

Our Lady of Grace

Roman Catholic Church

Our Mission: We change lives through the Risen Christ



January 7, 2018 • The Epiphany of the Lord

Worship This Coming Week

<p>Mon. The Baptism of the Lord Jan. 8 <i>Is 55:1-11 / Mk 1:7-11</i> 8:00 Jason Moretti 9:00 Mikaela Harrington (Living)</p> <p>Tue. Weekday Jan. 9 <i>1 Sm 1:9-20/Mk 1:21-28</i> 8:00 Patricia Walther 9:00 Betty Zontini</p> <p>Wed. Weekday Jan. 10 <i>1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Mk 1:29-39</i> 8:00 Marilyn luzinni 9:00 Vincent Hagan</p>	<p>Thu. Weekday Jan. 11 <i>1 Sm 4:1-11/Mk 1:40-45</i> 8:00 Jack B. Stanbro 9:00 Antonino Benventre</p> <p>Fri. Weekday Jan. 12 <i>1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Mk 2:1-12</i> 8:00 Elsie Santiago Rios 9:00 Angela R. Tedesco</p> <p>Sat. Weekday Jan. 13 <i>1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Mk 2:13-17</i> 8:00 Angela and Rosa Chiodi</p>
---	--

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, 4:00pm, Presiders: Fr. Gabriel and Fr. Vin

Worship for Sunday, January 14, 2018

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

Presiding

5:00pm (Sat.)	Fr. Gius
8:00am	Fr. Gius
10:00am	Fr. Vin
12:00pm	Fr. Gabriel
1:30pm	Fr. Vin

We pray at this Mass especially for

Joan Feeney
 Giovanni Iemma
 People of the Parish
 Saverio Vacchiano
 For Persons With Disabilities

The Sacrament of Baptism

Saturday, 11:00am: Presider: Fr. Gabriel

Baptisms are celebrated throughout the year on most Sundays and occasionally on Saturday. Call the Parish Office for more information or to schedule an appointment for a Baptism interview. This should be done as soon as practicable.

The Sacrament of Matrimony

Arrangements for marriage should be made as soon as possible, but not less than six months prior to the intended wedding date.

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

This sacrament is celebrated each Saturday during the 8:00am Mass for those facing surgery or those with major disorders. Other arrangements may be made by calling the Parish Office.

Becoming a Catholic • Completing Initiation as a Catholic

Any adult, teen, or child older than age seven who is interested in becoming a Catholic or in completing the Sacraments of Initiation as a Catholic (Baptism, Confirmation, Communion), is invited to contact the Parish Office.

Regular Devotions:

- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** Mondays from 2pm to 9pm except holidays or when noted.
- Miraculous Medal Novena with Rosary:** Mondays following the 8am and 9am Masses.
- Holy Face of Jesus:** Hour of Reparation First Friday after 9am Mass.
- Padre Pio Prayer Group:** Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm.
- Scripture Sharing:** Every Tuesday at 9:30am (except during July and August).

Our Parish Communion

This week:

Monday, January 8: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 2-9pm.

Tuesday, January 9: Scripture Sharing 9:30am. Rosary Makers 10am.
RCIA 7pm. Youth Ministry 7:30pm.

Next week:

Sunday, January 14: Mass for Persons with Disabilities 1:30pm.

Monday, January 15: Celebration of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King.
Parish Offices closed.

Tuesday, January 16: Scripture Sharing 9:30am. RCIA 7pm.
Youth Ministry 7:30pm.

Wednesday, January 17: Rosary Makers 4:30pm.

Friday, January 19: Widows and Widowers 12pm.

Upcoming:

Wednesday, February 14: Ash Wednesday, Lent begins.

Weekday Mass Intentions:

The Parish Mass Book through June 30, 2018, is open for Monday through Friday Masses only. All Masses must be requested in person, and the offering must be given at the time of the request.

All dates and times are subject to change when a priest cannot be available, and the Mass must be rescheduled.

Our Pastoral Council

Mrs. Karen Elefterion
Mr. Ralph Fiorillo
Ms. Mary Ellen McEntee
Mr. James Nevins
Ms. Maria Russello-Chetti
Ms. Lucy Sanchez
Ms. Haydee Santini
Mrs. Concetta Whelan
Mrs. Annemarie Zaret

Our Finance Council

Mr. Richard Korcz
Mr. Leonardo LoCricchio
Ms. Debra Nicosia
Mr. Joseph Salzone (Trustee)
Mr. Robert Scharf (Trustee)
Mr. Thomas Vilella

Our Ministries

Ministries of Worship

Msgr. Vincent Rush, Pastor
Rev. Gabriel Miah, Associate
Rev. Gius Garcia, Associate
Deacon Brian Miller
Deacon Irwin Saffran
Mr. Terence Purtell, Director of Music

Parish Social Ministry

Mrs. Ann Kristoffersen,
Coordinator

Ministries with Children and Families

Mrs. Peggy Harnisch, Director
Ms. Jeanmarie Florio, Day Care Director
Mrs. Tischa Stanley, Angel Care Coordinator
Ms. Doreen Scalise, Kids of the Kingdom / Summer Fun Coordinator

Ministries of Administration

Parish Services, Finance
Mr. James Pisano, Facilities Manager

As I See It

By Fr. Vin

A Word from the Holy Father on Silence before Mass

Here's a press release that came out just before Thanksgiving; it speaks to one of our practices in our parish, and I thought it was a good reinforcement and reminder:

Vatican City, Nov 15, 2017 / 03:49 am (CNA/EWTN News).- On Wednesday, Pope Francis called out the common habit of chatting with people around you before Mass, stressing that this is a time for silent prayer, when we prepare our hearts for an encounter with the Lord.

"When we go to Mass, maybe we arrive five minutes before, and we start to chit-chat with those in front of us," the Pope said Nov. 15. However, "it is not a moment for chit-chat."

"It is a moment of silence for preparing ourselves for dialogue, a time for the heart to collect itself in order to prepare for the encounter with Jesus," he said, adding that "silence is so important."

Continuing his new catechesis on the Eucharist, the Pope recalled his message the week prior, that the Mass is not a show, but a place where we encounter the Lord. In this encounter, he said, silence is what "prepares us and accompanies us."

But to really understand this, first we have to answer a question, he said. And that is: What is prayer?

Prayer is, "first and foremost dialogue, personal relationship with God," he said. And in prayer, just like in any dialogue, it needs moments of silence "together with Jesus." This, he said, is because it is only in the "mysterious silence of God" that his Word can resound in our heart.

Francis explained that to pray is not difficult and is something that Jesus himself taught us to do first of all by example, when in the Gospels he withdraws to a secluded place to pray. And second, he teaches us again when he tells his disciples that the first word in knowing how to pray is "Father."

This is "so simple," the Pope said. "So we have to learn, 'Father.'" Then, we must take on the attitude of a small child before his or her parents. One full of trust and confidence, knowing that God "remembers you and takes care of you," he said.

The second attitude we should take is one of childlike surprise and wonder. The child, he said, "always asks a thousand questions because he wants to discover the world; in our relationship with the Lord, in prayer, wonder," he said, telling pilgrims to "open the heart to wonder."

When it comes to prayer, he noted that often we are busy with many different activities or projects and say we don't have time. "We lose sight of what is fundamental: our life of the heart, our spiritual life, our life of prayer with the Lord."

However, Jesus surprises us in truth by loving us and calling us even in our weaknesses, he said, adding that just as Christ called his disciples, he also calls us to him at each Mass.

"This is therefore the greatest grace: to be able to experience the Mass, the Eucharist. It is the privileged moment to be with Jesus, and through Him with God and his brothers."

Greeting other parishioners is appropriate when we arrive (early) for Mass. But at five minutes' before, when the announcement for silent preparation is made and the lights in church are dimmed, we all stop the chatter and do what the Holy Father encourages. It can be hard – we're easily distracted, and chatter is a way of pushing away uncomfortable silence. But it's important. Until next week, peace.

Faith Formation

Merry Christmas

Today, Sunday, we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord! We're in the Christmas season; and while the rest of the world is taking down Christmas displays, remember, we have until Tuesday to enjoy the Christmas season.

Remember, the Christmas season goes until the Baptism of the Lord celebrated on January 8, 2018.

Remember students to look around the church at the changes each season!

Christian Service

Our students in Confirmation Prep 8 have begun their Christian Service for the year. In this year of their Faith Formation, they will participate in service projects to reach out to the community and the world.

So far our students have made 672 sandwiches for the soup kitchen and raised \$1173 at our Walk-A-Thon and made over \$500 at our bake sale!

Our students in Confirmation Prep 7 have begun their Christian Service around our parish. They have been helping in the community garden, and each week they help clean and set up PES Hall as well as setting up our classes for the year.

I think we're off to a great start!

Retreats

Please pray for our Confirmation Prep 8 students this month! They will be attending a retreat here in the parish where they learn and talk about discipleship! Please pray that these students will continue to grow into the disciples the Church and the world needs!

Clothing Drive

Our Confirmation students will be fundraising this year to raise money to donate to a worthy charity that they choose. One of the things they will do is have a fundraising clothing drive. Please bring any gently used clothing to our Faith Formation Office Monday through Friday between 9am and 5pm or to the Parish Office during weekend hours. Last year our students loaded a truck for St. Vincent DePaul with 5,000 pounds of clothing to help the needy in the Long Island area. We hope to surpass that this year!



Parish Social Ministry

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Prayer for Families

We bless your name, O Lord,
for sending your own incarnate Son,
to become part of a family, so that as he lived His life,
He would experience its worries and its joys.

We ask you, Lord,
to protect and watch over this family,
so that in the strength of your grace its members may enjoy prosperity,
possess the priceless gift of your peace, and, as the Church alive in the home,
bear witness in this world to your glory.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

From Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers

Today is the Feast of the Epiphany

During this beautiful season, we celebrate the arrival of Jesus, the gift of God among us as a genuine human – like us except for sin. By His life, Jesus attracted many to the Good News of the Reign of God, especially the poor, the marginalized, those of no account in the eyes of the world.

The Social Ministry of this parish continues to attract disciples willing to share that Good News (through their gifts of time, talent and treasure) with those in need. Their compassion and care welcomes all and through the generosity of the community attempts to alleviate the needs of struggling families. The many facets of the Social Ministry are putting faith into action through the exercise of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. Please consider volunteering in our pantry or to do deliveries or to work in the office.

Call the Parish Social Ministry Office at 631-661-9354.

Thank You

- To the parish of St. James in Setauket who generously donated gift cards and toys to our parish. They helped to fill the stockings for so many of our children and teens.
- The West Babylon Community Youth Group under the direction of Pat Farrell donated a huge bundle of toys, so Santa could put them under the Christmas tree.
- To the many volunteer ministers who serve in the Social Ministry Office and in the Pantry Services. Without you behind the scenes, none of the varied works serving those in need would have been accomplished.
- To the many volunteer drivers, especially Michael and his grandson, Thomas, who deliver to the homebound.
- To the families who adopted some of the families in need.
- To the maintenance staff for their help during this busy time.
- To all the parishioners who donated gifts and gift cards to help make Christmas happy for those families in need who come to Parish Social Ministry.
- To Boy Scout Troop 175 and 2014 who sent boys to help us distribute gifts for Christmas.

May the peace of Christ be with all of you.

Parish News

Please Pray for Those Who Have Died This Week

Catherine M. Santamaria
Maureen Caruso

James F. Garvey
Frances J. Saccente

Joseph A. Caruso

Registration for Angel Care Is Here

Angel CARE is our before- and after-school program. We offer a safe and friendly environment for children in kindergarten through sixth grade for West Babylon schools and kindergarten through fifth grade for Daniel Street and Wm. Rall in Lindenhurst.

The before care is for West Babylon schools only. It opens at 7am and is \$9 for each morning you need. The aftercare includes all the schools and is until 6pm and is \$12 each day that you need. We are a state certified program. Our staff is CPR/First Aid certified and has 15 hours of yearly training. We have two MAT certified employees on site.

For further information, please contact us at 631-893-6564 or email pstanley@ourladyofgrace.net.

Calendar Raffle Winners

Tickets for the Calendar Raffle from January through June are available in the Parish Office.

*The Gift you have
received
Give as a
Gift*
Matthew 10:8

Financial Stewardship Report Since September 1 through November 27, 2017

Sunday offering target: \$13,300 per week

Target to date: \$172,900

Collections to date: \$172,788

Under target by \$112

Christmas Offerings, 2017

(Through 12/26/17)

Target: \$51,000

Collections to date: \$38,428

(We expect Christmas offerings to continue to arrive for some time)

Many thanks to our generous sacrificial givers!

Your sacrificial giving makes our ministries and our mission from Christ possible. Please be generous.

Ministries with Children and Families

From Family Life Ministry

Merry Christmas! On this Sunday we celebrate the Epiphany! Mary and Joseph were welcoming the Magi from far away. Remember when people came to see your babies when they were born? Mary and Joseph had also visitors to see the newborn Jesus!

What is Family Life Ministry?

Family Life Ministry hopes to address the needs of families of all ages and sizes. From those in single person families or multi-generational families, we are all part of the parish family of Our Lady of Grace.

We would love to hear your ideas for this ministry! What would you like to see happen in our parish?

Contact Maria at mrchetti4olog@gmail.com, or call our Faith Formation Office at 631-661-9353 for more information.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, January 8, 2018, at 7:30pm! Join us!

Hospitality Breakfasts

Our next Hospitality Breakfast will be on Sunday, January 14, 2018, after the 10am Mass. Please save the date; we look forward to seeing you! Even if you regularly come to a different Mass, please come and join us! It's a great opportunity to connect with other parishioners.

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting this with us! Bring the family or come by yourself!

Pageant News

Thanks to all who participated in and/or helped with our Christmas Pageant this year! We are blessed to have so many eager participants and hardworking volunteers. Thanks especially to Maria Russello-Chetti who adapted the Gospel so well and Terence Purtell who made sure we sounded like angels! What a beautiful way to enter into the upcoming season of Christmas!



Grace Marie Soto played baby Jesus!

Youth Ministry Meeting



Youth Ministry, 7:30pm, Tuesdays in Room 212/214. Teens 9th – 12th grade. Nothing to do Tuesday nights? Our fall session began September 19 at 7:30pm, Room 212. Join us for faith, fun and fellowship!

Day Care News

Day Care is in for a fun-filled fall! Our curriculum includes the ABCs, science, math, music and art for toddlers and preschoolers. We have a few openings available at each level. Please feel free to call or email me to set up a tour or ask questions at 631-422-4681 or Jflorio@ourladyofgrace.net.



Seating in Church - *From Fr. Vin*

Sometimes some people need a particular sort of seat in the church – notably ministers like EMHCs, persons with disabilities (whether the disability is visible or not), and people with small children. Please accommodate requests if you're asked to change your seat to allow someone with a particular need to sit where you are. As Saint Paul writes, "Humbly regard others as more important than yourselves; each looking out not for his own interests, but everyone for those of others." [Phl 2:3]

From the Diocese – IRCP Deadline Extended

The Diocese of Rockville Centre announced that the deadline to file for Phase I of the Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program (IRCP) for survivors of sexual abuse by clergy of the Diocese of Rockville Centre has been extended to January 31, 2018. The first phase of the IRCP was originally scheduled to end on December 31, 2017.

Any person wishing to file a new claim alleging sexual abuse not previously reported to the diocese may be eligible to participate in Phase II of the program when it is implemented in early 2018. These reports will be turned over to the local district attorney and investigated fully prior to a determination by the IRCP.

To learn more about the Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program, please visit the diocesan website – www.drvc.org and click on "Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program" to access full program information.

Child Abuse Reporting and Standards of Conduct for Church Personnel

There is a special diocesan phone line for reporting allegations of sexual abuse by church personnel and volunteers: 1-516-594-9063. The New York State abuse hotline for all allegations of child abuse can be reached at 1-800-342-3720.

Our parish complies with a diocesan child protection policy. The text of the policy can be found on the diocesan website at http://www.drvc.org/policy_procedure_forms and is also available through the Parish Office.

A code of conduct to which all parish clergy, employees, and volunteers must comply can be found at http://www.drvc.org/pdf/protecting_children/policy/pastoralconduct.pdf and is also available from the parish.

Further information, including information on the diocesan child protection and safe environment programs to which our parish subscribes can be found on the diocesan website at <http://www.drvc.org/efforts-to-protect-children-and-young-people/diocesan-efforts-to-protect-children-and-young-people.html>

The Last Good Word

Retreat in Assisi and visit to Rome - June 15 – 25, 2018

Fr. Jim McNamara wishes to invite you to a special retreat in the footsteps of St. Francis and St. Clare in Assisi June 15 – 25, 2018. He will give two conferences a day for six days in Assisi with Mass each day in the various churches. There is ample time for prayer and visiting the holy places. The entire city of Assisi becomes the retreat house. You will be staying at the Hotel Posta in Assisi. You will then spend three days in Rome at Domus Carmelitana not far from St. Peter's. For further information, you can access the brochure at: www.pilgrimimages.com/frmcnamara

All arrangements are being made by 206 Tours, and you register through them. You can call Chris at 206 Tours: 800-206-8687 or email him at: Chris@206tours.com.

A Word about Memorial Donations



Our Lady of Grace is frequently given donations of vestments or altar vessels that people have received as memorials when a person dies. While we appreciate the thought behind such memorials, we have so many of the items most frequently given that the donations end up stored away in sacristy closets. To provide an alternative, Our Lady of Grace has established an *Altar Fund* to receive money donations as memorials on the occasion of a death. Donors will receive a formal acknowledgement card that can be presented to the family at the wake; memorials will be noted in the parish *Bulletin*; and donations will be used to purchase items for our public worship when needed, such as liturgical books, altar cloths, and the like. Memorial cards for donations to the *Altar Fund* are available at the Parish Office. Please encourage people to use this method of giving memorials rather than purchasing items that may never be used.

World Meeting of Families 2018

The Office of Faith Formation of the Diocese of Rockville Centre is pleased to be working with Bishop Barres and Bishop Brennan in participating in the World Meeting of Families 2018 to be held in Ireland from August 21 – 26, 2018.

The Office of Faith Formation will be providing opportunities for those participating in the pilgrimage and for those who are unable to participate to gather in advance in order to prepare for the event with catechesis and prayer. For further information, contact us by email: mapill@drvc.org or call 631-678-5800 ext. 505.



Moving On Group

Being hosted at the Church of St. Joseph Parish Center located at 39 North Carll Avenue in Babylon, NY. The "Moving On" Group is an after-bereavement group for widows and widowers. They will conduct a 'Do It Yourself' Workshop presented by Home Depot on Friday, January 12, at 7:30pm.

For further information, please call Geri Olson at 631-661-8994.
