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,
Resident/Associate
Deacon Michael J. Leyden
Deacon John F. Sullivan
Deacon Julio Murillo
Deacon Stephen Yusko
Dr. Marie Drohan, Music Director
Mrs. Barbara McNulty, Youth Minister
Ms. Claire Moulé, Faith Formation
Mrs. Patricia Taggart, Nursery School
Mrs. Sigrid Villalobos A., Parish Social Ministry
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
Nolan Hall - 9:30am- Family Mass
11:30am (en Espanol)
5:00pm (English)
Weekday Mass Schedule
Mon. to Fri. - 7:45am, 9:00am Church
Saturday - 9:00am Church

December 17, 2017 ~ Third Sunday of Advent

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.
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Begins

I am happy to share that Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will begin this Monday, December 18th at 7:00am. This is what the Adoration schedule in the Divine Mercy Chapel will be:

Monday, 7am to 10pm
Tuesday, 8am to 10pm
Thursday, 8:00am to Saturday 1am.

There will be NO adoration on Monday, December 25 (Christmas) or Monday, January 1st (New Year's Day). It will resume on the Tuesday following each holiday.

All Adorers will be receiving a phone call to be given the access code for entrance into the Chapel. The Chapel is located behind the St. Joseph Outreach Center. The statue of the Sacred Heart is next to the Chapel entrance. To the left of the door is a key pad at which you punch in the code to gain access into the Chapel entrance. This is for security purposes. Please do not give this code to anyone. If someone wants the code and is not already signed up for Adoration they are to call Janet at (631) 671-1696.

Feel free to invite your family and friends to consider spending this quality time with Jesus. One does not have to be a parishioner in order to do an hour of Adoration here at St. Joseph's. Please choose a time to be one on one with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. This will be your Holy Hour time each week. To sign-up or for more information call Janet at (631) 671-1696.

What do we do if there is a snow storm?

When we have some inclement weather, please call the parish office (631) 669-0068 extension 100 or log onto the parish website at www.stjosephsbabylon.org to check if Adoration has been cancelled. The Chapel will be on the same schedule as the parish center. If the center closes due to inclement weather so will the Divine Mercy Chapel.

Graces and blessings you can receive from Adoration

1. During Adoration “You are presenting to Christ all those who do not know Him or are far from Him. You keep watch in His presence on their behalf,” bringing down upon these souls in most need of God’s mercy the Precious Blood of the Lamb to obtain their conversion so they go to heaven to be with God for all eternity. Your Holy Hour deepens your union with Christ and brings great joy to His heart. It will make your soul everlastingly more glorious for all eternity.
2. Adoration blesses the Church with vocations by providing an atmosphere where the Lord calls forth those whom He desires for Priesthood or Religious Life.
3. Adoration “makes reparation for the great faults and crimes of the world.”
4. Adoration “gives you the peace that surpasses all understanding.”

Quotes from Saints and what they have to say about Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta:
“... The Eucharist is connected with the Passion…To make sure that we do not forget, Jesus gave us the Eucharist as a memorial of His love…When you look at the Crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you then, when you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loves you now.”
**John Henry Cardinal Newman:**
“A cloud of incense was rising on high: the people suddenly all bowed low; what could it mean? The truth flashed on Him, fearfully yet sweetly; it was the Blessed Sacrament—it was the Lord Incarnate who was on the altar, who had come to visit and bless His people. It was the Great Presence, which makes a Catholic Church different from every other place in the world; which makes it, as no other place can be—holy.”

**St. Therese of Lisieux:**
While a child, Therese had developed devotion to the Blessed Sacrament through daily visits with her father to a church in Lisieux. She tells us: “I especially loved the processions of the Blessed Sacrament. What joy to sow flowers under the steps of the Good God! But before letting them fall I tossed them as high as I could, and I was never as happy as seeing my rosy-leafed roses touching the sacred Monstrance.”

**St. Padre Pio:**
“A thousand years of enjoying human glory is not worth even an hour spent sweetly communing with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.”

**Catechism of the Catholic Church #1407**
“The Eucharist is the heart and the summit of the Church’s life, for in it Christ associates His Church and all her members with His sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving offered once for all on the cross to His Father; by this sacrifice, He pours out the graces of salvation on His Body, which is the Church.”

**St. John Bosco:**
“Trust all things to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and to Mary, Help of Christians and you will see what miracles are.”

**St. Faustina Kowalska:**
“O King of Glory, though You hide your beauty, yet the eye of my soul rends the veil. I see the angelic choirs giving you honor without cease.”

**St. John Vianney writes, “When we go before the Blessed Sacrament let us open our heart; our good God will open His. We shall go to Him; He will come to us, the one to ask, the other to receive. It will be like a breath from One to the other.”**

Jesus’ invitation to the apostles in the Garden of Gethsemane is the same for us today, *Could you not spend one hour with me?* We go to Adoration because Jesus invites us to be with Him in this kind of intimate way.

Over 600 parishioners signed-up to pray every day for a child in danger of abortion along with their parents that they may choose life. This weekend we celebrate the third month since the spiritual adoption. See the bulletin for the progress report.

Have a great week encountering the Father’s love and mercy. Remember, with Him in you, you can do the unthinkable, unimaginable and even forgive what you think is unforgiveable.

**Peace and blessings, Fr. Charles, Pastor**

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**Olive Wood Carvings**
Last year Christians from the Holy Land came to the parish and sold olive wood carvings from Bethlehem, Israel. The proceeds went to support the suffering Christians in the Holy Land who are now the minority. The Olive Wood sellers will be coming to the parish once again Saturday night, December 16th and all day Sunday, December 17th, in the gym.
During this Third Month, your spiritually adopted baby is quite active, although the mother won’t feel him or her for another couple of months. If the mother’s womb had a window, you could watch your baby squat, swallow and move his or her tongue. Since the brain has been developed to allow independent movement of limbs, the tiny infant can turn his or her head, curl and fan his or her toes and open and close his or her mouth with or without puckering the lips. His or her movements are more energetic and graceful and less mechanical, very much like an astronaut floating and enjoying his gravity-free space capsule. Your spiritually adopted baby has formed his or her own fingerprints. Fingernails and toenails appear, and the child’s genitals show a clear sexual differentiation and already contain primitive egg or sperm cells. The baby now sleeps, wakes, and breathes amniotic fluid regularly to exercise and develop the respiratory system. Nerve and muscle connections have increased threefold. This child is approximately two inches in length and now weighs one ounce.

This child is beginning to manifest a distinct individuality in appearance and behavior. Since the vocal cords are completed, we are told that the baby would even cry if he or she could, and indeed, does try to at times. This precious child is being formed by God. Let us continue to pray for the baby we have adopted that his or her parents will be empowered by God’s Spirit to choose life for their unborn child. Remember, the power of prayer is great!! Thank you for participating in this wonderful program for life. God thanks you, and your adopted child thanks you.

For those parents who have not chosen life for their unborn child, there is post-abortion counseling available (known as Project Rachel). This diocesan service helps to heal the emotional and spiritual scars caused by choosing abortion. The telephone number for this service is 888-456-HOPE. Please be assured of our prayers, and know that we are here to share with you the love, forgiveness and compassion of our God. If you would like to speak with one of the priests or go to the sacrament of reconciliation, please call the rectory at 631-669-0068.
At this Mass, we remember:

Monday, December 18
Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
7:45 Graciano & Catalina Argosino
9:00 Joseph Hallam

Tuesday, December 19
Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-6, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
7:45 Elizabeth Dowe
9:00 Paulie Labita

Wednesday, December 20
Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38
7:45 For the Intentions of Our Lady
9:00 Deacon Geoffrey Aniansel
Yolanda & Joseph Ciccio
Joseph Rodlugo

Thursday, December 21
Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
7:45 Joseph Rodlugo
9:00 Gloria Schulz

Friday, December 22
1 Sm 1:24-28; (Ps) 1 Sm 2:1, 4-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
7:45 Vincent & Rae Terracciano
9:00 Barbara Manukian

Saturday, December 23
Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4bc-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
9:00 Carole Lo Valvo-Joyce

Weekend Celebrations (barring last minute changes)
4:00 Confessions Today Fr. Joe, Fr. Francis, Fr. Ethel, Fr. Charles
5:00 Bradley Lent Joseph Padden
The Mastrocola Family
The Tenaglia Family

Sunday, December 24~Fourth Sunday of Advent
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38
7:00 Maryann Arcese Fr. Joe
8:45 James L. Simmons Fr. Francis
9:30 People of St. Joseph Fr. Charles
10:15 Brendan Lynch Fr. Ethel

Christmas Vigil Masses~ Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29;
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
4:00 {Church} The Scafuro, Wexler & Riccio Families
4:15 {Capilla} Encarnacion Culpepper
4:15 {Hall} Tom & Nancy Sheehan
6:00 {Church} Jason Rotzman
12:00 {Church} For the Fiorentine & Mangano Families
(Midnight)

Mass Schedule & Readings For The Coming Week:

Preparing for Marriage
Banns Posted

First Time ~
Jarett Gandolfo & Natalia Coppola

Second Time ~
Joseph Ruggiero & Danielle Cella
William Quinn & Samantha Butler

Third Time ~
Anthony Causi & Ashley Edge

For Our Sick
Please remember in your prayers the sick of our Parish: Robert Dobbins, Robert Semeraro, Marie Azicri, Monica Restrepo, Kristy Minningel, Thomas Cox, Joan Thorman, Marilyn Ann O’Hara, Isabel Sampson, Ignacio Guzman, Frank McCluskey, Sean Regan, Anne Aguís, Kathleen M. Elsner, Mary Jane Simmons, Evelyn Scalise, Mary Blasko, Charles Chertiza, Marcella Dwyer, Jenien Horner, Joy Lichten, Sandy Cardona, Norman Gomez, Brandon Davey, Raymond Meigel, Angela Colantrello, Mary Ellen Szewjkowski, Sabina Dojldiko, Dorila Cardozo, Marie Greer, Anthony Bertuglia, Marylou DeMeo, Arianna Messina, Anne Camarda, Ryan Finn, Robert W. Wolf, Leonor Martin, Silvio Gomez, Benjamin Negro, Millicent Wadsworth, Brenda Buffalino, Baby Ava James, Terry Wunder, Margaret Anne Crumlish, Fred Krasa, Edward Wolfe, Connie Sperling, Fran Di Palma, Jenn Di Palma, John Bradley, Barbara Whatshon, Nancy Ruff, Anna Marcellus & Gladys Decal.

Altar Rose
In Memory of Maryann Arcese

Bread & Wine for the Eucharist
In Memory of Joseph Hallam

Candles
In Honor of Robert Rotunno

For Our Deceased
Please pray for the families and souls of our deceased members Josephine Koehler, Mary F. Grover, Ralph A. Antonetti & John J. Pavlicko.

Reflection For Today
All of the people in today’s readings - the prophet Isaiah, the Virgin Mary, St. Paul, St. John the Baptist - seemed to understand clearly and rejoice in what God was calling them to be and to do. Do I?
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

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

Rosary
Every Monday at 8:20am we pray the Patriotic Rosary. Before the 9:00am Eucharist Tuesdays through Saturdays we pray the Rosary.

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

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.

Miraculous Medal Novena
We pray this at the 7:45am & 9am Mass every Tuesday.

Urgent Outreach Needs

Please Help
With the colder weather approaching Outreach is in Urgent need of the following items for the homeless

Men’s Winter Gloves
Warm Woolen Hats
Large and Extra Large Winter Coats
Cases of Water

BULLETIN SUBMISSION DATES

To allow for notices to be published in the bulletin please see the following dates for submission in upcoming bulletins:

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The general rule for bulletin submission is that bulletin notices should be submitted 10 days prior to the bulletin date except during the seasons of Advent and Lent when notices should be submitted 20 days prior to the bulletin date.

Thank you, Joanne Maher-Bulletin Editor

Prayers for Our Service Men & Women

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

U.S. Navy:
P03 Joshua D. Benoit
Lt.Cdr. Michael Catalano
Lt. John T. Izzo
Lt. Caroline Mayer
PO2 Kristen Tice
PO1 Rasheen Tice
MA2 William S. Murtha
SR Matthew Waldron

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

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

U.S. Army:
SPC Elliot Chodkowski
SSG Joshua Insull
LT John Kallo
SSG David C. Ray
Eric Stein
LT Jon J. ‘Ubel
PV2 Danny Bornschein
Sgt Edwin Zambrano
PFC Dominick Pittito
Capt. Stephen Scuderii
SPC Mark Ospina
LT Joseph A. Vrandeveld, III
2LT Anthony C. DiBiasi
PV2 Alexandra Diaz
2LT Mark Barbera

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

Sacrificial Giving

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

12/10/2017
Actual Collection $22, 662.00
Budgeted Collection $23,350.00
($688.00)

God Bless You!
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
E-mail: secretary@stjosephsbabylon.org
Mon. to Friday 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
Website: www.stjosephsbabylon.org

Hearing impaired parishioners may enjoy
Signed Mass at 12:30pm each Sunday at
Our Lady of Lourdes Church,
Hunter Avenue, West Islip

Parish Office News

The Parish Office will close at Noon on Christmas Eve, December 24th and will be closed on Christmas Day, December 25th.
The Parish Office will re-open on Tuesday, December 26th at 9:30 AM.

In Observation of New Year’s the Parish Office will close at Noon on New Year’s Eve, December 31st and will be closed on New Year’s Day January 1st.
The Parish Office will re-open on Tuesday, January 2nd at 9:30 AM.

New Saturday Office Hours

Beginning Saturday, January 6 the Parish Office Saturday hours will be 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

Eucharistic Minister Schedule

Eucharistic Minister Teams:
Weekend of December 16-17~ Team A
Weekend of December 23-24~ Team B
Christmas -December 25 ~ Team A

HOTLINE NUMBERS

Crisis Pregnancy Center (631) 243-2373
Post-Abortion Counseling (Project Rachel)
1-888-456 HOPE
National Human Trafficking 1-(888) 373-7888
Domestic Violence (Nassau County) Safe Housing (516) 542-0404 (24/7)
Domestic Violence (Suffolk County) Hotline & Shelter (631) 666-8833 (24/7)
Victims Information Bureau of Suffolk County (631) 360-3730
Suicide Prevention (Nassau County) (516) 679-1111
Suicide Prevention (Suffolk County) (631) 751-7500
Porn Addiction www.reclaimsexualhealth.com
New Parking Procedures in St. Joseph’s Parking Lot

In order to alleviate some of the recent parking congestion issues that frequently occur during weekdays in and around the Church parking lot, please note the following adjustments and changes being made:

- The majority of staff will now be parking in a designated area adjacent to Msgr. Nolan Hall on the southern end of the lot in order to free up spaces for parishioners and visitors.
- St. Joseph’s Nursery School has opened a second entry point for parents and caregivers to drop off and pick up their children in order to minimize the parking lines along N. Carll Avenue.
- Babylon High School staff will no longer be parking in the area behind the rectory garage and will park in the school lot on N. Carll Avenue, located directly across from the Church.
- Monitoring of the parish parking lot will take place during early morning and peak hours to prevent trespassers and unauthorized vehicles from using the lot. Babylon Village code enforcement will assist in ticketing cars, if necessary.

Please also note that we have also been assured by the Babylon Jr-Sr High School that, although the school parking lot on N. Carll Avenue will remain closed to all but school personnel and students on weekdays, this lot will remain open for use by St. Joseph parishioners and visitors to our Parish for weekend Masses.

We are grateful to Mr. Al Cirone, Principal, and the Babylon Jr-Sr High School administrative staff for their generosity in accommodating our parishioners as they come to worship.
**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. 18 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. 16/17**

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

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

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

Please print: In Memory of:

____________________________
____________________________
____________________________

Requested by:

____________________________ (Name of Benefactor)  ________________ (Phone Number)
**Catholic Daughters of the Americas**  
Court Bishop McDonnell 1403  

invites you to a **Baby Shower**  
for the benefit of **THE LIFE CENTER**  

on Wednesday, January 3rd, 2018  
in the O’Connell Room at 7:30 pm  
(door open at 7:00 pm)  

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

Please bring "new" baby items such as diapers, bottles, outfits and formula and you  
can place items in the bassinettes you will find in the Church, and Hall  
over the next few weeks.  
Unwrapped gifts please.  
No toys or stuffed animals, please.  

We also accept gently used, in good condition, strollers, car seats, play gym sets, etc.  

For additional information  
Dorothy Buckley @ 631-539-8522 or Lori Senatore @631-944-09232  

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**Sociable Single Seniors**  
is once again hosting a trip to  
Lincoln Center, NY  
to see  
Puccini’s Opera  
_Turandot_  

**Saturday, March 24, 2018**  
(1pm Matinee)  

Tickets are $159 for Rear Orchestra seats &  
$139 for Balcony Balance seats.  

**Trip Includes:**  
• Ticket to Turandot  
• Leisure Time at Lincoln Center  
• Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation  
• All Tips & Taxes (Except bus driver)  

Deposits are due December 28  
{$100 for Orchestra seats & $90 for Balcony seats}  

Call Lorraine DeCanditis for more information (631)-553-0160  

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**Knights of Columbus Blood Drive**  
Thursday, December 28, 2017  
3 PM to 9 PM  
in O’Connell Room  

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The most profound, challenging, and enduring emotional experience we will ever encounter is for most of us, the death of a loved one. Death shakes our foundations. Everything changes. We become filled with deep emotional and perhaps spiritual pain. We experience the full impact of our loved one’s death. We begin to grieve. It is indeed a blessing to have a companion for the mourner.

Over twenty years ago, I saw an article in the Long Island Catholic that described a new ministry in the diocese, installed at St. Elizabeth Parish called the “Ministry of Consolation.” I brought the information to Fr. Ron Richardson then pastor of St. Joseph’s. He wholeheartedly approved and we were off and running.

So for these twenty years now, our parish has experienced the gift of the Ministry of Consolation, who over that time have assisted families at some four thousand funerals for loved ones. The ministry has been well received by those served, as evidenced by the abundance of thank you notes received.

As moderator of the ministry along with its leaders, I wish to offer our profound thanks to all who have served so faithfully over the years. Just so you know, it is a diverse group: there are folks who bake a cake and deliver it with a condolence card from the Parish; coordinators who set the team in motion upon notification of a funeral; printers who prepare Mass booklets from the computer; Eucharistic Ministers who assist at the Masses; greeters who welcome and help with seating and are there with boxes of tissues for those in need; companions who meet with the family to help with the planning of the funeral Mass, in choosing the readings and the hymns. They also gather personal history and background information for the celebrants of the wake and funeral Mass, to be used in the homily.

We at St. Joseph’s are very fortunate to have such a ministry as there are so very few parishes in our Diocese who still do. We too, however, are suffering the pains of attrition; some of our ministers have passed on, others moved and still others suffer from illness.

We would like you to search your spirit to see if the Ministry of Consolation would be a good fit for you. Please have no fear and rest assured that thorough training is provided.

In a faith community, no one should grieve alone. Was someone there to help when you lost a loved one? Do you wish someone had been? You can be that special person for someone else. I personally invite anyone interested to call our director, Barbara Schade at the parish office at 631-669-0068 Ext. 160.

May God continue to abundantly bless you.

Deacon John
SHINING STAR, SHINING EXAMPLE

Now that we are in the liturgical season of Advent, we are asked by Holy Mother the Church to prepare for the eventual arrival of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The Scriptural readings of both the Old and New Testaments reminded us that “A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for Our God!” (Isaiah) and the words of John the Baptist, "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” (Mark). So we know there is something we should be doing, however, we may not be sure exactly what it is.

When I am in situations of indecision, I usually look for some example to follow. We know what Advent leads to: the birth of Our Lord and Savior. Perhaps looking at Our Blessed Mother during the months before the Virgin birth might help us.

Though many things have changed over the past 2,000 years, the routine of a woman with child had been fairly consistent for at least 1,950 of them. Today exercise is often stressed, but in prior years rest was often suggested. But the Gospel tells us, despite her condition, Mary went to be with her cousin Elizabeth before Elizabeth delivered St. John the Baptist. Luke relates …“Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah…” so we know she didn’t simply go around the corner. There was a great effort on her part to do something. And we know, to support Joseph, Mary took another long and arduous trip to the “little town of Bethlehem” for the wonderful event that happened next.

The point is Mary was active in doing something for others while she was pregnant. She left her comfort zone to perform charitable acts to help both her cousin and her husband. While others in her condition may have taken a less strenuous approach, Mary thought of others and not herself.

Advent calls us to essentially do the same. We are reminded to pray and spend time with God to be sure; but we are also meant to do things for others. There are food, clothing, toy, and present drives galore that are sponsored by a variety of charitable groups. Pick one…no, pick two…and help someone who has less than you. Go one step further: find someone who needs a kind word, a shoulder to cry on, or simply a smiling face.

Follow the example of Our Blessed Mother this Advent…she clearly has shown us the way.

PRAYER

Wondrous Creator, we have seen the value of Your (and Our) Blessed Mother in numerous ways. Let the example of her maternity days help us in our Advent Season. Give us the Grace to make the sacrifices that are needed to adequately respond to those around us who suffer in any way. Help us to mirror our Blessed Mother’s generosity, her patience, and her devotion to those she loved on earth. This we ask in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Stewardship Sound Byte

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who announce the coming of Christ by increasing their acts of charity during this season of giving.
**Chastity:** "Chastity is a moral virtue. It is also a gift from God, a grace, a fruit of spiritual effort. The Holy Spirit enables one whom the waters of Baptism has regenerated to imitate the purity of Christ." (Catechism of the Catholic Church)

For some of the many resources available visit:

**What is Natural Family Planning (NFP)?** Marriage insurance and "much much" more. The Creighton Model FertilityCare™ System allows women to monitor and understand the day-to-day function of their reproductive systems. It also provides detailed information to a woman's physician, allowing specially trained physicians to diagnose and treat underlying reproductive and gynecologic disorders using NaProTECHNOLOGY™. Fertility-focused intercourse allows 98.5% of couples of normal fertility to achieve a pregnancy within six months. When used to avoid pregnancy, the method is 99.5% effective. Individual NFP classes are available at the Long Island Gianna Center at Good Samaritan Hospital Medical Center- Dr. Paul Carpentier, MD-Director, 661 Deer Park Ave., Babylon, NY 11702 (631) 376-3232, www.chsli.org/gianna-center-long-island.

**Gabriel's Courage Perinatal Support Program:** Gabriel's Courage is a family centered program for families who receive a life-limiting prenatal diagnosis during their pregnancy. The program offers a multidisciplinary team approach to care and support throughout pregnancy, birth, and post birth. For more information, call 1(855) 301-4CHS.

**Caring For Loved Ones At Life's End:**
An old Irish proverb says, "It is in the shelter of each other that the people live." Indeed, we are created to depend upon one another and walk together in suffering. But when family members or friends approach life's end, we may not know how to "shelter" them. To learn some concrete ways we can be compassionate, follow the link to "Caring for Loved Ones at Life's End"
http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?m=1105232878197&ca=64f6c559-3042-4e6e-9b40-f56ec88140fc

**TAKE ACTION:** To Oppose Doctor-Assisted Suicide or to Oppose Late-Term Abortion Expansion, or to Urge Congress to Enact the Conscience Protection Act of 2017 (Federal law that will ensure that those who provide health care and health coverage can do so without being forced by the government to destroy innocent unborn babies) follow the link to TAKE ACTION
http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?m=1105232878197&ca=64f6c559-3042-4e6e-9b40-f56ec88140fc

**Entering Canaan Day of Prayer and Healing for Women:** Prayer and Healing Retreats, help those suffering the effects of abortion. We offer a safe place, a way out of the pain, in a non-judgmental atmosphere. All retreats are led by the Sisters of Life and women who have experienced both the suffering of abortion and the joy of healing in Christ!
Contact: Theresa Bonopartis 1(877)-586-4621 Luminab@postabortionhelp.org or www.sistersoflife.org

**Entering Canaan Day of Prayer & Healing for Men:** Contact: Lumina 877-586-4621 or Luminab@postabortionhelp.org

"To Live Each Day with Dignity" view a powerful 3.29 min. video of Luke's Story: Every Suicide is Tragic

**Going to Battle Against Assisted Suicide- Help stop Assisted Suicide**
http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/2016/caring-for-loved-ones-at-lifes-end.cfm

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**Hospitality Committee**

Do you like meeting and connecting with people? Do you like being a welcoming presence in the Parish? Are you organized and think you may be interested in leading a hospitality committee?

Then we want to hear from you!
Please call Jane at (631) 669-0068 x159 or email her at stewardship@stjosephsbabylon.org

Do not neglect hospitality, for through it some have unknowingly entertained angels.
Hebrews 13:2

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**Life Ministry**

Do you like meeting and connecting with people?
Do you like being a welcoming presence in the Parish?
Are you organized and think you may be interested in leading a hospitality committee?

Then we want to hear from you!
Please call Jane at (631) 669-0068 x159 or email her at stewardship@stjosephsbabylon.org

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Do not neglect hospitality, for through it some have unknowingly entertained angels.
Hebrews 13:2
We are grateful to those who adopted a family through our Angel Brigade and to all of you who took tags from our Giving Tree. The families were overwhelmed by your generosity. We were able to supply gifts to our homeless population thanks to Youth Group. Good Job guys!! We are blessed to work closely with our Saint Vincent De Paul Conference and truly appreciate their work in meeting the needs of our local families. Thank you so much “Vincentians”.

In the same way we extend our thanks to Torta Fina Bakery who supplied baked goods to all of our families to sweeten their holidays. As well as to Faith Formation, Nursery School, Catholic Daughters, Knight of Columbus and to our sweet Angel Brigade Lady Margot Denza for her amazing hard work.

We had such an overwhelming response to our Angel Brigade and our Christmas Giving Tree. It was heartwarming to see the families dropping off gifts at Outreach Center. Then, it was equally moving to witness the families picking up gifts, smiling, and some with tears in their eyes.

_We can’t thank you enough._

_“Wishing you a Merry Christmas full of blessings and a prosperous New Year 2018,
your friends at St. Joseph Parish Social Ministry.”_
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 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.

Please Note:
♦ Jan. 3 ~ First Wednesday of January “Baby Shower” to benefit “The Life Center of Long Island”.

For more information contact Terry Hoffmann at 631-669-0198

Please look for our cell phone collection boxes to donate to women’s shelters starting the weekend of January 6 at all masses.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 2 in the O’Connell Room. Doors open at 7:00 PM for refreshments and the meeting will begin at 7:30.
All girls ages 10+ are welcome.

Girls ages 10+ are welcome.
For more information, please contact Laura Marquez at 516-356-3399
Faith Formation

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

The Level 1 children are expected to attend Mass this weekend. Please bring donations for the Parish Outreach Center and place them in the bins located at the entrances to the Church and Hall.

Please note: children attending Mass on specific weekends: weekend Masses start with the 5pm Saturday and go through 5pm Sunday. Please remember to bring your Mass attendance envelope and place it in the collection basket. While donations are appreciated, they are not necessary. The envelopes are used mainly for attendance purposes.

The Faith Formation Office will be closed from Monday, December 25th through Monday, January 1st. We will reopen at 9am, Tuesday, January 2nd. We would like to wish you and your family a wonderful Christmas Season.

Journey of Faith

Angel Display

“Angels above us, Angels beside us. Come enjoy an Angel Display.”

A Collection of Angels will be on display along with quotes from the Bible proclaiming what the Bible tells us about the Angels in our midst.

Monday and Tuesday, December 18 & 19, 2017 in Msgr. Nolan Hall from 10 AM- 7PM
Merry Christmas to all! As we are enjoying time with our family & friends, please remember to pray for those in the Military who are away from their loved ones this Christmas.

Join us to deepen your faith, make new friends, and be of great service to the Community!

What’s coming up in January:

Wednesdays 7:30pm—8:30pm in Room 260 Middle School H.U.B.
All in grades 6, 7, 8 are welcome to join us!

Mondays 7:00pm—8:30pm in the Madonna Room HS Teens
HS Seniors: Our plans are going forward with a trip to the Shrine.
Please make sure you contact me about your availability.

RESPECT LIFE WEEKEND OF PRAYER –January 19-21—More info to follow

SUMMER TIME! Steubenville NYC weekend is July 20, 21, 22 ——
We will begin registration in January!
All in grades 8—12 are welcome to join us.
Cost is approximately $300 per person for the weekend.
Some scholarships are available.
If you think you might want to join us, please let me know!
Check our parish website for additional details and pictures from other trips.

Steubenville NYC Theme: REVEALED
In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him.” – 1 John 4:9

Our Teens keep busy in Service to their Faith—All Year Long!

Young Ladies met each week for 8 weeks to study and discuss their GIRL GENIUS!
AND SUCCESSFULLY completed their 1st ENDOW course.
Way to go Girls!
Rockville Centre
Diocesan Pilgrimage
to
IRELAND

Spiritual Director:
His Excellency, Bishop John Barres
and Auxiliary Bishop Robert Brennan

AUGUST 20 - 27, 2018
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Optional Post Tour: Knock and Galway
Additional $999 per person

www.pilgrimages.com/drvc
Courage. This spiritual support group is for men and women who experience homosexual attractions and desire to lead a chaste life in accordance with authentic Catholic Church teaching. The five goals of Courage are:

1. Live chaste lives in accordance with the Roman Catholic Church’s teaching on homosexuality. (Chastity)
2. Dedicate one’s life to Christ through service to others, spiritual reading, prayer, meditation, individual spiritual direction, frequent attendance at Mass, and the frequent reception of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist. (Prayer and Dedication)
3. Foster a spirit of fellowship in which all may share thoughts and experiences, and so ensure that no one will have to face the problems of homosexuality alone. (Fellowship)
4. Be mindful of the truth that chaste friendships are not only possible but necessary in a chaste Christian life and in doing so, provide encouragement to one another in forming and sustaining them. (Support)
5. Live lives that may serve as good examples to others. (Good Example)

We presently have a men’s group in Nassau County. If you call 516-623-1400, Ext. 190 and leave your name and phone number, someone will get back to you or email licourage3@gmail.com. Confidentiality & anonymity assured. Feel free to call the Courage Office, in Connecticut (203) 803-1564, their e-mail address is: NYCourage@aol.com or the following web-sites: www.couragerc.net or couragerc.org.
**LAS HORAS DE OFICINA DEL MINISTERIO HISPANO SON:**

VIERNES 7:00PM—9:00PM
(631) 669-0068 Ext. 131

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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.


**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:** Contáctese con Ruth y Salomón Aguilar.

**RECONCILIACIÓN:** Sábado a las 4:00pm - 4:45pm, 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. Mas información contáctese con el Vocal de Piedad Felipe Rodas o Sub-vocal Geremías Herrera @ gherreras29@gmail.com.

**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 contáctese con Ana Ramos @ rosesformarybyana@live.com.

**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.

**COMITE:** El primer sábado de cada mes a las 10:00am en el salón # 256. Para la agenda, contáctese con Ana Ramos @ rosesformarybyana@live.com.

**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 o Luz Marina López.

**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:** Contáctese con Claudia Rodas. Los niños deben haber recibido la Primera Comunión.

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**REFLEXION**

Todas las personas en las lecturas de hoy – el profeta Isaías, la Virgen María, San Pablo, San Juan Bautista– parecen entender claramente y alegrarse de lo que Dios les manda ser o hacer. ¿Yo también?

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Intercesiones por la Vida

Que en esta época de amor del recién nacido, todos los hombres y mujeres se comprometan nuevamente con la defensa de toda la vida humana desde la concepción hasta la muerte natural;

Roguemos al Señor;
Señor, escucha nuestra oración.
Queridos Hermanos en Cristo:

La Navidad ha llegado, tiempo de paz y alegría donde celebramos el nacimiento de nuestro Señor Jesucristo.

Tiempo de regocijo, hermandad y de unión familiar, pero que al mismo tiempo pueden convertirse para muchos padres de familia en un tiempo difícil, al no poder proveer a su familia con los regalos para esta Navidad.

Es por este motivo que extendemos nuestros brazos para que nos permita aliviar, aunque sea un poco esta preocupación. Todos pasamos por momentos difíciles en algún punto de nuestras vidas. Así que por favor, si alguno de ustedes necesita ayuda o conoce de alguien que está atravesando por una mala situación económica, Acérquese o llámenos, aquí estamos para servirles en lo que esté a nuestro alcance.

Estamos abiertos lunes, miércoles y jueves de 9:30am a 1:30pm no necesita cita o si desea me puede llamar y dejar su mensaje al número telefónico: (631)669-4544 ext 202 y con gusto le devolveré la llamada.

“Gloria a Dios en las Alturas y en la Tierra

Paz a los Hombres en quienes Él se compadece”

Lucas 2:14
Preparen el Camino del Señor, prepáren el Camino del Señor

Horario de Navidad 2017

**Vigilia de Navidad**
Domingo, 24 de diciembre de 2017
6:30pm
Nolan Hall

**Vigilia de Fin de Año**
Domingo, 31 de diciembre de 2017
6:30pm
Nolan Hall

Horario para la Catequesis en Español
2017 - 2018
DOMINGOS
10:00AM — 11:00AM

FECHAS DE LAS CLASES
Los grupos de estudiantes que asistirán al Centro de Formación se reunirán solamente cuando un voluntario del Centro esté presente. Las clases se dictarán durante 26 domingos. 17 de diciembre. 7, 14, 21, y 28 de enero. 4, 11, de febrero. 4, 11, 18, y 25 de marzo. 8, 15, y 22 de abril.

FECHAS DE LOS EVENTOS

**Miércoles de Cenizas**
14 de febrero de 2018

**Jueves Santo**
29 de marzo de 2018

**Vía Crucis en el Lago “Argyle” Padres y estudiantes**
30 de marzo de 2018 a la 1:00pm

**Reconciliación y ensayo candidatos de la Vigilia**
31 de marzo de 2018 a las 9:00am

**Vigilia Pascual**
31 de marzo de 2018 a las 8:00pm

**Reconciliación y Ensayo Primera Comunión**
5 de mayo de 2018 a las 10:00am

**Primera Comunión**
6 de mayo de 2018 @ 11:30am

**Confirmación Adultos 2018**
20 de mayo de 2018 @ 11:30am

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

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