



Our Lady of Grace

Roman Catholic Church

Our Mission: We change lives through the Risen Christ

BY Prayer

WE PRAY EVERY DAY FOR THE SUCCESS OF OUR PARISH'S MISSION AS WELL AS FOR OUR OWN INTENTIONS.

BY Presence

WE JOIN OUR COMMUNION OF FAITH FOR MASS EVERY SUNDAY FOR MUTUAL SUPPORT AND FOR THE GRACE GOD OFFERS US.



BY Witness

WE LOVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR EACH DAY.

BY Support

WE SHARE OUR GIFTS AND WE ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER.

We Celebrate the Eucharist

VIGIL OF SUNDAY: 5:00PM SATURDAY EVENING
SUNDAY: 8:00AM, 10:00AM (CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD),
AND 12:00 NOON (CHOIR)
WEEKDAYS: MONDAY – FRIDAY 8:00AM AND 9:00AM • SATURDAY 8:00AM
HOLY DAYS: SEE INSIDE

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FAITH FORMATION OFFICE (631) 661-9353
PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY OFFICE (631) 661-9354
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February 11, 2018 • Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Worship This Coming Week

<p>Mon. Weekday Feb. 12 <i>Jas 1:1-11/Mk 8:11-13</i> 8:00 Eugenia Miranda (B'day) 9:00 Michael V. Sansalone</p> <p>Tue. Weekday Feb. 13 <i>Jas 1:12-18/Mk 8:14-21</i> 8:00 Intentions of our Blessed Virgin Mary 9:00 Casima Makowski</p> <p>Wed. Ash Wednesday Feb. 14 <i>Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18</i> 8:00 John and Domenica Olanick 9:00 Robert Olanick</p>	<p>Thu. Thursday after Ash Wednesday Feb. 15 <i>Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25</i> 8:00 Robert Casey 9:00 Albert Luglio</p> <p>Fri. Friday after Ash Wednesday Feb. 16 <i>Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14-15</i> 8:00 Doris McHugh 9:00 Michael Sansalone</p> <p>Sat. Saturday after Ash Wednesday Feb. 17 <i>Is 58:9b-14/Lk 5:27-32</i> 8:00 Lisa Canonico, Johnny Ferry, Judith Vella, Daniel C. Vassallo</p>
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The Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Worship for Sunday, February 18, 2018

First Sunday of Lent

Gn 9:8-15/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

	Presiding	We pray at this Mass especially for
5:00pm (Sat.)	Fr. Gabriel	Robert Casey
8:00am	Fr. Gabriel	Tandy A. Klepper
10:00am	Fr. Gius	People of the Parish
12:00pm	Fr. Vin	Theresa Giambruno

The Sacrament of Baptism

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, February 12: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 2-9pm.

Tuesday, February 13: Scripture Sharing 9:30am.
Rosary Makers 10am. RCIA 7pm. Youth Ministry 7:30pm.

Wednesday, February 14: Ash Wednesday, Lent begins. Masses with distribution of ashes at 8am and 9am. Services with distribution of ashes at noon, 2pm, 4pm, 6pm, and 8pm. (Ashes may only be distributed at a Mass or service; they may be brought to the sick at any time.)

Friday, February 16: Widows and Widowers 12pm.

Saturday, February 17: Sending of Catechumens to the Rite of Election, 5pm Mass

Next week:

Monday, February 19: President's Day. All Parish Offices closed. No Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Tuesday, February 20: Scripture Sharing 9:30am. RCIA 7pm. Mass of the Bereaved 7:30pm.

Wednesday, February 21: Rosary Makers 4:30pm.

Sunday, February 25: Faith Formation Pasta Dinner 1pm.

Upcoming:

Monday, March 5: Lenten Gospel Study of the *Gospel of Mark* begins, presented by Msgr. Donald Hanson. 7:30 – 9pm. No registration required. (Dates are March 5, 12, 19, and 26)

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

Getting Ready for Lent

Lent starts this coming Wednesday, February 14. The schedule of Masses and Services with distribution of ashes is elsewhere in the *Bulletin*. (By church law, ashes can only be distributed as part of a Mass or service, except when being brought to the housebound for the sick.)

The traditional Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are meant to deepen our relationship to Christ and to make us better and more effective disciples in our work. So as you prepare for Lent and make one or a few Lenten resolutions, I encourage you to consider these traditional practices first:

Prayer: If you don't come to Sunday Mass every week now, make a resolution to use this Lent to begin – and then keep it up after Easter. It is simply impossible to be a good Catholic, to deepen one's faith, and to be an effective disciple without the weekly guidance and nourishment of the Eucharist. If you are now a faithful Sunday Massgoer, consider coming to weekday Mass one or more mornings a week – or add the Liturgy of the Hours – at least Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer - to your daily routine of prayer. (Backing up for a review: The Church prays in two ways: officially as Christ's Risen Body, and through individuals' personal prayer. The two official prayers of the Church are the Mass and other Sacraments and the Liturgy of the Hours. In these we take part with the whole Church in fulfilling our role to praise God and to sanctify creation. Everything else – the rosary, devotions, novenas, all the rest – is private prayer that individuals may adopt as a help to coming to know and love God.)

Fasting: We fast (from food) and abstain (from meat) according to the discipline of the whole Church and as part of the Church's Lenten preparation for Easter. (Again, the regulations are elsewhere in the *Bulletin*.) But personal fasting according to our circumstances can also be helpful and, perhaps, vital. Let me suggest that the most important sort of "fast" we 21st-century American Catholics might undertake is from the media – commercial and social. Disconnect for an hour a day or for a day a week. Talk to people face-to-face; ban smartphones from the dinner table (a good idea not just during Lent in my opinion.) The people who created and who now support the major media platforms have admitted that they're designed to be addictive. That can't be good for our spiritual life. As with so much technology, the web and its offshoots are a good servant but a poor master – keep them in their place in your life, starting this Lent.

Almsgiving: Giving to the poor is profoundly intertwined in our tradition with penance for sin. In both Old Testament and New, giving to the poor is considered a gift to God, who repays with the gift of eternal life in return. Christ made this explicit and personal in His parable of the Last Judgment: "When I was hungry you gave Me food ... Whatever you did for one of these least, you did for Me." Lent is a time for practical steps to care for the poor close by and around the world. Choose a charity, and commit to giving for Lent.

In addition to these, our parish will offer two programs for Lent:

A Course on St. Mark: We read the Gospel of Mark during this liturgical year. Learn more about him and his Gospel in a four-session course offered by Msgr. Don Hanson. Monday evenings, 7:30 to 9pm, in the Parish Center. Dates are March 5, 12, 19, and 26. No registration necessary. If you can't make them all, make as many as you can.

Reading the New Testament in a (maybe) New Way: The practice of *Lectio Divina* ("Divine reading") is ancient in the Church, but few lay people were taught it. Now you can learn a spiritual practice that monks and contemplative religious have practiced for centuries. Again, details are elsewhere in the *Bulletin*.

Ash Wednesday invites us to draw closer to Christ, Who loves us more than we can imagine. What will you do to respond to Christ's invitation? Until next week, peace.

Faith Formation

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!

Faith Formation Office Hours

The Faith Formation Office is open each day from 9:00am to 4:00pm from Monday to Friday. Evenings available by appointment!

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!



Pasta Dinner

Our Level 8 Students will be holding their annual Pasta Dinner on Sunday, February 25, 2018, from 1:00 to 4:00pm. This is a new and earlier time! Tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for the family! We will be selling tickets next weekend after the Masses, and tickets are on sale whenever in the Faith Formation Office when we are open. Dinner includes pasta with meatballs, salad, bread and dessert. We will have several raffle baskets as well. Please support our students in this fundraiser!

Buy Your
Raffle Tickets
Here

Ash Wednesday – February 14



Distribution of Ashes at Mass:

8am and 9am.

Distribution of Ashes at Prayer Service: noon, 2pm, 4pm, 6pm, 8pm.

By Church law ashes can be distributed only at a Mass or Service.
(They can be brought to the sick at any time.)

Parish Social Ministry

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

The Inclusion of the Poor in Society

Our faith in Christ, who became poor, and was always close to the poor and the outcast, is the basis of our concern for the integral development of society's most neglected members. Each individual Christian and every community is called to be an instrument of God for the liberation and promotion of the poor, and for enabling them to be fully a part of society. This demands that we be docile and attentive to the cry of the poor and to come to their aid.

A mere glance at the Scriptures is enough to make us see how our gracious Father wants to heard the cry of the poor: "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them...so I will send you..." (Ex 3:7-8,10). If we, who are God's means of hear the poor, turn deaf ears to this plea, we oppose the Father's will and his plan; that poor person "might cry to the Lord against you, and you would incur guilt". (Dt 15:9)

-Evangelii Gaudium

Apprenticeship and Training for Plumbers – Local Union #200

The Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee for Plumbers, Local Union #200 will be conducting recruitment starting January 10 for 20 plumber apprentices.

Applications must be completed, in person only, at Local Union #200, 375 Central Avenue, Bohemia, NY between the hours of 10am and 5pm every Wednesday, excluding legal holidays, during the recruitment period. All applications must be received by March 28, 2018.

The committee requires that applicants:

- Must be at least 18 years old
- Must have a high school diploma or high school equivalency diploma (GED or TASC)
- Must be a resident of Nassau or Suffolk County
- Must have a valid NYS driver's license in order to operate company vehicles
- Must submit to a drug test at the expense of the sponsor after selection and prior to indenture
- Must purchase text materials for related instruction classes as required (average \$200 per year)
- Must provide DD-214 Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty if applicable.

For further information, applicants should contact their nearest New York State Department of Labor Office or Local Union #200 at 631-567-3083.

Child and Family Bereavement Support Programs – in English and Spanish

For English Speakers

Good Shepherd Hospice Offices – 110 Bi-County Boulevard, Suite 114, Farmingdale
Tuesday Evenings – March 6 thru April 24 -- 6:00pm – 7:15pm
Registration Required – call Carolyn Lisi Haas, LCSW-R (631)-828-7629

For Spanish Speakers

The HRHCare Health Center – 1869 Brentwood Road, Brentwood
Wednesday Evenings - February 28 – April 18 -- 6:30pm – 7:45pm
Registration Required – call Maribeth Mckeever, LCSW-R - (631) - 828-7628

Parish News

Let Us Welcome Our Newly Baptized Into Our Parish Communion

Olivia Eileen Morin

Francis Edward McGuinness

Natalie Aristeo Marie Ciarvino

Please Pray for Those Who Have Died This Week

Connie Napolitano

Elizabeth A. Stephan

Mildred C. Petersen

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.

From Fr. Vin: Calendar Raffle

We are unable to run the calendar raffles for the first half of the 2018 year. I hope we can count on your support in the second half of this year when we hope to resume the raffles. You should hear from us about that no later than June 1. Let me express my sincere apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused you.

Widows and Widowers

Our Lady of Grace Widows and Widowers will meet on Friday, February 16, at 12pm in Room 109. For information, call 631-661-3439. New member are always welcome.

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

Financial Stewardship Report September 1, 2017, through January 29, 2018

Sunday offering target: \$13,300 per week

Target to date: \$292,600

Collections to date: \$294,046

Over target by \$1,446

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

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

Save the Date

Please join us!

Stations of the Cross

Come learn what the Stations of the Cross are and how we celebrate and remember them each year especially during Lent.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20 - anyone in grades 3 – 12 is welcome to come down to Our Lady of Grace at 7:30pm to get his/her part and rehearse for the Live Stations of the Cross which will be presented on Good Friday, 3/30/18 at 5:30pm (no experience).

If you have any questions, call: 631-661-9353.

Coming Soon!

Catholic Family Bible Experience

This Lent season we are teaming up with over 10 other parishes in the Diocese of Rockville Centre to offer the Catholic Family Bible Experience.

The Catholic Family Bible Experience allows your whole family to read the books of the New Testament in eight weeks through an innovative book approved by Pope Francis himself.

The Books of the New Testament presents the New Testament Scriptures in a simplified format - much like a letter from God about God. No chapters, no verses!

Your family members will read approximately 60 pages a week and once a week practice the ancient Catholic prayer method of praying with the Bible called *Lectio Divina*.

We will give each interested family copies of *The Books of The New Testament* so that there is no cost to participate.

The Diocese of Rockville Centre is excited about the Catholic Family Bible Experience and invites you to participate at no cost whatsoever.

Individuals are invited to participate in this experience as well!

Your copy can be picked up after any of the Masses on February 17 or 18, 2018. Come to Room 109. We'll explain everything. Remember there is no cost to be part of this.

To reserve your copy of *The Books of the New Testament*, please call the Faith Formation Office at 631-661-9353 or email Peggy at mharnisch@ourladyofgrace.net.

If you'd like to be part of a group here, we will offer one as part of the Tuesday Morning Prayer Group and one on Thursday evenings during Lent. Please let us know if you want to be a part of one of those groups!

Parish News

Day Care News

Day Care is in for a fun-filled winter! 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.



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!

The next 'Bake Sale' will be held this weekend February 10 and 11, 2018. Please come and support our youth in this endeavor.

"Youth Ministry is an organization at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church. Its purpose is to support the moral and personal growth of teenagers while also offering fun experiences. While based inside of a Catholic church, the Youth Ministry welcomes those of all faiths to show tolerance and respect of others. We hold meetings on the second floor on Tuesdays as well as other events during the weekends. If you are interested, check it out!" Aiden O'Sullivan 11th Grade

Lectors and EMHCs – Schedule Change Requests Due

Lectors and EMHCs who wish to change their scheduled service for the April – June 2018 period should let leadership know by e-mail no later than February 15 at worship@ourladyofgrace.net. New schedules will be sent to you as soon as they can be prepared. Thank you for your service to our people!

Widows and Widowers Trip

POP THE CORK at Tomasello Winery on Monday, April 23, 2018. The cost is \$95 which includes POP THE CORK theme party, full luncheon, wine tasting, music and dancing. And four hours at resorts casino with \$25 slot play. For information, call 631-661-3439.

Contribution Statements for 2017

Contribution statements for 2017 will be mailed out on request. Please contact the Parish Office (631-587-5185) or e-mail parish@ourladyofgrace.net. If you have your envelope number, that would be helpful. We will send letters as soon as they can be prepared. Thank you for your generosity to Our Lady of Grace!

From Fr. Vin:

Because of the flu epidemic in line with recommendations from the diocesan Office of Worship, we will discontinue the offering of the Eucharistic Cup to the assembly at Mass until the flu threat passes. Parishioners should also feel free to smile, nod, or make another gesture rather than shaking hands at the sign of peace.

Lent 2018

Entering the Word and World of Mark: a Lenten Series

Presenter: Msgr. Donald Hanson

Mondays, March 5, 12, 19, 26, 7:30 – 9:00pm, Center Room 110



This year we are reading the gospel of Mark at Sunday Mass. Mark is the earliest written and the shortest of the gospels. Similar in structure to Matthew and Luke's gospels, it is very different from John's gospel. Mark's gospel presents an important and distinctive view of Jesus, its subject. In four sessions we will come to know Mark a little better, as well as becoming acquainted with the methods modern scripture scholars use to study the gospels, who their original audience was, and the literary forms in which the message was expressed. Participants will have the chance to examine key passages up close and ask questions of the text in order to understand it better.

The first two sessions will focus on how the Gospels came to be, and how we now study them. The final two sessions will have more to do with reading the Gospels for spiritual benefit.

No advance registration is required. Get to know Jesus better this Lent through study of his word. Again, the sessions will meet on Monday evenings, 7:30 to 9 PM., in the Parish Center, Room 110. Dates are March 5, 12, 19, and 26.

Msgr. Donald Hanson is the recently retired pastor of Most Holy Trinity Church in East Hampton. Fr. Don has had a varied career as a priest: from parish service to a time as assistant chancellor of the diocese, and to several years on the faculty of the American College of the University of Louvain in Belgium. (He keeps up his facility with Dutch and Flemish; so if you speak one of those languages, I'm sure he'd be delighted to chat with you in them.)

Lenten Fast and Abstinence Regulations:

- ≡ Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.
- ≡ Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 years of age is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. (The obligation of fasting ceases with the celebration of one's 59th birthday.)
- ≡ The fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday means this: Only one full (meatless) meal is allowed; two other smaller meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. Again, the obligation to fast ceases with one's 59th birthday, but the obligation to abstain from eating meat does not.
- ≡ Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed minimal penitential practices.

Ash Wednesday – February 14

Distribution of Ashes at Mass: 8am and 9am. Distribution of Ashes at Prayer Service: Noon, 2pm, 4pm, 6pm, 8pm. By Church law ashes can be distributed only at a Mass or Service. (They can be brought to the sick at any time.)