Please Note

Weekend Masses require reservations. Seating will be assigned. Please be sure to register the number of people in your family who will be sitting with you so we can seat you together.

Masses in the Church fill up quickly. There is more seating in the Hall. Walk-ins may be directed to the Hall. If the Mass you are looking for is filled, please use the wait list and let us know which Mass is your first choice. We are doing all we can to accommodate everyone—so far we have not turned anyone away.

Thank you.

Masses

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday -- 7:30 AM & 9:00 AM;
Tuesday & Friday -- 9:00 AM (only)
Saturday -- 9:00 AM
Saturday (Nolan Hall) -- 5:00 PM
Sunday (Church) -- 7:00 AM; 9:00 AM; 10:30 AM & 12:00 PM (Spanish)
(Nolan Hall) -- 9:15 AM & 10:45 AM

The following Masses will be Live Streamed on www.stjosephsbabylon.org
9:00 AM Daily Mass (English); 10:30 AM Sunday (English);
12:00 PM Sunday (Spanish)

WEEKEND MASS RESERVATION SYSTEM

Thank you for continuing to keep us healthy & able to worship in person by using the Reservation System and wearing a mask!

The system opens on Wednesdays at 10am and closes on Saturdays by Noon so we can complete the administrative work.

This can be found on the parish website or by clicking here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054daca2ca5f94-weekend

If you have questions about the system, please call 631-669-0068 ext 108 or email: bmcnulty@stjbabylon.org

If you do not have access to a computer, please give us a call and let us know. Special thanks go to our Volunteers who are making this happen! If you are able to join one of our Mass Teams of Volunteers, please let us know.
A Message from fr. Jason Grisafi

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As promised last week, I wanted to write this week about Lent, particularly Ash Wednesday. We start with a question: when the Pope celebrates Ash Wednesday, who imposes ashes on him? Have you ever seen pictures of Ash Wednesday in Rome? I invite you to search online. If you keep in mind that you are looking at Ash Wednesday pictures you will see something interesting, or, rather, you will not see something, and that is what is interesting: no one has ashes on their forehead. Is this because they do not celebrate Ash Wednesday in Rome? No. It is, rather, because the practice that we have in the United States is a later adaptation. I now quote from a document we priests recently received from the bishops office: "While imposition of ashes with the sign of the cross on the forehead has been customary in the United States of America on Ash Wednesday, in many other parts of the world, the Roman Rite’s tradition of sprinkling of dry ashes on top of the head is, in fact, the more common practice. The faithful may be interested to know this is how the Holy Father, Pope Francis, always receives his ashes on Ash Wednesday!

"Sprinkling ashes on the crown of the head recalls the biblical method of putting on sackcloth and ashes as a sign of penance. A number of accounts in the Bible mention people sprinkling or pouring ashes over their head (for example, Numbers 19:17, Jonah 3:6, Nehemiah 9:1, Judith 4:11, & Esther 4:1). This gesture, while not as dramatic, recalls that penitential practice. The ashes not being visible will also more clearly help those who receive them to put into practice the teaching of the Gospel appointed for the day to carry out one’s penance in private. Additionally, it is helpful to recall that in Baptism, we have been anointed on the crown of the head. The ashes to be imposed on the crown signify our repentance from sin, which has marred the grace of Baptism."

We are part of the Catholic (that is to say, "Universal") Church, and so it should be of great interest to us to know how certain cultural and liturgical practices differ around the world. Sometimes, we're the odd ones out! Now, while this would all be interesting at any time, I don't share this with you simply as a note of Catholic trivia, or to aid you should you be in Europe (or other continents) on Ash Wednesday. I share this because, as you may have already surmised, there are special protocols that have been announced for this particular Ash Wednesday. I quote, again, from the diocesan document: "On January 12, 2021, Robert Cardinal Sarah, the Prefect of the Congregation of Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments, issued a note entitled 'Distribution of Ashes in Time of Pandemic.' In that document, Cardinal Sarah gives the following instruction to the clergy: 'The Priest says the prayer for blessing the ashes. He sprinkles the ashes with holy water, without saying anything. Then he addresses all those present and only once says the formula as it appears in the Roman Missal, applying it to all in general: "Repent, and believe in the Gospel", or “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return” The Priest then cleanses his hands, puts on a face mask and distributes the ashes to those who come to him or, if appropriate, he goes to those who are standing in their places. The Priest takes the ashes and sprinkles them on the head of each one without saying anything.'"

In order to make these statements abundantly clear, the last paragraph of the document begins, "in the Diocese of Rockville Centre this year, it is not permitted to impose ashes on the forehead of a member of the faithful with the thumb of the hand, even if that hand is gloved." And so, I share this with you as a note. While Ash Wednesday is not a holy day of obligation, we know how important and well-celebrated it is for the faithful. That is a wonderful thing: to see how many people are committed to starting Lent in a special way. This year, we do something new by returning to something not so new, the Biblical practice of imposing ashes, which is still the method enjoyed by Catholics in most parts of the world. May I suggest we use this as an opportunity to (1) see ourselves in greater solidarity with Pope Francis (2) reconnect with the Scriptural foundation of this sacramental (3) spread the word - most parishioners don't read the bulletin and so you can help us spread the news. Perhaps we can even see a sacred duty in the way that we help educate and catechize our brothers and sisters in the faith. On a final note, this is the perfect time to start preparing for Lent. This Sunday (the third before Ash Wednesday) used to be called Septuagesima Sunday (signifying 70 days) and traditionally began a time of preparation for the Lenten (Quadragesima - 40 days) season. May we all prepare well for Lent!

In Christ,

fr. Jason
For Our Deceased
Please pray for the families and souls of our deceased members including Virginia De Angelo, Josephine Giarraputo & Thomas K. Kosior.

For Our Sick
Please remember the sick of our Parish in your prayers:

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

**U.S. Navy:**
Lt. Cdr. Michael Catalano  
Lt. John T. Izzo  
Lt. Caroline Mayer  
Lt. Dylan Kelly
Lt. Christian Amelia  
PO1 Rasheen Tice  
PO2 Kristen Tice
PO3 Matthew Waldron  
E2 Liam McKeown  
E3 Nicholas Ruf

**U.S.M.C.:**
Capt. Matthew Witcofsky  
1st Lt. Marc Anthony Parrino  
1st Lt. R.J. Parrino
Sgt. Lauren Colantrpo  
Ptl Alyssa E. Grimaildi  
PFC Joshua J. Coughlin
Malik Rodriguez  
Nelson Sanchez, Jr.

**U.S. Army:**
LTC John Kallo  
LTC Jon J. Uebel  
Capt. Stephen Scuderi
1LT Mark Barbera
2LT Anthony C. DiBiasi
LT Joseph A. Vanderveldt, III
SSG Josuah Insull
SSG David C. Ray
Sgt Edwin Zambrano
SPC Elliot Chodkowski
SPC Alexandra Diaz
PFC Duminick Pitiito
PV2 Danny Borschein
Eric Stein

**U.S.A.F.:**
MSGT John Hatzidakis
SSGT Brandon Ward
AB Christopher Signoretti
AB Eric Benzing
AB Vincent E. Berger

Monday, February 1
Heb 11:32-40; Ps 31:20-24;  
Mk 5:1-20

tuesday, February 2
The Presentation of the Lord
Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18;  
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Wednesday, February 3
Heb 12:4-7, 11-15;  
Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a; Mk 6:1-6

Thursday, February 4
Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Ps 48:2-4, 9-11;  
Mk 6:7-13

Friday, February 5
Heb 13:1-8; Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8a-9c;  
Mk 6:14-29

Saturday, February 6
Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Ps 23:1-6;  
Mk 6:30-34

Sunday, February 7 ~  
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jb 7:1-4, 6-7;  
Ps 147:1-6;  
1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23;  
Mk 1:29-39
We Celebrate the Sacraments

**Baptism**
Parents are requested to call the Parish Office at least two months before child’s birth to make arrangements.
Contact: Toni at baptisms@stjbabylon.org

**RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)**
Anyone who wishes to join the Catholic Church should call the Parish Office.

**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.
Contact Toni at weddings@stjbabylon.org

**Anointing of the Sick**
Call the Parish Office.

**Reconciliation**
Wednesday: 7pm-8pm in the Church and Saturday: 4pm-5pm in the Nolan Hall.

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**Sacrificial Giving**

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

**January 24, 2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collection: $10,255</th>
<th>Faith Direct: $4,500</th>
<th>Total: $14,755</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Budget: $19,615</td>
<td>Difference: ( - ) $4,860</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Numbers are an approximate as Faith Direct updates us monthly and mailed donations come in throughout the week.*

*Please note there are issues with the delivery of our mail from the Post Office which contributes to the fluctuations in our weekly collections.*

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**Pastoral Team**
Rev. Jason U. Grisafi, Pastor
Rev. Marcin Nabozny, Parochial Vicar
Rev. David Atanasio, In Residence
Deacon Michael J. Leyden
Deacon Julio Murillo
Deacon John F. Sullivan - Retired
Dr. Marie Drohan, Music Director
Mrs. Barbara McNulty, Pastoral Associate
Ms. Claire Moulé, Faith Formation
Mrs. Patricia Taggart, Nursery School
Mrs. Sigrid Villalobos A., Parish Social Ministry

**Parish Office:**
(631) 669-0068 Ext. 100
Email: receptionist@stjbabylon.org

**Cemetery Office:** (631) 669-0068 ext. 107

**Faith Formation Office:** (631) 587-4717

**Outreach Office:** (631) 669-4544

**Food Pantry:** (631) 669-0068 ext.201

**Nursery School:** (631) 661-4559

**Youth Ministry:** (631) 669--0068 ext. 108

**Hispanic Office:** (631) 669-0068 ext. 131

**Parish Office Fax:** (631) 669-9175

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**Our Parish Mission Statement**
The Parish of St. Joseph is a Roman Catholic Community of Christ’s Disciples: We Welcome. We Worship. We Witness.
On *Wednesday evenings from 4 - 8pm*

the Church will be open for those who wish to spend some quiet time
in *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.*

All who wish to stop by for some silent individual prayer are welcome to do so.
It is not necessary to stay for the full hour.
Please be mindful of the limited capacity of our Church.

*Masks must be worn at all times and social distance maintained.*

There will be wipes and sanitizer available in the Church—please be courteous of others and
wipe down your seat as you leave.

*Thank you for praying with us.*

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**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**Wednesdays: 7 - 8 PM In the Church**

**Saturdays: starts at 4 PM In the Nolan Hall**

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**Join Family Life Ministry in Virtual Prayer—**

**Wednesdays at 7pm via ZOOM**

Join us as we pray the Rosary together—**ALL AGES WELCOME!**

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78942305700?pwd=Zm5TOVVVIK0dYVzBUbStIQmgydUNldz09

Meeting ID: 789 4230 5700 Passcode: Rosary
Time: 7:00 pm Wednesdays

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**Bulletin Reflection:**

*The people in the synagogue hear Jesus’ teachings and understand that there is something powerful about Him.*
We are presently taking Mass Intentions, Altar Rose, Candles, and Bread/Wine through March 2021.

To have your loved one remembered in a special way at Mass, please call the Parish Office at (631) 669-0068 ext 100. (Best time to call is between 2 - 5 PM Monday- Friday)

Leave your name, telephone number and the date/time of your Mass request and you will receive a call back to see if it is available. Donations may be mailed in or dropped off in the Mailbox outside the Parish Office. Once payment is received your Mass card will be mailed to you.

Please be sure to clearly label your donation as Mass Intention-Attention Theresa on the envelope.

The Weekday Mass schedule is available through March and is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Mass Intentions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>7:30 AM</td>
<td>For the Intentions of Roslyn Bowen</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>For the Intentions of Estelle Carvelas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Rocco Pepe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7:30 AM</td>
<td>Mary Kate Squicciarini</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Nicholas Pennetti</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>7:30 AM</td>
<td>Hunter Bradley</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Brian Vergano</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Francis Morcerf</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>People of St. Joseph’s</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>Nora &amp; Florian Gravel</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Walter Whitehead</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>7:00 AM</td>
<td>Joseph Flanagan</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Francioni &amp; Guidi</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:15 AM</td>
<td>People of St. Joseph’s</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>Rocco Pepe</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:45 AM</td>
<td>Marilyn Abbatiello</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>-Español</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

First Time~ No Bans
Second Time~ Joseph Salemo & Anna Marie Cali  
            Justin Rooney & Altia Alpunhan
Third Time~ No Bans

Wednesday- February 3
7:30 AM    Mary Kate Squicciarini
9:00 AM    Nicholas Pennetti

Thursday- February 4
7:30 AM    Hunter Bradley
9:00 AM    Brian Vergano

Friday- February 5
9:00 AM    Francis Morcerf

Saturday- February 6
9:00 AM    People of St. Joseph’s
5:00 PM    Nora & Florian Gravel
           Walter Whitehead

Sunday- February 7
7:00 AM    Joseph Flanagan
9:00 AM    Francioni & Guidi
9:15 AM    People of St. Joseph’s
10:30 AM   Rocco Pepe
10:45 AM   Marilyn Abbatiello
12:00 PM   -Español
Our Gospel reading today carries us back across the centuries into an ancient Jewish worship service. It took place in the synagogue of Capernaum on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee. The teacher that day was Jesus. We do not know what he taught. But we do know how the people responded. They were spellbound by his teaching.

It must have been a beautiful experience for everyone there, except for one man. He is described as a man with an unclean spirit. Of course there is a sense in which all of us have an unclean spirit. None of us is truly pure of heart. But this man was different. There was something very wrong with him. In the midst of the service, he completely lost control of himself and started screaming at Jesus. His words made little or no sense.

In those days most human maladies were attributed to demons. We still have to wonder who or what these demons were, or where they came from, and how they get into the lives of people. In any case, the man was a tragic figure. Doubtless, he was more to be pitied than he was to be blamed. He belongs to that group of people who, in my mind, raise serious questions about the kind of world we live in. It does not seem fair that an entire congregation could sit there and listen and learn, while one man is somehow reduced to a raving maniac. Our reading tells us that Jesus cast the demon out of the man and apparently restored him to health. In most cases that kind of miracle never happens.

In our world, there are so many things that do not seem fair. We can start with one poor, deranged man in a synagogue, then, just off the top of our heads, we can compile a long list of indictments against life. John Stuart Mill, an English philosopher of the last century, said: “Nearly all of the things that people are imprisoned for doing to one another, to this day, are among nature’s everyday performances.”

This world in which we live might not be so easily improved as at first it might seem. If we start with the proposition that the purpose of life is not happiness but character, then it would be hard to imagine a better world for that to take place. Someday, possibly, there will be an answer to all pain. However, in the meantime, our commitment should be to trust God and work with him for the making of a better world.

*Give Us Your Peace Lord*

Deacon Mike
Have you heard?

Our Parish Truck can no longer be repaired! “Old Faithful” has seen its last winter! This truck has enabled us to plow our parking lots, to pick up and deliver items for our Outreach Department, and so much more. It is a great loss to the maintenance of the parish. If you can assist us in any way, please call the office and let us know: 669-0068 ext 100

Or email fr. Jason at fr.jason@stjbabylon.org

THANK YOU!

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR OUTSTANDING CLEANERS!

Lenny, Mary Alice, Mary, Sharon, Pat, Janet, Gerri, Jill, Joyce

We all know the church pews have begun to get sticky due to all the sanitizing we’ve been doing.

This week we removed a lot - not all— of the stickiness. Lots more work needs to be done! But it’s a start. If you are someone who has access to more industrial cleaning equipment and you are able to donate some time & talent to help us out—please let us know.

Call Barbara at 669-0068 ext 108

CHECK BACK NEXT WEEK FOR DETAILS ABOUT A PARISH-WIDE 50/50 RAFFLE.

Tickets will be sold throughout February and the winning tickets will be pulled on the feast of St. Joseph, March 19th—in special celebration of this year as The Year of St. Joseph

“Go to Joseph” Raffle — available next weekend

$20 per ticket 3 tickets for $50
Visit our website www.stjosephsbabylon.org for parish news.
(631) 587-4717

Faith Formation Office hours are Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm. The office is not open to the public yet. Please call the office when you arrive and let us know what you need. The phone number is on the front door to the Parish Center (631-587-4717). Someone will meet you at the front door wearing a mask and we ask that you also wear a mask.

Unit Reviews – Unit reviews for levels 1-6 went out at the end of December. Monthly reviews for levels 7 & 8 went out last week. Students will need to answer the questions and return them to the Faith Formation Office either by emailing them to cmoule@stjbabylon.org or sending them via mail. You may also drop them off in the mailbox located outside the front door to the Parish Center.

Monthly Mass Reflections and/or Mass attendance – the Mass reflection form can be found on the website: stjosephsbabylon.org, Faith Formation, Monthly Mass Reflection Form. Parents should be talking with their children about the Mass and what they learned from it and parents should fill out the reflection and submit it. The first of the reflections were due the week of November 16th. If you wish to attend Mass in person, you can hand in a Mass attendance envelope in the collection basket instead of doing a Mass reflection. Attendance envelopes can be found in the back of the church and hall. You will need to register to attend Mass in person. Register for the weekend Mass on the website anytime after 10am on Wednesday prior to the weekend.

Level 8 Confirmation – we put in a request to celebrate Confirmation the week of May 24th (just after Memorial Day) but the dates have not been approved yet. We will notify the families as soon as we know the dates. We will need to have 4 Masses so that we can accommodate all the families safely. Each family will be given 4 seats, which includes the child celebrating Confirmation and their sponsor.

Here’s another good story to brighten your day.

This was a great community service project from one of our Confirmation candidates:

‘I decided to help my neighbor for my community service hours. My neighbor’s husband passed away in June from cancer. She is all alone and doesn’t have family living in New York. I felt really bad for her because she is older and she needed help. So, I started taking out her garbage for her, walking her dog and doing yard work for her. A lot of times I saw her sitting outside by herself. I started to spend time with her, talking with her, listening to her tell stories and playing with her dog. Finally I helped her pack up her house last month when she moved. It made me feel really good to help someone who was all alone.’
Let’s stay connected, Register Now for Constant Contact

Go to https://stjosephsbabylon.org

On right side,
Let’s Stay in Touch!
Register for Constant Contact,
Click on Sign Up Now button

VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE
VIRTUAL TOUR AND POWERPOINT
EMAIL US AT NURSERY@STJBABYLON.ORG
PROGRAMS FOR AGES 2-5
STEAM · ACTIVITY CLASSES · LITTLE LEARNERS CORNER
ENROLL TODAY - CALL FOR INFO
631-661-4559
Thrift Shop’s Project

Once again we turn to your kindness so that we can finish fixing the Thrift Shop. As you know last year the Thrift Shop was flooded, and we suffered extensive damage.

The floors and walls of three rooms on the first level and four of the basement rooms needed repair. In addition, we had to use a company to clean the asbestos and the mold. Although insurance covered the high costs for those repairs we were still paying the deductible of $5,000. Also, we lost a lot of the donations from different seasons that we stored in the basement because the bins were on the floor.

It is for this reason we are trying to prevent the same situation from happening again, we thought of putting the donations in-store bins on shelves that keep them at a safe height from the floor that will protect donations in case of other floods, as well making donations more accessible and safe for our volunteers.

Here is where we turn to your generosity once again, for this project we would need at least twenty metal shelves at the cost of $140 each, which is too high a cost for us to cover without your help. Therefore if you would like to give us a hand with this project you could send your donations to St. Joseph Outreach/memo, Thrift Shop’s shelves.

Thank you in advance!

COVID-19 FREE TESTING SITES

1) There is free COVID-PCR testing being done around the corner from the LISH Plant/CI office with results in 3-5 days; it is a drive-through style like Stony Brook. The PCR is free, the rapid is at a cost. No appointments required and they are open 7 days a week with some nights until 8 pm.
   

2) CVS Minute Clinic is also offering a drive through testing. This requires an appointment, but is also free and is PCR with results in 3 days.
   
   https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/covid-19-testing

3) Also, check this site, which lists testing sites available by zip code.
   
   https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/find-test-site-near-you
FAMILY LIFE—FAITH LIFE — AND COVID-19

How are we coping as a Parish? How are YOU coping as a Family?
As we enter the seasons of Thanksgiving & Advent & Christmas
Let’s help one another look at the blessings in our lives.

We all realize that life has changed dramatically since March 2020 and we are constantly adapting to a ‘new normal’

As a parish—we have put Mass on-line and instituted a Mass Reservation System so that when people do attend, we can do our best to keep everyone safe.

Fr. Jason has offered on line workshops on Christology, the Saints, and documents by Saint JPII.

Our Faith Formation Department is working on a syllabus for at home learning, while our Nursery School has opened its doors with many COVID Safety Protocols in place.

We have Parishioners calling other Parishioners to check in and see how they are doing or to register them for Mass.

How are our families coping? Our Parish Families are made up of Singles living on their own, newlywed couples starting out, young families, senior families, and everything in between.

In the next couple of weeks, we will be highlighting some of those families here in the bulletin; sharing stories so we can get to know one another and also so we can remember that we are not alone in our struggles—and although our circumstances may not be identical to our neighbors, our Catholic Faith is a Universal Faith and perhaps by getting to know one another a little better, we can become just a little closer to Christ.

Care to share your blessings?
Email Barbara at bmcnulty@stjbabylon.org to share your story! Or call: 669-0068 ext 108
FINDING BLESSINGS AMIDST COVID ISOLATION

Fortunate! None of us will ever forget 2020, it has been like living through a Hollywood movie. I say fortunate, because even though when this pandemic hit everything came to a screeching halt, and everything was affected—I was able to rely on my St Joseph’s friends & family ministry in ways I had not done before.

Before COVID I volunteered weekly with Youth & Family Ministry and CYO. These activities connected me with an amazing team of people and gave me the opportunity to share my faith with teenagers. Each week we would gather for activities or Volleyball Games, and at a certain point we would pray the Hail Mary together. When the pandemic hit I was upset that all of that was going to stop.

I remember how frantic the world had become. Worrying what was happening, the shortage of cleaning supplies, how will we get food, toilet paper, school, my family, bills, masks, how to stay safe, sports ending, not being able to Coach, concern for my family’s health and not being able to go to church. The entire world shut down. It seemed like the world was spiraling into a dark hole.

As the pandemic grew I found out my friend became extremely ill with COVID. Fortunately, I had Family Ministry as a connection to my parish family. We regularly chatted and checked in with one another, and we talked about wanting to help the community. When I mentioned my friend who was ill and how upsetting her illness was to her friends and her family—Family Ministry agreed to pray with me for them. Then it happened, ZOOM Rosary was created. We gathered every week on our computers from our homes as we quarantined. We prayed for my friend who was ill with COVID-19 and other intentions. People from our community joined in prayer, people from out of state joined. In fact one night a special person joined us, it was my childhood best friend from Florida. Her church in Florida was closed and she too was under quarantine. We spoke afterwards and she thanked me for inviting her to pray with us. She loved the presentation and just enjoyed praying and said how uplifting it felt when we were done. Zoom was not the same as in person, but it was a connection.

Staying connected to my Faith has meant everything for me in this pandemic. It has not been easy, but nothing is these days. I feel blessed that I have continued to make the effort to virtually gather with my parish and pray with my community. And my friend, who we had been praying for since May—she made it home from the hospital and is on her way to a blessed recovery.

I have found that something magical happens when you pray the rosary; whether you pray it in on your own or with a group of people. When you are done it is like the heaviness of your day just vanishes. You feel lighter! In 30 minutes it changes you. It taught me the power of prayer. It taught me that at least once a week I could connect with my “faith family” and pray. It gave me an opportunity to light a candle, find a quiet place to pray the Hail Mary and remind me of my faith. It brought healing and prayers being heard. It was wonderful to share it with my children and parents. But, most importantly it kept my faith alive in my heart and my mind, even when I could not leave my home!

I invite you to join us, 30 minutes that’s all it takes and I know you will be happy you did! Even if you never did it before it is as easy as saying Amen! Everything you need to follow along is provided. We Zoom Rosary on Wednesday at 7:00-7:30pm. If you pop on be sure to say hello! What a wonderful to start to the New Year!

God Bless! Jennifer Canino Weiss
Some have expressed concern about not being able to drop off their Offertory envelope. First—thank you for that concern! Your donations are appreciated, and very much needed.

Envelopes can be mailed to the Parish Office at 39 N Carll Ave, Babylon, NY  11702.

Our Parish also has the ability to accept on-line donations through a program known as FAITH DIRECT. It is a secure on line program which allows donations to electronically go to the Parish. You have the ability to adjust your settings for any amount or frequency. All details and even a video explaining FAITH DIRECT are on the website at: https://stjosephsbabylon.org/faith-direct

If you have any questions, please give the office a call. Thank you for your generosity.

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**Reflections**

**ROCKY (A PERFECT) X**

When we moved to West Islip 45 ½ years ago, we were literally the new kids on the block. From the start, we had great neighbors who eased our way into St. Joseph. Not only were the families committed to the parish, but they also made great contributions to our hamlet. Their approaches were individualized and unique, which made their involvements even more special.

Humility is one of the virtues I lack, so when I see such a quality in an individual, I am truly impressed. Rocky and Marie Pepe were our neighbors due south, and by the time we arrived on Merritt Street their two daughters were off to college. We mingled little, but always experienced a warm smile and thoughtful wave when we saw each other over the fence. Rocky was busy in the automotive industry and made his backyard his second job. That was about all I knew about him for many years, as a somewhat reserved manner was his hallmark.

A decorated Korean War Veteran, Rocky was active in the local American Legion. When spring arrived each year, he could be seen cleaning the remnants of winter in public areas designated for local remembrances and planting flowers to enhance their beauty. After the LaGrange situation was finalized, Rocky was a fixture on the first Sunday of each month to serve as a fountain of knowledge at the West Islip Historical Society.

After his beloved Marie passed away, Rocky became active in our parish. In addition to being a daily communicant, Rocky, though in his late 80s, became an extraordinary minister specifically to bring the Holy Eucharist to those who were homebound. When last we met in December, he was spending an hour at our then Monday adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Fittingly, perhaps, Rocky Pepe passed away five years and a day after his wife. His legacy is one of devotion to family, community, and his church. Rocky’s activities flew well under the radar and may not have been noticed by most.

Except, of course, by The Loving God he sought always to serve so faithfully.
Celebremos los Sacramentos

**Bautizo**
Llamar a la oficina (631) 669-0068 para mayor información

**RICA**
Los invitamos a una preparación spiritual de conversión a la Fe Católica.
Llamar al teléfono: (631) 741-4373 (Ada Gonzales)

**Matrimonio**
Se solicita a las parejas que llamar a la oficina al menos seis meses antes de la boda para una cita con un sacerdote o diácono y para fijar la fecha y hacer los arreglos.

**Uncion de las Enfermos**
Llamar a la oficina (631) 669-0068

**Confesiones**
Llamar a la oficina (631) 669-0068 par mas información
Actualización de La Verificación de Antecedentes
Oficina Para la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes:

La Carta para la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes (The Charter) promulgada por los obispos de los Estados Unidos en 2002 describe prácticas y pautas específicas que brindan estándares de seguridad en parroquias y diócesis en todo Estados Unidos. Como se indica en La Carta, la Diócesis de Rockville Center requiere que todos los empleados, clérigos y voluntarios completen tres requisitos dentro de los treinta días posteriores al empleo o al voluntariado:

1. Asistir al Programa de Protegiendo a los Niños de Dios (Virtus)
2. Firmar los Códigos de Conducta;
3. Completar una aplicación de verificación de antecedentes. La Diócesis requiere que todos aquellos que permanecen activos en ministerio sean re-evaluados nuevamente en un intervalo de 5 años. Voluntarios / empleados.

Unas Palabras sobre la Investigación de Antecedentes de los Voluntarios:
La Oficina para la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes (OPPNJ) ha simplificado el proceso de solicitud de voluntariado que permite a los voluntarios completar los tres requisitos de Ambientes Seguros en un solo paso. Personas que deseen ser voluntarias en una parroquia o escuela deben:

1. Regístrese para asistir a un taller de Protegiendo los Niños de Dios y crear una cuenta Virtus en el sitio web de Virtus: www.Virtus.org
2. Aceptar electrónicamente el Código de Conducta Diocesano- proporcionado durante el proceso de registro de Virtus.
3. Seguir las instrucciones para completar la solicitud de Investigación de Antecedentes de Sterling Volunteers que se ofrece durante el proceso de registro de Virtus.

Voluntarios activos:
Si usted está activo en un ministerio parroquial, ya ha asistido a un taller de Virtus y sus antecedentes han sido evaluados, es posible que usted ya se haya pasado o está a punto del requisito de reevaluación de cada 5 años. Si este es el caso, usted recibirá un correo electrónico de Sterling Volunteers pidiéndole que complete la solicitud de investigación de antecedentes en línea. Usted puede acceder a la aplicación de investigación de antecedentes siguiendo las indicaciones del correo electrónico o entrando en su cuenta Virtus. Tenga en cuenta que esto no es una estafa ni que su correo electrónico ha sido pirateado (hacked). La OPPNJ ha estado trabajando con su parroquia para actualizar los registros de Ambiente Seguro y señaló que es hora de que usted sea re-evaluado. También se le puede pedir que nuevamente firme electrónicamente el Código de Conducta cuando entre a su cuenta de Virtus.

Actualice su cuenta Virtus:
Para acceder a su cuenta Virtus: www.Virtus.org Usted necesitará su nombre de usuario y contraseña. Si necesita ayuda, comuníquese con Virtus: 1-888-847-8870 o helpdesk@virtus.org. Una vez entre a su cuenta, revise la información de su cuenta, particularmente su dirección de correo electrónico. Si su cuenta requiere una actualización, presione la pestaña TOOLBOX en la parte superior de la pantalla. En el lado izquierdo de la pantalla, en la columna verde, haga clic en "Actualizar mi cuenta". Podrá realizar los cambios necesarios; recuerde presionar el botón SAVE en la parte inferior de la pantalla.

Preguntas o inquietudes: mmcmahon@drvc.org; amendoza-cantos@drvc.org; jwinter@drvc.org; pditomasso@drvc.org

Gracias a todos los que continúan sirviendo en un ministerio en estos días extremadamente desafiantes.
COMUNIDAD DE ORACION PESCADOR DE HOMBRES-BABYLON-TE INVITA AL MES MISIONERO MARIANO

Febrero Viernes 7 - 9 pm

By Zoom ID 4981091934
Password rccBabylon

“Dichosa tu que has creído porque lo que te ha dicho el Señor, se cumplirá” Lucas 1, 45
**Long Term Care Ombudsmen (TLC)**

LTC Ombudsmen provide advocacy and resources for people who reside in long-term care facilities such as nursing homes, assisted living, and adult care facilities. Ombudsmen advocate for and resolve problems for all individuals living in long-term care communities by protecting rights, honoring dignity, and ensuring respect. Trained certified volunteers regularly visit assigned facilities so that residents may have the highest quality of life and care.

Looking to make a difference? Become an Ombudsman Volunteer today.

Please call the Ombudsman Program Suffolk County for details at: (631) 470-6755

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**Irish and Catholic?**

The Ancient Order of the Hibernians is the oldest Irish-Catholic Fraternal Organization in the United States, which was founded in New York City in 1836. AOH St. Patrick’s Division 2 is located in the heart of Babylon Village and is the only AOH Division in the Town of Babylon.

If you’re Roman Catholic and Irish by birth or descent, please consider becoming a member. We have men's, ladies, Jr. Boys & Jr. Girls Divisions. We are a very active and charitable AOH Division celebrating our Irish-Catholic religion, culture and heritage. We also offer Irish Step Dancing classes, Irish Language Classes, Bagpipe & Drum Lessons and more!

For more information, please contact President Jim Killen at:
Email: president.babylonhibernians.com
Website: www.BabylonHibernians.com
Phone: (631) 587-1896

In our motto of Friendship, Unity & Christian Charity