Come
Let Us
Adore Him!

December 24-25, 2017
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On behalf of Fr. Ethel, Fr. Joe, Fr. Francis and our Pastoral Team, I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas!!!

Saint Peter Julian Eymard (1811-1868) said the Eucharist was sown in Bethlehem. Bethlehem means the "House of Bread." What is the Eucharist but "the wheat of the elect" and "the living bread". Throughout Jesus' whole life He was secretly preparing the Eucharist for us. His sacrifice begun at Bethlehem is consummated on the altar at Holy Mass. Bethlehem is built on a hill facing Jerusalem. When this ear of wheat, who is Jesus, is ripened, it shall lean toward Calvary where it shall be ground and shall be set on the fire of suffering to become a living bread for us.

How touching is the Midnight Mass in the Christian world! What is it that gives to our Feast of Christmas its charm and that pours joy into our carols and rapture into our hearts, if not that on the altar Jesus is really born again, although in a different state? Do not our carols and our homage's go straight to His very person? Jesus is the object of our love and festive celebration. We really go to Bethlehem and we find there not a memory, not a picture, but the divine Infant Himself. And see how the Eucharist began at Bethlehem. He was even then the Emmanuel, "God with us" who has come to dwell among His people. On the first Christmas Day He began to live in our midst and the Eucharist perpetuates His presence today. At Bethlehem, the Word was made flesh; in the Sacrament He uses bread in order to give us His flesh without stirring any feeling of repugnance in us.

At Bethlehem He also began practicing the virtues of His sacramental state. By coming as a baby He concealed His divinity in order to familiarize man with God. He veiled His divine glory as a first step to the veiling of His humanity (flesh and blood) in the Eucharist. He bound His power in the weakness of a child's body; later He would bind it beneath the Sacred Species (consecrated bread and wine). He was poor; He stripped Himself of every possession, He, the Creator and Sovereign Master of all things. The stable was not His own yet charity let Him have the use of it. He lived with Joseph and Mary on the offerings of the shepherds and the gifts of the Magi; later in the Eucharist, He would ask man for a shelter for Himself, the matter (bread and wine) for His Sacrament, vestments for His priest and His altar. This is how Bethlehem heralds the Eucharist.

We even find here the inauguration of Eucharistic worship in its chief form -- Adoration. Mary and Joseph were the first adorers of the Word Incarnate. They believed firmly and their faith was their virtue. "Blessed are you who have believed." The shepherds and the Magi also adored Him in union with Mary and Joseph. Mary was entirely devoted to the service of her Son. She was all intent on His service, anticipating His least wishes to satisfy them. The shepherds offered their plain and simple presents, and the Magi their magnificent gifts. They adored Him by the homage of their gifts. Therefore, the Eucharist is the meeting-place for persons of all conditions; it is the center of the Catholic world. It is the object of that twofold worship of Adoration: the interior Adoration of faith in and love for God; the exterior Adoration through the beauty of churches and altars upon which the divine Host will be exposed.

As you may already know, we have started extended hours of Adoration in our Divine Mercy Chapel located behind the St. Joseph’s Outreach Center (it is the old convent chapel). Many parishioners (330) have signed up to spend one hour each week with Jesus. The Holy Eucharist is taken out of the tabernacle and placed in a monstrance for all to see and adore Jesus.
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament has begun!!!
It takes place every week in the Divine Mercy Chapel located behind the St. Joseph Outreach Center. The Sacred Heart statue is located by the outside chapel entrance.

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

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

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. She will also give you the access code to gain entrance into the chapel. 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. After you punch in the code on the key pad simply pull the door open. The door knob does not turn.

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.

Benefits of Eucharistic Adoration

1. Every Holy Hour we make so pleases the Heart of Jesus that it is recorded in Heaven and retold for all eternity. (St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta)
2. The only time Our Lord asked the Apostles for anything was the night He went into agony. Not for activity did He plead but for an Hour of companionship. (Archbishop Fulton Sheen)
3. Perpetual Adoration extends its influence far beyond the individual adorers, touching their homes and families and reaching out to the parish community and beyond. (St. Pope John Paul II)
4. Our Lord hears our prayers anywhere, but He has revealed to His servants that those who visit Him in the Eucharist will obtain a more abundant measure of grace. (St. Alphonsus Ligouri)
5. It is impossible in human terms to exaggerate the importance of being in adoration before the Eucharist as often and for as long as our duties and state of lie allow. (Fr. John Hardon)

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!!!!!! Regarding the Catholic Ministries Appeal, parishioners have pledged an additional $15,000 since September 24th helping us to get closer to our goal of $135,200.00 As you may already know, a very generous parishioner promised to match whatever we raise from September 24th to the present. Therefore, they just wrote us a check for $15,000 brining us over our goal. This is a huge help to the parish and to our budget. This parishioner wants to remain anonymous but I still want to publically thank them for their generous gift to the parish and diocese. God’s blessings upon you and your family.

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
At this Mass, we remember:

**Monday, December 25** - The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
- Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
- 7:00 Valentino, Vulaj & Eva Rachel Alter
- 8:45 Anthony & Betty Miele
- 10:15 Bernard Maguire
- 12:00 Enzo, Adriana & Francesca Lent

**Tuesday, December 26**
- Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc-17; Mt 10:17-22
- 7:45 Rosemary Fuscaldo
- 9:00 Mary Elizabeth Gany & For the Intentions of Fr. Charles

**Wednesday, December 27**
- 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- 7:45 For the Intentions of Our Lady
- 9:00 Helen E. McCullagh
- 9:00 Gregory Atwell
- For the Intentions of Marlene Calixte

**Thursday, December 28**
- 1 Jn 1:5-2:2; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:13-18
- 7:45 Maria Cheasty
- 9:00 Susan Elizabeth Studley

**Friday, December 29**
- 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
- 7:45 People of St. Joseph’s
- 9:00 Catherine Julian

**Saturday, December 30**
- 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40
- 9:00 Arnold M. Meyer, Jr.

**Weekend Celebrations (barring last minute changes)**
- 4:00 Confessions Today  Fr. Charles
- 5:00 Francisco Cada  Fr. Ethel

**Sunday, December 31** - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
- Gn 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Ps 105:1-6, 8-9; Lk 2:12-40 or 2:22, 39-40
- 7:00 Elizabeth Padden  Fr. Charles
- 8:45 Kathleen Gallagher & LeRoy Dorn  Fr. Ethel
- 9:30 People of St. Joseph  Fr. Joe
- 10:15 Joseph F. Hallam, Jr.  Fr. Francis
- 12:00 Ferdinando Ruggiero  Fr. Charles
- 5:00 Francis Ferguson  Fr. Francis

**Eucharistic Minister Teams:**
- Weekend of December 23-24 - Team B
- Christmas - December 25 - Team A
- Weekend of December 30-31 - Team A

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**Reflection for Today**

In the first reading, God promises King David that his house and his kingdom will endure forever. It is through Mary’s “Yes” - “I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say.” - that the promise finds fulfillment.
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.

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. 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 Colantropo
Malik Rodriguez
Nelson Sanchez, Jr.
PFC Joshua J. Coughlin

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

U.S. Army:
SPC Elliot Chodkowski
SSG Josuah Insull
LTC John Kallo
SSG David C. Ray
Eric Stein
LTC Jon J. Uebel
PVT2 Danny Bornschein
Sgt Edwin Zambrano
PFC Dominick Pititto
Capt. Stephen Scuderi
SPC Mark OSPina
LT Joseph A. Vandervelde, III
2LT Anthony C. DiBiasi
PVT2 Alexandra Diaz
2LT Mark Barbera

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

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

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

God Bless You!

Sociable Single Seniors

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
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 Observance 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

IMPORTANT! PLEASE READ

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

HOTLINE NUMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crisis Pregnancy Center</td>
<td>(631) 243-2373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Abortion Counseling (Project Rachel)</td>
<td>1-888-456 HOPE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Human Trafficking</td>
<td>1-(888) 373-7888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Violence (Nassau County) Safe Housing</td>
<td>(516) 542-0404 (24/7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Violence (Suffolk County) Hotline &amp; Shelter</td>
<td>(631) 666-8833 (24/7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victims Information Bureau of Suffolk County</td>
<td>(631) 360-3730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suicide Prevention (Nassau County)</td>
<td>(516) 679-1111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suicide Prevention (Suffolk County)</td>
<td>(631) 751-7500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porn Addiction</td>
<td><a href="http://www.reclaimsexualhealth.com">www.reclaimsexualhealth.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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WebSite: www.stjosephsbabylon.org
Christmas 2017

To the People of God of the Diocese of Rockville Centre:

Merry Christmas to you and your families! As we celebrate the Prince of Peace’s entrance into world history, we give thanks to Father, Son and Holy Spirit for the Mission of Mercy of our Holy Catholic Church.

We give thanks for our families, our domestic churches, which transform the world and history with Christ’s Love and the Church’s missionary spirit.

This past month we dedicated the Gianna Center of Long Island for Women’s Health and Fertility, which in its mission unites the Splendor of Truth of Catholic Moral Teaching on Marriage and the Family with ethical reproductive science through the use of NaPro Technology and the Creighton Model Fertility Care System.

This was an important moment for the Catholic Church and Catholic Health Services in its service to the common good of Long Island.

The dedication of the Gianna Center gives a living expression of celebration to some important 2018 Church anniversaries.

On July 28, 2018, we will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Blessed Pope Paul VI’s 1968 encyclical Humanae Vitae. Blessed Paul VI was prophetic as he courageously taught that all marital intimacy celebrates both the love-giving and life-giving dimensions of married love that cannot be separated.

The Holy Father predicted accurately the dire consequences for society of separating the love-giving and life-giving dimensions of married love. He was widely criticized, even ridiculed at the time, but as we know from the Old Testament that is exactly what happens to prophets who stand up for liberating truths.

Blessed John Henry Cardinal Newman once said: “The Catholic Church is not behind the times. It is beyond the times.” And as the renowned particle physicist Professor Stephen Barr emphasizes, in the history of the world, the Catholic Church is the greatest friend and supporter of ethical scientific development. The Gianna Center is an expression of this friendship, support and partnership in history.
Dear Children of the World,

I feel compelled to write to you because of the many letters I have received requesting gifts beyond my power to give. I wish I could heal broken hearts but I can not. I wish I could unite friends or stop wars but I can not. However, I can point you to our God whose grace in our lives can do all things. That has been my purpose for bringing gifts to you all these years. My desire has always been to spread God’s greatest commandment of loving one another, thinking of others before ourselves. When I came to understand God’s intimate love for me, I could not help but share my joy by giving to you.

Yet, as the years have passed, I have been so broken hearted to see what the world has done to distort the Holy Day of Christmas. Many are more concerned about the size, value and quantity of gifts than with the spirit of giving as a way of celebrating the birth of our only Savior. It frightens me to see how people have replaced the name of Jesus Christ with my name, Santa Claus, because I am not the true gift giver. Christmas is about God so loving us that He sent His only Son to save us.

I ask for your forgiveness if in some way I have distracted you from the true meaning of Christmas. It was never my intention. But now, I ask something of you. As you open your gifts this Christmas please consider opening them in front of your nativity to help you remain focused on the one true gift giver, for there is no other name by which we shall be saved other than the name of Jesus Christ.

You will forever be in my prayers.

Love, Santa Claus

(Santa letter Copywritten 2004 - Written by Father Charles and Laurie Mangano -- Mater Dei, Inc.)
CDA Baby Shower

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
(doors 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 @631-944-0923

Spring Bible Study/Retreat

33 Days to Morning Glory

So far we have done two bible studies in the parish since the spring of 2017: Oremus (How to pray) and The Biblical Walk With The Blessed Mother. This next series will lead us to total consecration to the Mother of Jesus. It is called 33 Days to Morning Glory. This seven (7) week series is more like a retreat which focuses on “To Jesus Through Mary”. Come and learn what four saints knew about the quickest, surest and easiest way to holiness. We will meet on seven (7) Tuesdays in the Nolan Hall at 7:30pm. The dates are March 13, 20, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1st. The last day of the study / retreat is Tuesday, May 1st, which will be the Mass and Consecration to Our Lady in the Hall. May 1st starts the month of Mary and is also the feast day of St. Joseph the Worker. The retreat will be based on the book of Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC, 33 Days to Morning Glory. The DVD presentation is by Fr. Michael Gaitley, who is an excellent speaker, followed by small group discussion. There is no set fee for the retreat but a free will offering is greatly appreciated to cover the cost of materials! The facilitator-training meeting will be Tuesday, February 27th at 7:30pm in Nolan Hall.

Please call the parish center (631) 669-0068 Ext. 100 to register so we order enough work books and materials.
Deacon’s Corner

A Christmas Gift

Betty was born on Christmas Day, her grandfather’s premonition would become so clear to a newly ordained Deacon the day of her wake some ninety-one years later.

As we journeyed through Advent and the busy pre-Christmas season, we were called to travel through the spiritual desert, a place to empty ourselves and let Christ in. These days it’s not so easy to get beyond the busyness of life and look to reach the inner place where God dwells in us.

Christmas has taken-on so many different meanings, and has reached a point where we forget the joy of our salvation. To some it’s just the celebration of Jesus’ birthday, but that is too simple for the gift of the Incarnation.

God’s rescue plan to conquer sin and restore us to right relationship began at the dawn of creation and was realized as His Son entered history, born of the Virgin Mary through the power of the Holy Spirit. Our spiritual understanding of Christmas may have begun with the image of Santa Claus, or the Nativity scene or has grown to a better understanding of how the Person of Jesus conquered sin and death. Jesus brought us the gift of life eternal through his Passion, Death and Resurrection.

Betty’s passing on November 30th helped me dig just a little bit deeper into the mystery of the Incarnation. In preparation for her funeral I had the blessing to meet with Betty’s siblings, family and friends to get better acquainted with a woman, I knew simply as my friend’s Mom. Each person spoke of that special light with which she conducted her life; not an unkind word was spoken. She always looked to the good of the other which exemplified the Spirit within.

Betty saw a better life for her brothers and sisters and sacrificed to deliver them from poverty. A true servant, she stepped up to support her five siblings. You see, her Dad died at a young age as her mom struggled to support six children at the height of the Depression. Stories surfaced of her self-sacrifice to establish a better life for her brothers and sisters. Whether it was turning over the few dimes she earned for twelve hours of babysitting so her siblings could go to the movies or her ability to scrape up money so they could buy stale day-old scraps from the grocer to feed the family. They said Betty was a faith-filled woman who wasn’t “preachy”, but her example as “Christ in action” made her the best preacher in my eyes.

Faith in action, coupled with a humble presence would set in motion a foundation to build a loving family. As her brother Bill exclaimed, “We had nothin, but we had everything.” Grandfather’s foresight into her holiness became more evident with each testimony. Born into humble circumstances and suffering, Betty followed God’s Will and relied on His Grace.

In her last years, Betty would find solace at Dominican Village as she shared in Christ’s suffering as she battled the onset of dementia. No one has an answer to suffering, as it is a part of everyone’s life journey. Betty knew how to empathize with the poor and suffering, because she lived It. I believe she now knows the joy of Christ’s presence as she experienced the presence of Christ with each visit and prayer from family and friends. You see they brought Jesus to Betty, especially as they shared the suffering of a mind less clear and forgetful.

Jesus calls each of us his brother and sister. He looks to deliver us out of our poverty of spirit, and to have a life fulfilled, and life eternal. He became poor, came to serve, became the sacrifice for our sins and showed us the way.

This Christmas as we exchange gifts, let us not lose sight of God’s greatest gift. May we decrease and may He increase. For when we “have nothing, we can have everything”!

May the gift of Christ’s light grow within us as we recognize the Light of Christ in others, and set the world on fire!

Deacon Steve
CHRISTMAS 2017

Growing up in El Salvador is not easy. The smallest yet most densely populated of all the countries in Central America, El Salvador relies basically on agriculture to survive. With a high rate of poverty among its residents, the country also has many social problems. For some, the only viable option is to leave. Teresa, the older of the two Nunez sisters, had an opportunity ten years ago to immigrate to America. Since her arrival, she has worked very hard to both keep her head above water financially and to learn the language and the customs of her new homeland. Teresa’s younger sister Karen remained in El Salvador, where she dreamed of one day becoming a nurse, despite lacking the funds to do so. To make sure it did happen, Teresa cleaned houses and sent money home to Karen so she could attend nursing school.

Inspired by Teresa’s confidence in her academic abilities and the money she received, Karen did well in her studies and is now a nurse in El Salvador. In fact, Karen is also in graduate school working on her master’s degree in nursing.

Teresa was very proud of her sister’s successes, yet reluctant to follow her own dreams. After all, she thought, with two young sons to keep her busy, difficulty with the English language, and not even having a driver’s license, going to school to pursue her dream…also to be a nurse…would simply remain a dream.

While talking to friends last August, Teresa learned of a program in her neighborhood that could help improve her English. She mentioned it to Karen in one of her weekly phone conversations, and Karen was adamant that Teresa enroll immediately, which she did. As the autumn weeks went on, Teresa became more confident in her English literacy, to the point where she revisited her thoughts on nursing. Now with Karen being the encouraging voice, Teresa took a bold step and applied to a school that offered an entrée into a RN program. Nervous until the moment of her interview, Teresa impressed the counselor and was accepted and will begin in January. Though Teresa was ecstatic for herself, she knew Karen would be even happier.

Amid the ribbons and festive paper, the bows and the packaging, and the expected and the unexpected, there are gifts which cannot be wrapped or quantified. Teresa was committed to help her younger sister break the cycle of poverty so she could make a better life for herself and those around her. Karen knew she had to build up her sister’s confidence so Teresa could also reach her potential. Such giving is a Gospel value we should all emulate.

Teresa and Karen gave a variety of gifts to each other, gifts that really count. As we celebrate the birth of the person Who has given us gifts that really count, let us always thank Him for our many blessings. Equally important, let us use these gifts so, like Teresa and Karen, there will be a very happy ending for us as well.

PRAYER

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace, as we gather with family and friends during Christmas, let us again rejoice Your arrival in our hearts. Give us the Grace we need to have You remain with us long past this Holy Season and to use the gifts You have given us to help others. This we ask in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

God bless us, everyone!!!
Fourth Sunday of Advent - Cycle B

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

Life Ministry

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 Lumina@postabortionhelp.org or www.sistersoflife.org

Entering Canaan Day of Prayer & Healing for Men: Contact: Lumina 877-586-4621 or Lumina@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
Thank you for your Food Pantry Donations!

Our Food Pantry is most in need of these items:
- Gift Cards from supermarkets are in demand and would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your past and future donations.

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Thrift Shop Sale News

Bag Sale- $5.00
Handbags, Shoes & Clothes

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 at 631-669-0068 X201

To all our friends and families:
HAVE A VERY BLESSED CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR!
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

Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas

The Junior Catholic Daughters wish everyone a Blessed and Joyous Advent and Christmas season!

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
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 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.

St. Joseph’s Nursery School

Learning & Growing Together

St. Joseph’s Nursery School
2018-2019 Registration

OPEN HOUSE
Saturday, January 20th and Saturday, February 3rd
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Programs available for children
4 months – Pre-K

4 months – 30 months for child & caregiver
2 ½ yr. olds – 2 days
3 yr. olds – 2, 3, 4, or 5 half days
4 yr. olds Pre-K – 3, 4, or 5 half days
Science, enrichment classes and more!

Tours are available on school days by appointment.
Please contact us at 661-4559 or nurseryschool@stjosephsbabylon.org
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 in Youth Ministry to deepen your faith, make new friends, and be of great service to the Community!*

**What's coming up in January:**

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

**Mondays 7:00—8:30** in the Madonna Room HS Teens Gather for Faith. Friendship. Fun.  
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 scholarship is 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!

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2018

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!
Church of St. Joseph  
K of C 14771 St. Joseph the Carpenter Council  
Community Blood Drive  
Date: Thursday, December 28, 2017  
Time: 3:00pm to 9:00pm  
Place: 39 North Carll Ave., Babylon  
ALL DONORS WILL RECEIVE A PAIR OF METS TICKETS TO A 2017 HOME GAME  
(Mets tickets will be sent in the mail)  
Your donation will help to save up to THREE lives.  
Our community hospitals need your help.  
Please share this lifesaving gift!  
Thank you for caring!  

Eligibility Criteria:  
♦ Bring ID with signature or photo.  
♦ Minimum weight 110 lbs.  
♦ Age 16 - 75 (16 year olds must have parental permission.  
♦ Age 76 and over need doctor's note)  
♦ Eat well (low fat) & drink fluids  
♦ No tattoos for past 12 months  

For questions concerning medical eligibility call 1-800-688-0900.  

For more information or to make an appointment please contact:  
Doreen at 516-478-5031.  

Long Island Blood Services
Courage Support Group

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.

Many people have found themselves suffering with an addiction to pornography. God says, “My saving power will rise on you like the sun and bring healing like the sun’s rays.” Malachi 4:2. You can overcome pornography and other unhealthy sexual behaviors with a professional, science-based Catholic program called: RECLAIM Sexual Health. (Visit their site www.ReclaimsexualHealth.com). Get help or Help Others. Private and Anonymous Online Help 24/7. It is the latest Brain Science cutting-edge technology. Personalized support and Faith Focused.

The Brain Science of Change & Theology of the Body is God’s way out. In 1 Corinthians 10:13 it says, “No trial has come to you but what is human, God is faithful and will not let you be tried beyond your strength; but with the trial He will also provide a way out, so that you may be able to bear it.” Pornography is an addiction. It enslaves the soul and deep shame is connected to it but healing and recovery is possible.

If you or someone you know has a porn addiction, please log onto the their website at: www.IntegrityRestored.com, designed for those who struggle with pornography use and those who may know of someone who is struggling. Here you will learn about the pornography epidemic in America and how porn affects men, women, children and teens. You will learn about the addictiveness of pornography and the recovery process. Wives will learn how to help their husbands as well as how to find healing for their own emotional pain (feelings of hurt, betrayal, etc.). The website takes a unique approach by incorporating Catholic spirituality into the recovery process. Porn reduces the human person to an object for one’s selfish pleasure which is in direct opposition to the beauty of the whole human person that God created in His image and likeness, never to be lusted after but to be loved as a whole person: body, mind and soul.
**Reflexión**

En la primera lectura, Dios promete al Rey David que su hogar y su reino durarán para siempre. Es a través del “Sí” de María - “Yo soy la sierva del Señor.” Que sea tal como tu lo has dicho” - que la promesa se cumple.

Estamos agradecidos esta semana por todos los delegados que tienen el valor, como María, de escuchar la voz de Dios en sus propios corazones.

**Intercesiones por la Vida**

Para aquellos que viven en las filas de la muerte en todo nuestro país: que a través de nuestras oraciones puedan recibir el don del arrepentimiento, y que todos puedan llegar a conocer el valor de sus vidas;

Roguemos al Señor;

Señor, escucha nuestra oración

---

La Paz empieza con Nosotros

“Ven a mi casa esta Navidad”

Tú que estás lejos de tus amigos, de tu tierra y de tu hogar, y tienes pena, pena en el alma, porque no dejas de pensar.

Tú que esta noche no puedes dejar de recordar, quiero que sepas, que aquí en mi mesa, para ti tengo un lugar.

Por eso y muchas cosas más, ven a mi casa esta Navidad.

Tú que recuerdas quizá a tu madre o a un hijo que no está, quiero que sepas, que en esta noche, él te acompañará.

No vayas solo por esas calles, queriéndote aturdir, ven con nosotros y a nuestro lado intenta sonreír. Por eso y muchas cosas más, ven a mi casa esta Navidad. Tú que has vivido, siempre de espaldas, sin perdonar ningún error, ahora es momento de reencontrarnos, ven a mi casa, por favor.

Ahora ya es tiempo, de que charlemos, pues nada se perdió, en estos días, todo se olvida, y nada sucedió.

Por eso y muchas cosas más, ven a mi casa esta Navidad

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**CURSO BIBLICO**

TODOS LOS MARTES DE:

7:30PM — 9:30PM

SALON # 256

Para mas información contáctese con

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**LAS HORAS DE OFICINA DEL MINISTERIO HISPANO SON:**

VIERNES 7:00PM—9:00PM (631) 669-0068 Ext. 131 * Padre Joe Ext. 104

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**BAUTISMO:** Tercer domingo de cada mes. Clase: Segundo domingo de cada mes. Venir a la oficina del Ministerio Hispano con dos meses de anticipación o llame @ (631) 669-0068, Ext. 131. Traer el certificado de nacimiento original del niño.

**RITO DE INICIACIÓN CRISTIANA PARA ADULTOS:** (RICA) Les invitamos a una preparación espiritual de conversión a la fe católica. Llame a la Sra. Julietta Mieles, al (631) 669-0068, ext. 131.

**CATEQUESIS DE NIÑOS Y ADULTOS:** Llamar a la oficina del Ministerio Hispano. (631) 669-0068, ext. 131.

**MATRIMONIO:** Las parejas que desean casarse, deben inscribirse con seis meses de anticipación. Llamar al Padre Joe Arévalo al (631) 669-0068 ext. 104.

**PRE-CANA:** 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.

**ROSARIO:** Domingos a las 11:00am en la Capilla.

**HERMANAS UNIDAS:** Todos los segundos domingo de cada mes, en el salón # 256. Para mas información contáctese con Ana Elia López 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.
CENTRO PARA PERSONAS SIN HOGAR 2018

Nos estamos preparando para abrir el refugio para personas sin hogar en unas pocas semanas y esperamos recibir de 45 a 50 personas cada martes por la noche, lo cual incluye de 15 a 17 mujeres. Este año, estamos probando algo nuevo y ofreceremos duchas de agua caliente usando un camión autónomo; este servicio también provee toallas y jabón. Otros refugios usan este servicio y funciona muy bien.

Proporcionaremos calcetines nuevos y ropa limpia en función de la disponibilidad.

A lo largo de los años, hemos estado creando un inventario de artículos de uso frecuente, pero nuestros recursos se han agotado ya que nuestra base de asistentes se expandió de 12 a 15 el primer año a 41 por noche el año pasado. También donamos algunas de nuestras camitas, sábanas y ropa a niños de Puerto Rico y algunas otras familias locales indigentes y será necesario que los reemplacemos.

Aquí está nuestra lista de artículos básicos que necesitamos antes de abrir el Refugio:
10 camitas
Sacos de dormir: para complementar el número de camas para personas desbordados
Ropa interior térmica: hombres y mujeres, todos los tamaños
Toallas pequeñas
Mantas (plaza y media)
Sobre camas (plaza y media), blancas si es posible
Sudaderas
Gorros y guantes

Donaciones para comprar comida: ofrecemos una cena de calidad, café toda la noche, un desayuno caliente y un almuerzo en caja para el día siguiente. Si tenemos los fondos, le daremos al Párroco algunos dólares por semana para ayudar a sufragar el costo de la calefacción.

También necesitamos voluntarios para:
Ayudar a configurar las camitas de 3:00pm a 6:00pm.
Chaperones (masculino o femenino)
7:00pm a 11:00pm – 11:00pm a 2:00am – 2:00am a 6:00am.
Limpieza y servicio de desayuno de 5:00am a 7:00am.

Como se dijo anteriormente, el año pasado siete de nuestros cuarenta y uno, entre hombres y mujeres sin hogar, a través de la administración de casos, ahora están integrados y viven en casas y están trabajando. Este es un progreso real para estas personas que solo necesitan una mano de apoyo para tomar su vida.

Gracias por su continuo apoyo.

Joe Gibbons (917)863-3988
Preparen el Camino del Señor, 
preparen 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: 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.

ES ESENCIAL LA ASISTENCIA A LA SANTA MISA TODO LOS DOMINGOS COMO COMPLEMENTO DEL PROGRAMA.
Cuarto Domingo de Adviento - Ciclo B

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