



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

DAY CARE OFFICE (631) 422-4681

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April 1, 2018 • Easter Sunday

Worship This Coming Week

<p>Mon. Monday within the Octave of Easter Apr. 2 <i>Acts 2:14, 22-33/Mt 28:8-15</i> 8:00 The Intentions of the Blessed Mother 9:00 Jo-Ann Gosline (7 Anniv.)</p> <p>Tue. Tuesday within the Octave of Easter Apr. 3 <i>Acts 2:36-41/Jn 20:11-18</i> 8:00 Ricardo Vermont 9:00 Vincent Hagan</p> <p>Wed. Wednesday within the Octave of Easter Apr. 4 <i>Acts 3:1-10/Lk 24:13-35</i> 8:00 Domenica and Antonio Iemma 9:00 Mary McGuire</p>	<p>Thu. Thursday within the Octave of Easter Apr. 5 <i>Acts 3:11-26/Lk 24:35-48</i> 8:00 The Intentions of the Blessed Mother 9:00 Anita Sollino</p> <p>Fri. Friday within the Octave of Easter Apr. 6 <i>Acts 4:1-12/Jn 21:1-14</i> 8:00 Philip McManus (Anniv.) 9:00 Devotees of the Holy Face of Jesus – Living and Deceased</p> <p>Sat. Saturday within the Octave of Easter Apr. 7 <i>Acts 4:13-21/Mk 16:9-15</i> 8:00 Ann Hassell, For the Intentions of the Blessed Mother.</p>
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The Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Worship for Sunday, April 8, 2018

Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-31

	Presiding	We pray at this Mass especially for
5:00pm (Sat.)	Fr. Gius	People of the Parish
8:00am	Fr. Gius	Joseph Amendole (4 Anniv.)
10:00am	Fr. Vin	Henry Varas (3 Anniv.)
12:00pm	Fr. Gabriel	Maura O'Grady (Living)
1:30pm	Fr. Gabriel	For Persons With Special Needs

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

Tuesday, April 3: Scripture Sharing 9:30am. RCIA 7pm.
Youth Ministry 7pm.

Saturday, April 7: Youth Ministry Bake Sale after the Mass.

Next week:

Sunday, April 8: Youth Ministry Bake Sale after all the Masses.
Babylon Chorale 4pm

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

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

Wednesday, April 11: Rosary Makers 4:30pm.

Saturday, April 14: Easter Concert 7pm.

Upcoming:

Thursday, May 10: The Ascension of the Lord. (Holy Day of Obligation.) Masses at 5:30pm Wednesday (Vigil), and Thursday at 8am 9am, and 7:30pm.

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 (Trustee)
Mr. Leonardo LoCricchio
Ms. Debra Nicosia
Mr. Joseph Salzone
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

The Paschal Mystery

*We who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death.
We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death so that,
just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father,
we too might live in newness of life.*

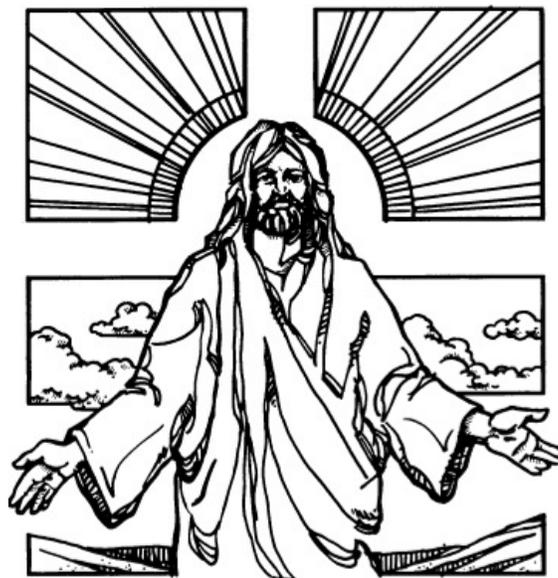
[Paul to the Romans, 6:3-4]

The Paschal Mystery is God's way of doing things: new-life-only-through-dying. Christ's dying and rising are a mirror to what God wants to do in all of us, all the time – not only at our physical deaths. But few, except the saints, let God love them into the fuller joy and humanity that's beyond "adulthood" as our culture imagines it.

But look at "normal" adult life in our culture (and quite possibly in us): anxiety about jobs, relationships, possessions, growing old...; addictions (to drugs, food, experience, "love," sex, work, possessions); envy of others' supposed happiness; jealous factionalism (based on language, ethnicity, religion, and more); a readiness to resort to violence (verbal or physical) even if "only as a last resort" (consider our prisons and the widespread support for capital punishment); the harboring of old wounds and resentments; stinginess with giving (forgiveness and alms); readiness to "spin" the truth when it serves our purposes... Is this the best human beings are capable of?

Often when sincere people observe such weaknesses in themselves, their remedy is to apply a corrective discipline; and there's a place for that. But the goal is not to be a "normal adult" who no longer has such weaknesses. (It's almost the definition of "normal adult" to display these traits.) God's call is to a way of life "beyond adulthood" – in our traditional language, to become a saint. The invitation – the paschal mystery in action – is to die to a whole way of living that we're comfortable in, and to break through into something unknown, just as an infant leaves behind the bliss of merely physical existence for childhood, and the child leaves dependency behind for adulthood.

Saints don't walk around with halos; but we can notice them if we look by the absence of the characteristics of "adult" behavior that I've sketched above. It's only partly that they're better-disciplined than we are. At root, they live differently because they've surrendered to a dying most of us fear – and been reborn, even on Earth, into a wider and more joyful life than we can imagine. As Dorothy Day used to say, "All the way to heaven is heaven." But only if we die to our normal way of life, as Christ did, so that we may live with Him. Happy Easter, and until next week, Peace



*"Why do you look for the living among the dead?
He is not here but has risen."*

Luke 24:5

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 raised \$1173 at our Walk-A-Thon and made over \$500 at our bake sale!

Our Pasta Dinner raised \$1440!

Our students have been gathering to make sandwiches for a local soup kitchen. So far they have made 1401 sandwiches!

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.

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

We are wrapping up our Clothing Drive by April 5! After that date, we will no longer be able to accept clothing donations for this year. Thank you all for your help in assisting our students with this goal!



Pasta Dinner

This year's Pasta Dinner was a success due to the help of so many parents and families of our Confirmation students who donated many items for the dinner and the raffles, not to mention the hard work of the parents who supervised and the students who worked so hard! A special thank you goes out to Christine Gilliland and Peter Gilliland for their work cooking and the K of C for assisting us!

Thank you as well to the parishioners who supported this event. Watching our students do so much to serve our parish is such a wonderful thing to be a part of! We'll have new service totals next week!

Adult Confirmation Preparation – Starts Wednesday April 4

Last call for sign-up for the Spring Adult Confirmation Program which begins on Wednesday, April 4, with Confirmation being conferred on Saturday, May 19, 2018.

The next session will not begin until October with Confirmation being conferred in early January, 2019. If you wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation prior to January, you need to attend this upcoming session.

Classes are being held on the following Wednesdays from 7:15 to 9pm.

April 4, 11, 18, 26, May 2, 9 and 16, 2018.

There is no fee for the program. Parishioners from Our Lady of Grace and from any other parish are welcome. If interested, please leave your name, telephone number and email address in the Parish Office or email Joe Salzone directly at jsalzone@ourladyofgrace.net.

Parish Social Ministry

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Easter Vigil Homily of Pope Francis, 2017: The Women at the Tomb

Unlike the disciples, the women are present – just as they had been present as the Master breathed his last on the cross, and then, with Joseph of Arimathea, as he was laid in the tomb. Two women who did not run away, who remained steadfast, who faced life as it is and who knew the bitter taste of injustice. We see them there, before the tomb, filled with grief but equally incapable of accepting that things must always end this way.

We can see in the faces of those women...the faces of mothers and grandmothers, of children and young people who bear the grievous burden of injustice and brutality...We can see reflected all those who...feel the pain of dire poverty, the sorrow born of exploitation and human trafficking...those who are greeted with contempt because they are immigrants, deprived of country, house and family. In their grief, those two women reflect the faces of all those who...behold human dignity crucified.

In the resurrection, Christ rolled back the stone of the tomb, but he wants also to break down all the walls that keep us locked in our sterile pessimism, in our carefully constructed ivory towers that isolate us from life, in our compulsive need for security and in boundless ambition that can make us compromise the dignity of others.

Senior Advocates

Spangle Drive, North Babylon	Monday, April 2	8:30-11:30
Rainbow Center, Lindenhurst	Wednesday, April 4	8:30-11:00
Wyandanch Nutrition Center	Friday, April 6	9:30-12:30
Tanner Park, Copiague	Wednesday, April 18	8:30- 1:00
Wyandanch Nutrition Center	Friday, April 20	9:30-12:30
Lindenhurst Library	Monday, April 23	8:30-12:00

Thank You, Thank You!

- To the Babylon Rotary Club for their Food Drive at Stop & Shop
- To Tom Humel, Rob Lodato and our Knights of Columbus for their donation of food and for their help at the Food Drive
- To Troop 1634 West Babylon for a tremendous Food Drive at Shop Rite
- To the West Babylon Schools for their continued donations of food
- To our many parishioners who faithfully support our Food Pantry and leave the many donations of food, paper goods and toiletries each week.

Senior Citizen Residential Repair Program

The Town of Babylon Residential Repair Program is offering residents (aged 60 and over) minor home repairs. Residents must be incapable of maintaining their homes because of illness, incapacity, handicap or absence of a caretaker. Repairs are meant to remediate substandard, unsuitable or unsafe residences.

The Residential Repair Program provides the worker and the recipients are expected to pay for the necessary supplies and materials. It does not include projects which require licensed contractors.

Repairs include but are not limited to: handicapped modifications, clean gutters, install hand rails, installation and repair grab bars, rake leaves, paint and minor plumbing.

Funding is limited and preference will be given to older individuals with the greatest economic needs. Eligible residents in need of these services can call JoAnn Labonte (631) 422-7680

Parish News

Please Pray for Those Who Have Died This Week

Maria Iannitti

James Charles Meyer

Anthony Zito

Donation of Bread and Wine

The bread and the wine have been donated in loving memory of Carmine Costantino for the week of April 1 through April 7, 2018.

Bereavement Class

For information regarding the 'Bereavement Class,' please call Fran at 631-587-1578.

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:

Thanks to all who expressed support for the idea of converting the convent building into a spiritual retreat center after the sisters depart. I've set up a task force from among those offering their expertise to see if it's feasible and could be self-supporting. I'll keep you informed of the group's progress. Keep praying that we can make it happen!

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

Financial Stewardship Report September 1, 2017, through February 26, 2018

Sunday offering target: \$13,300 per week

Target to date: \$345,800

Collections to date: \$347,692

Over target by \$1,892

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 through events that also strengthen our faith. 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.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, April 9, 2018, at 7:30pm! Join us!

Family Bible

Our Family Bible experience will meet on Thursday, April 5.

Hospitality Breakfast

Our next Hospitality Breakfast will be Sunday, April 15, 2018. Come join us after the 10am Mass for a nice time and good food! Even if you attend a different Mass, come down at 11am and join us. Everyone welcome!

Day Care News

Day Care is in for a fun-filled spring! 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!

"I come to Youth Ministry because I am learning to bond with God and my fellow peers. Our Lady of Grace is a very joyful and spiritual place. It makes me feel more Christian than I usually do. The man in charge is my neighbor, The Professor. Youth Ministry supports everyone around the world by setting up charities and fundraisers. Every Tuesday we come together and pray for what's right with the greatest people." Gino Capone 12th grade.

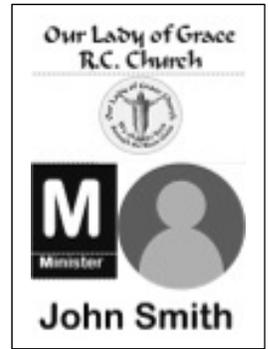
The Youth Ministry Bake Sale is the weekend of April 7 and 8 after all the Masses, come out and support the youth of our parish.

Parish News

A Reminder about ID Badges

Parish staff and volunteers wear I.D. badges (except at worship) to identify themselves as people who have authority and responsibility for the good order of the parish and its programs. You should feel free to question (or to report to the Parish Office) anyone who seems to be in an area or doing anything out of order if the person is not wearing I.D. Keep yourself and others safe on our campus!

Volunteers and staff: Please remember that wearing your ID as required is a contribution to the safety and good order of our parish.



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.

April Chorus Concerts

The Our Lady of Grace choirs present their annual Easter Concert April 14, 2018, at 7pm, conducted by music director Terence Purtell. Celebrate with us as choir season draws to a close, fun for all ages, free admission. On April 8 at 4pm, The Babylon Chorale presents "Faith" featuring Lauridsen's *Lux Aeterna* and much more. \$20 adults, \$15 seniors and students. For more information, call or email at www.babylonchorale.org; thebabylonchorale@gmail.com, 516-799-4974. These concerts replace the concert series for the month of April.



More Parish News

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.



Your Help is Needed

Are you available to drive someone to a local doctor or to visit a local nursing home? For more information about this ministry, please contact the Parish Social Ministry Office at 631-661-9354.

Golden Wedding Jubilee

This spring, couples that have been married fifty years or more will be honored at a Mass on Sunday, April 29, 2018, at the Church of St. Rose of Lima in Massapequa. Mass will begin at 2:30pm. Registration forms and complete instructions can be obtained at the rectory. Registration must be received by the Office of Worship by April 13, 2018. If you have any questions, you may call 516-678-5800, extension 504.



Kids of the Kingdom is Coming

Summer is approaching quickly and our summer sun and fun program begins on June 25, 2018. It runs for eight weeks through August 17, 2018. The hours are 8:30am - 4:30pm, Monday through Friday.

There is a before care from 7:30am – 8:30am and an after care from 4:30pm – 5:30pm which is an additional cost of \$5 for each session used.

Our program ranges from daily field trips to on grounds recreation. Feel free to choose any or all weeks as needed. We accommodate children ages five to twelve.

The Babylon Chorale Auditions

Auditions for all voice parts for the Babylon Chorale will be held on Monday, April 9 and Monday, April 16 at St. John the Baptist High School, West Islip, NY. Join us for rehearsal from 7:30pm to 9:45pm, auditions take place at 8:45pm. For further information, call 631-585-3111 or 516-221-3211, visit www.babylonchorale.org or email thebabylonchorale@gmail.com.