said he would need a heavenly sign in order to believe.

During the next apparition Juan expressed his sadness to our Lady that because the Bishop did not believe him, the chapel won’t be built. He said to her that she needed to find someone else more influential to deal with the Bishop. Our Lady said, No, I want to work through you. I have chosen you. Mary also saw Juan’s troubled heart regarding the sickness of his uncle. She said to him: “Listen and put into your heart, my dearest son, that the thing that disturbs you, the thing that afflicts you, is nothing. Do not let your countenance, your heart be troubled. Do not fear this sickness of your uncles or any other sickness, nor anything that is sharp or hurtful. Am I not here, I, who am your Mother? Are you not under my shadow and protection? Am I not the source of your joy? Are you not in the hollow of my mantle, in the crossing of my arms? Do you need anything more? Let nothing else worry you, disturb you.” She says this to us as well.

Our Lady then promised she would give him a sign that would convince the Bishop. Mary asked Juan Diego to go to the top of the hill and pick the miraculous, out-of-season flowers that were there. So he went and picked them and laid them horizontally in his tilma (almost like a modern day poncho). Our Lady then arranged the flowers in his tilma and told him to lift up the mantle so the flowers wouldn’t fall and bring them to the Bishop, and not to show anyone along the way what he had in his tilma, show only the Bishop. Once he arrived to the Bishops residence, he told the Bishop that he had the sign from our Lady (he thought it was the out-of-season flowers). When Juan dropped the edge of his tilma, the flowers fell to the ground, but the Bishop fell to his knees when he saw the image of our Lady imprinted on Juan’s tilma. Juan had no idea what happened until he saw the reaction of the Bishop.

The tilma has been studied by Kodak and many other companies through the years to see what it is that makes up the image on his burlap tilma. Everyone comes to the same conclusion: it is nothing earthly that we can explain. It’s no earthly substance. This was not done by man. As a result of Juan Diego allowing our lady to work through him, over 6 million Aztecs converted to the faith. They stopped sacrificing their children to their pagan gods because they came to understand that Mary gave her child Jesus as the sacrifice offered for our sins to God. The image of our Lady was a hieroglyphic for them, it spoke volumes to the Aztecs. In the image Mary is pregnant and she stands on the moon and is blocking the rays of the sun, which said to them that this earthly woman comes from heaven but is more powerful than our moon and sun god. Yet, her head is bowed in prayer and hands are folded so she is not a god herself. They took seriously the message of our Lady and so much more that she said. The image of our Lady in the sanctuary is a photograph of the actual tilma of Juan Diego. He was canonized a saint by Pope John Paul in 2002.

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, Pastor
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 Fri. 9:00am to 4:00pm

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.

Blood Drive

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting the Parish’s Annual Winter Blood Drive in the O'Connell Room of the Parish Hall on Thursday, December 29 from 3 to 9 pm. Please come if you can as blood is in short supply.

There will be Free Meatball Heroes for all donors.
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.

Sacrificial Giving

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

Actual Collection $24,209.00
Budgeted Collection $25,923.00
(-1,714.00)

God Bless You!

Parish News

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, December 12th from 5pm - 7pm. Thank you!

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.

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

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
Sgt Edwin Zambrano
PFC Dominick Pittito
Capt. Stephen Scuderi
PFC Mark Ospina
Lt. Joseph A. Vangerveldt, II
2LT Anthony C. DiBiasi
PV2 Alexandra Diaz

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

Please Join us for
THE MESSIAH CONCERT THAT BENEFITS THE
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.
Memorial Poinsettias

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

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

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

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

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**The closing date is Monday Dec. 22 at noon.**

Please drop off your donation and order form to the Parish Office, or put it in the collection by the weekend of Dec. 18th.

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

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**Poinsettia Order Form**

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

Please print: In Memory of:

______________________________________________

______________________________________________

______________________________________________

Requested by:

______________________________________________

(Name of Benefactor) ____________________________ (Phone Number)
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.

Catholic Ministries Appeal 2016: Loving Others as Christ Would

Memorials:

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.

Please: Make a Difference in Someone’s Life by donating to the Catholic Ministries Appeal.

Parish: ___________________________  Pledge: ______
Name: ___________________________  Down payment: ______
Address: ___________________________
City, State, Zip: ________________________________
Phone: ___________________________
Signature: ___________________________  Date: ______

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EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

AN EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE IN PREPARATION FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE
(WITH CONFESSION AND RECONCILIATION)
ST. JOSEPH CHURCH - BABYLON, N.Y.

I. IN RELATION TO GOD:

1. Have I faithfully prayed my morning & evening prayers? Do I encourage others to pray to God each day?

2. Have I used all the time and talents that God has given me in the most beneficial ways?

3. Have I kept the Lord’s Day holy by coming to Mass each week?

4. Do I come on time for Mass, and stay for the entire Mass, and sing and pray actively during Mass?

5. Have I always spoken respectfully of God and holy things? Have I taken God’s name in vain in any way?

6. Have I put my relationship with God before my relationships with other persons, family members, employers, and those in lawful authority? Have I served money, power, sexuality or any other lesser good as if it were the supreme good to be sought? Do I ever allow other people or relationships or objects to come before God?

7. Have I spoken to others about the wonders that God has done for me? Or do I think that my faith is just a private relationship between God and I that involves no one else?

8. Do I work and pray and act to spread God’s justice on earth, as a person of virtue and true Christian values?

9. Have I turned over my will to God in times of trouble, tragedy, sickness, and in my everyday life? Do I renew my surrender to God each day in prayer, and truly try to live the words “Thy will be done?”

10. Have I faithfully prayed for and practiced the virtues of faith, hope and love?

II. IN RELATION TO MY NEIGHBOR:

1. Have I shown respect in speech and action toward my superiors, parents or employers, and all others?

2. Have I been patient toward others who have pointed out one of my faults? Have I honestly tried to correct those faults? Have I accepted good advice when it was offered to me?

3. Have I offended or threatened anyone through my words or my actions?

4. Have I held the reputation of every person as a sacred trust, or have I lessened someone’s reputation by speaking any sort of detraction or slander against him or her?

5. Have I devalued others because of the way I treated them or spoken to them? Have I given scandal to others by teaching or encouraging them to devalue others in speech or action?

6. Have I refused to carry stories about other people to my friends and neighbors? Or do I continue to spread gossip, so that I contribute to discord and misunderstanding between neighbors?

7. Have I encouraged others to practice Christian virtues? Or have I enjoyed or encouraged provoking others to swear, to curse, or in any ways to offend God?
EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

AN EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE - ST. JOSEPH CHURCH – BABYLON, NY

8. Do I recognize the dignity of every human person? Do I mock or make fun of others because they have physical or spiritual imperfections or disabilities?

9. Do I speak up in the name of justice when I see or learn that something wrong is happening at work, at school, at home? Do I remain silent when bad things happen to others, because I am afraid of what others will think about me?

10. Do I generously share with others the gifts of time, talent and treasure? Am I consciously grateful for all that I have received from God’s generosity?

11. Do I try to bring peace into my home, my recreational group, my extended family?

12. Do my words and actions toward others confirm that I believe in the goodness of all people, regardless of their race, nationality, belief systems or gender?

13. Have I taken things that do not belong to me, and have I made restitution for all that I have stolen? Have I given credit to others whose ideas I use, or I take their ideas and pass them off as my own?

III. IN RELATION TO MYSELF:

1. Am I actively engaged in my parish, committed to the mission of Jesus Christ as it is communicated in homilies, publications and meetings?

2. Have I made progress in listening to the thoughts and opinions of others, or are my thoughts and opinions always the only correct ones?

3. Do I apologize to others for the wrongs I have done, and make proper restitution for the damage that my actions have caused others?

4. Am I a vain person? Do I need constant affirmation to feel good about myself? Is my physical appearance the standard I use to judge my value or worth? Have I taken pleasure in hearing myself praised, or yielded to thoughts of vanity?

5. Have I overindulged myself in food, drink or sensuality? Do I have trouble knowing when “enough is enough” for myself? Have I acknowledged and obtained help for all my addictions?

6. Is my conversation a positive and civil exchange with others? Or am I proud or troublesome to others?

7. Have I wasted time in selfish play? Or have I deliberately wasted time on activities of lesser importance, knowing full well that there were activities of major importance that would not be accomplished?

8. Have I harbored hatred within my heart, holding onto hurts, grudges and resentments to the detriment of my life and the lives of others?

9. Am I someone who is jealous of other peoples’ possessions, accomplishments or opportunities?

10. Do I safeguard the secrets that others entrust to me?

11. Do I remember that I am a child of God’s grace, and that God loves me unconditionally at all times?
The following student parishioners have earned Honor Roll status during the first quarter of the school year 2016 at St. John the Baptist High School. Congratulations, we are very proud of you and pray that God will continue to bless your studies.

Peace and blessings,
Father Charles

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The Sociable Singles

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.

Diocese of Rockville Centre Wants You To Know

As the Church community enters into this Advent season we are called to a period of watchful longing and preparation in anticipation of the birth of Jesus on Christmas day. I liken Advent to an extended vigil period wherein we wait, we pray and we are aware-aware of the subtle movements of grace in our hearts. A characteristic of a vigil is that of protection. We do this often-perhaps not even aware we are sitting vigil. Parents who wait through the night with a child who is ill; those who sit at the bedside of a loved one who is preparing for the greatest of transitions-to eternal life after death I suggest the many times we help our children prepare the night before for a test is a vigil. And what of the expectant parents? Is not their wait one of vigil? Praying and protecting the new life within? And so, vigils are intentional, purposeful and prayerful.

As we prepare to welcome the infant Jesus on Christmas day, it is important to consider the measures the Church has implemented, and continues to enforce, in order to keep safe those most vulnerable among us-the children. We have learned from the tragic mistakes of the past-and now we are called to maintain a vigil-to insure the safety of children in our community. To this end, in 2005, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has written The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. The Charter, approved by the full body of bishops outlines the policies and procedures all Dioceses are to implement in their efforts to protect children. Copies of The Charter are available in the rectory or by contacting the Office for the Protection of Children and Young People (516-678-5800 X.507). In response to the directives set forth in The Charter, the Diocese of Rockville Centre has implemented programs, policies and procedures which every parish, throughout the Diocese, must adhere too. It is important to remember these regulations were established by the USCCB and it is our obligation as faithful members of the community to abide by these. Some of these directives may be familiar to you:

- All employees and volunteers must attend the Virtus program: Protecting God's Children
- All employees and volunteers must sign Codes of Conduct—which outline expected behaviors of those in ministry.
- Volunteers complete a Volunteer Application/Employees complete and Employment Application.
- Consent to be background screened—with this the USCCB acknowledged that historical information is important to the protection of children.
- Established a 24 hour confidential hotline number: 516-594-9063. Anyone suspecting abuse by someone affiliated with the Church is urged to call the hotline. Calls are confidential and responded to within 24 hours.

We were reminded that a vigil is characterized by waiting, by protecting and by prayer. Let us remember that the Vigil to keep all children safe is on-going and requires the diligence of all.

Mary McMahon, LCSW Office for the Protection of Children/Young People
Thank you for your Food Pantry Donations!

Our Food Pantry is most in need of these items:
- Personal Hygiene Items
- Coffee
- Apple Juice
- Mayonnaise
- Jelly
- 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.

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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!

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Thrift Shop Sale News

All Clothing, Toys & Christmas - 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!

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St. Vincent de Paul

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

Members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society are busy over the next few weeks preparing for our Christmas food distribution. Families will be given additional food and a grocery store food cards to enjoy over the Christmas holiday. We are grateful for your donations that enable us to purchase these food cards.
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: **631-587-4717**.

Level 1 students are expected to attend any Mass the weekend of December 17 & 18th to receive a blessing and we are asking that you bring a donation for the parish food pantry. Please see the Parish Outreach page to find out what their needs are at this time. Please remember to bring your Mass attendance envelopes and print first and last names clearly.

The Faith Formation Office will be closed beginning Thursday, December 23rd through Monday, January 2nd for the Christmas break. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 3rd at 9am. We would like to wish everyone a wonderful Christmas season and a new year filled with many good graces.

My unique Good Deed for the week was: Madison was being thankful, Finn & Jack shared their popcorn with their mom without being asked or told, Nick saved his sister’s dog who was having seizures, Michael & Gianna cooked desert for their mom and Matteo donated toys to Toys 4 Tots.
Enjoy a Blessed Advent Season.

Grade 9—12: High School Meeting Monday 12/12, 12/19 (7—8:30pm) Madonna Room

Grade 6,7,8: Middle School will meet Wednesday 12/14 (7:30-8:30pm) in Room 260—please bring donations for Outreach Gifts, Christmas wrapping paper and if you can an empty shoebox.

In preparing for Christmas our Teens are putting together Gifts for the homeless of our area. Can you help us with supplies?

- Adult-sized warm gloves
- Men’s/Women’s Warm Socks
- Chapstick
- Small hand lotion
- Pocket-sized tissues
- Granola Bars
- Cereal Bars
- Christmas Candy
- Handwarmers
- Snack size canned fruit and pudding

Movie night for Grade 6—12: Friday 12/16
“ELF” 6:30pm -9:00 pm
All are asked to bring a snack to share and a donation for Outreach (see list above) RSVP ON THE WEBSITE. PARENT HELP NEEDED.

PBJ GANG will not be meeting in December.

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

Middle School Youth Group—Bible Scavenger Hunt!
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”

The Junior Catholic Daughters will be having their annual cell phone collection drive beginning Dec. 17 thru Jan. 10. We are asking anyone receiving a new phone from Santa to please donate their old phone to help women in need. Verizon wipes out the info and enables the phones to dial 911 only. These phones are then distributed to women who have been victims of domestic abuse so they can receive immediate help in a crisis. Festively wrapped collection boxes will be located in the back of the church, at the back of Nolan Hall, and outside the parish office.

The JCDA is thankful for your support. We wish all our parish family a joyous Christmas Season!

Catholic Daughters of the Americas - Court Bishop McDonnell #1403

Save the Date for the Birthright Baby Shower January 11, 2017. All are welcome! More information to follow.

Thinking of joining CDA contact me for more info: Dorothy Buckley @ 631-539-8522.
Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Recently I was away on retreat at a Cistercian monastery in the hills of Massachusetts, St. Joseph Abbey. This is a very special place for me, the proverbial holy ground we often sing about. The abbey sits on a hilltop surrounded by lush green rolling hills as far as the eye can see. I revel in the atmosphere: the hills, the scenery, the wildlife (as one drives up the path to the monastery numerous wild turkeys can be seen. The monks are vegetarians and I’m pretty sure the turkeys know this and choose this place to live) and especially the QUIET. All one hears is the wind, the birds and the occasional bell tolling calling all to prayer.

I’ve been visiting the abbey for twenty years and this is the first time I was given a small cottage to stay at, a kind of hermitage to spend the week with our Lord. I had chosen a book for the week entitled Crucifixion, written by a Protestant priest, Mrs. Fleming Rutledge. There are subtle, and not so subtle theological differences we Roman Catholics have with our Protestant sisters and brothers but overall this is a good book. However, there is one major theme in the book that troubled me: the wrath of God. I’ve done quite a bit of study on this alleged aspect of our God and talked with a few noted theologians about it such as the internationally renowned theologian and archeologist Fr. Leslie Hoppe, OFM. This week I decided to discuss the wrath of God with one of the Trappist monks so I sought out Fr. Emmanuel, a Cistercian with the Order for 33 years.

I explained to Fr. Emmanuel my view of our God has continued to develop and grow throughout my life up to this very moment. He nodded encouraging me to continue to seek, to discover the infinite/transcendent God of creation (I love the story of St. Thomas Aquinas. It is told that the Angelic Doctor went into a trance once at his writing desk and when he came out of the trance he began to gather up all his writings and throw them in the fire. As his secretary retrieved the works he cried out asking Thomas what he was doing. Thomas replied, God had just given him a glimpse of the Wisdom that is God and that all he had written about God was trash worthy only of the fire compared to this Wisdom). I told Father I don’t view our God as an angry God, a wrathful God. I believe when the ancient authors of the Scriptures spoke of an angry God they were attributing natural phenomena such as famines, earthquakes, invading armies, etc. to the wrath of God. I do believe that when we humans with the free will given us by God choose to ignore God, ignore the natural law, and choose to push God away creation rebels in turmoil, thus the increase of destructive phenomena. I believe there’s a symbiotic relationship between the Creator and creation: we human beings NEED to be in relationship with our Creator.

“You see, Father”, I spoke, “I view our God as I understand myself, my role as a husband and especially as a father and grandfather. I love my wife and our children and grandchildren. I’d give my life in a heartbeat for any and all of my family. And I could never stop loving them. Oh, there have been moments where I was deeply disappointed with one of our children, moments where I became upset. But I never stopped loving them. And I’m human, a sinner; my love is in no way a perfect love. God is PERFECT LOVE! And”, I continued, “Jesus is God Incarnate. He told us this truth (John 14:9). And He never stopped loving: ANYONE! There are moments we see him angry, particularly with the religious leaders, hypocrites He called them. But even these He loved (Matt. 23:37). And from the Cross He cried out asking His Father to forgive His executioners. This IS Perfect Love,” I concluded. “A God who loves us at every moment of our lives!”

Fr. Emmanuel was smiling the entire time I spoke. As I concluded he leaned forward, blessed me and said, “Go in peace. Your faith is saving you.”

Deacon Barry
ANDY’S ADVENTURE

It is an interesting story of how we got together, but I had a college roommate when I was a sophomore named Andy. He was bright, neat, and a bit shy. Like they say, opposites attract. It was an interesting year, and we forged a friendship that has lasted to this day. We do not see each other all that often, but we’ve kept in touch since the advent of emails and speak to each other at least once a year. In fact, I just spoke to him last week, and he told me a very interesting story...especially for him.

To best understand what happened, you should know that Andy, though polite, generous in spirit, and somewhat thoughtful, can best be described as being quite reserved. Once you get to know him, you will be able to have great conversations, but it takes a while to break the ice with Andy...even for a roommate. With that as a background, I will relate his experience in his words, as best I can remember.

“You won’t believe what I did the other day, because, frankly, I don’t believe it happened myself. I was in a store to get a small item which I eventually found. There was one aisle opened, even though the line was long. There was one employee not far from another aisle, and I wondered why she couldn’t open a register. She looked somewhat upset, harried in fact. Then the manager appeared and told that employee to open her register and pointed to me to go there. Here’s where it gets crazy. For reasons I still don’t understand, I put my item on the belt, looked at her, and said, ‘I think you should smile more.’ She stared at me in silence. After a few seconds I said again, ‘I think you should smile.’ Now she replied, ‘It’s hard to smile when all you do is worry. I don’t have a lot of money.’ Somehow I said, ‘Everyone thinks they don’t have enough money. I guarantee you that if you smile, everything will be okay.’ A silent stare. Seconds went by. ‘Really?’ she shyly uttered. ‘I guarantee it,’ I managed to say. She rang me up and said, ‘You mean to tell me that you saw me, followed me over here, and knew exactly what to say?’ ‘That’s how it works,’ I said. I picked up my change and said, ‘Just smile.’ Can you believe I did that, Beam?’

“As a matter of fact, Andy, I can. That’s how GOD works.”

We may not be brave enough to approach strangers, but there might be others in our everyday lives that need a pat on the back, a kind word, a heartfelt hug. We are preparing for the Person Who embraced the entire world and Who remains available to all of us to provide His Counsel when needed. Let Him work through us to help those in most need...just as Andy did.

PRAYER

God of Light, today we take pause to rejoice in knowing that Your Coming is now near, and we can continue to prepare for the arrival of the Prince of Peace with joyful anticipation. Give us the Grace that we need to support others in their quest to find You, especially those who sometimes find it difficult to know how close You really are. Bless the friendships that we have developed and keep them strong. This we ask in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Stewardship Sound Byte

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who know that each of us has a specific role to fulfill in the building of God’s Kingdom and seek to discover it.
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 $117,009.00. We need $17,291.00 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

PROFESSIONAL THERAPY AND COUNSELING

Professional therapy, provided by New York State licensed therapists including therapists who specialize in Bereavement, Bipolar Disorders and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, is available to our parish and 147 other parishes. This program, under the direction of Dr. George Giuliani, has been conducted in the diocese for the past 41 years for the convenience of parishioners. It is provided by the Catholic Counseling Center, a proprietary professional corporation, which is independent of and not controlled or supervised by the parish or diocese. Most insurance policies, including Medicare, are honored. We are currently looking for licensed therapists in Nassau, Suffolk and Queens. For confidential information and appointments, please call Dr. Giuliani at the Catholic Counseling Center at (631) 243-2503 or go to our website at http://www.thecatholiccounselingcenter.com.

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.

Saturday, December 17th - Sign up deadline. You will not be able to sign up after that date.

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

We look forward to a great season!

Be a Hero! Volunteer Today

Would you like to help seniors in your community?

Willing Hearts, Helpful Hands Program Needs You!

This is an opportunity for you to make a difference in your community by helping family caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias throughout Long Island.

Willing Hearts, Helpful Hands is a unique program that helps caregivers keep loved ones in the comfort of their own home for as long as possible and eases the stress associated with being a caregiver.

Volunteers will receive free ongoing training and a monthly $50 living allowance.

To find out how to lend your helpful hands, contact us today.

Telephone: (516) 586-1507 or email: WHHH@parkerinstitute.org
REFLEXION
Cada uno de nosotros tiene su propio papel que hacer en la venida del Reino de Dios. San Juan el Bautista fue llamado el heraldo del Mesías, preparando el camino del Señor. ¿A qué me llama el Señor?

Estamos agradecidos esta semana por todos los administradores de nuestra parroquia que saben que cada uno de nosotros tiene un papel específico que cumplir en la construcción del Reino de Dios y tratar de descubrirlo.

Intercesiones por la Vida
Que en esta época de amor del recién nacido, todos los hombres y todas las mujeres puedan reafirmarse en la defensa de toda vida humana desde la concepción hasta la muerte natural; Oramos al Señor:
Señor, escucha nuestra oración.

La Paz empieza con Nosotros

En este mundo, esta dementada posada, donde no hay lugar para Él en absoluto, Cristo ha venido sin ser invitado. 
El no puede estar en su casa, porque Él está fuera de lugar en ella, y sin embargo debe estar en ella. Su lugar es con los otros, que no pertenecen, que son rechazados por el poder, porque son considerados débiles, aquellos que están desacreditados, a quienes se les niega la condición de personas. Con aquellos para los que no hay sitio, Cristo está presente en este mundo.

Thomas Merton
Monje Trapista Católico Americano, Autor, místico, activista social

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.


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: Próximas clases Pre-Matrimoniales: Sábado, 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.

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

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

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

COMUNIDAD DE MARIA: Siguiendo los mensajes de María Reina de la Paz y sobre temas de María en general) - Sábados de 7:00pm-9:00pm. Comunicarse con Adriana Mascari, al (631)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. 12:30pm

MONAGUILLOS O ACOLITOS: Ver a Felipe y Claudia Rodas. Deben haber recibido la Primera Comunión.
Horario de Navidad 2016

Posadas
Jueves, 15 de diciembre de 2016
7:30pm
(Salón O’Connell)

Sacramento de Reconciliación
Sábado, 17 de diciembre de 2016
3:00 - 4:00PM
(Iglesia Mayor)

Vigilia de Navidad
Sábado, 24 de diciembre de 2016
6:30pm
(Salón Nolan)

Día de Navidad
Domingo, 25 de diciembre de 2016
11:30am
(Salón Nolan)

Vigilia de Fin de Año
Sábado, 31 de diciembre de 2016
6:30pm
(Salón Nolan)

Día de Año Nuevo
Domingo, 1 de enero de 2017
11:30am
(Salón Nolan)