



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

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December 2, 2018 • First Sunday of Advent

Worship This Coming Week

<p>Mon. St. Francis Xavier Dec. 3 Is 2:1-5/Mt 8:5-11 8:00 Maria and John Chan, Maria and Enrique Cheng 9:00 Lawrence Konicke</p> <p>Tue. Advent Weekday Dec. 4 Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24 8:00 Marie Vaccaro, and Gussie Migliori (B'day) 9:00 Joan Pepe</p> <p>Wed. Advent Weekday Dec. 5 Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37 8:00 9:00 Angela Padormo</p>	<p>Thu. St. Nicholas Dec. 6 Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27 8:00 9:00 George Savino</p> <p>Fri. St. Ambrose Dec. 7 Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31 8:00 9:00 Edward Jewhurst 5:30 People of the Parish</p> <p>Sat. The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Dec. 8 Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38 8:00 9:00 Madeline Costello</p>
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The Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Worship for Sunday, December 9, 2018

Second Sunday of Advent

Bar 5:1-9/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

	Presiding	We pray at this Mass especially for
5:00pm (Sat.)	Fr. Gabriel	People of the Parish
8:00am	Fr. Gabriel	Giovanni Iemma
10:00am	Fr. Gius	Dominic and Benedieto Majella
12:00pm	Fr. Vin	Joseph Sarno
1:30pm	Fr. Gius	For Persons With Disabilities

The Sacrament of Baptism

Saturday, 11am: Presider: Fr. Gabriel

Baptisms are celebrated throughout the year. 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

Third Banns: Meghan Chambers – Ian Cullen
 (St. Isidore, Riverhead, NY)

Michelle Duffy – Andrew Bruszewski
 (Ss. Cyril & Methodius, Deer Park, NY)

Kristina Garafola – Michael Marino

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, December 3: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 2-9pm.

Tuesday, December 4: Scripture Sharing 9:30am.
Youth Ministry 7:30pm.

Saturday, December 8: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation). Masses at 5:30pm Friday (Vigil), Saturday at 8am and 9am. (The 5pm Saturday Mass is the Mass for the Second Sunday of Advent.)
The Babylon Chorale Concert 6pm.

Saturday, December 8: Sunday, December 9: Youth Ministry Bake Sale after all the Masses.

Next week:

Monday, December 10: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 2-9pm.

Tuesday, December 11: Scripture Sharing 9:30am. Rosary Makers 10am. Padre Pio 7:30pm.

Saturday, December 15: Family Life Ministry Christmas Pageant 6:30pm.

Upcoming:

Confessions for Christmas: Saturday, Dec. 15: 4 – 4:45 PM;
Wednesday, Dec. 19: 8-9 PM; Friday, Dec. 21: After 9 AM Mass; Saturday, Dec. 22: 4 – 4:45 PM

Mass Intentions for 2018-2019

The Parish Mass Book from July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019, 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. In addition, 9am Masses may, when necessary, be celebrated as a Funeral Mass.

Parishioners should be aware that intentions are available for the Saturday morning collective-intention Mass each week. Intentions for the Sunday Masses are taken not more than one month in advance.

Our Pastoral Council

Mrs. Lee Abseck
Mr. Ralph Fiorillo
Ms. Mary Ellen McEntee
Mr. James Nevins
Ms. Maria Russello-Chetti
Ms. Lucy Sanchez
Ms. Haydee Santini
Mrs. Kathleen Scheid
Mrs. Concetta Whelan

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

Our Pagan Culture and Its Gods III: Mammon

*It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle
than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.*

Jesus in the Gospel, Mk 10:25

Architecture can tell us a lot. If you think of a cityscape in cultures that existed before (or have somehow escaped the influence of) modern economic life, you'll probably recall that the tallest feature of the horizon often was the dome or spire of a church, cathedral, or temple.

Now think of modern New York, or London, or Tokyo, or Beijing: The city horizon is filled with skyscrapers that are offices, usually of financial services of some sort. Contemporary cultures, worldwide, are building temples to today's "god," *Mammon*. Simply put, Mammon is the god of wealth – the symbol of what Christians call the vice of greed.

If you remember the 1987 movie *Wall Street* this famous moment probably sticks in mind. (It's Gordon Gekko's / Michael Douglas's speech to the stockholders):

The point is, ladies and gentleman, that greed -- for lack of a better word -- is good.

Greed is right.

Greed works.

Greed clarifies, cuts through, and captures the essence of the evolutionary spirit.

Greed, in all of its forms -- greed for life, for money, for love, knowledge -- has marked the upward surge of mankind.

And greed -- you mark my words -- will not only save Teldar Paper, but that other malfunctioning corporation called the USA.

Well, in 2008 we found out how the worship of greed worked out for "that other malfunctioning corporation called the USA": The bankers got bailed out when Mammon led the economy over a cliff (and they have continued to make money), while thousands of ordinary people lost their retirement savings, their homes, and their shirts.

Yet Mammon continues to try to convince everyone, both rich and poor, that he is inescapable. "Let the market work" is still a mantra for the priests of finance. (See how easily we slip into "religious" language when discussing the idols of our place and time?) The Christian task is to remember and to remind others that only the true God is God; wealth has its place as a servant of the common good, but the economic order is not unchangeable. It should, in fact, be changed so that God's bounty serves all, most especially the most heavily-burdened (the disabled, the ill, the elderly – "widows and orphans," in the Bible phrase).

The Christian ideal of *stewardship* is the antidote to Mammon-worship: What we have is not ours but a trust from God to be used wisely for all God's people. A few people (notably today, members of religious orders) forego all personal ownership of money and goods, holding all in common for the sake of the mission – thus echoing a practice we see among Jesus and his disciples during his ministry (remember that Judas "held the *common purse*"), and in the early years of the church. But this was always a practice for the few. The virtue of good stewardship is exercised most often by people who hold personal property but use it as the God-given trust that it is – to support their families, their community, and the poor.

Saint Paul famously said (in an often-misquoted line, leaving off the first three words), "The love of money is the root of all evil" [1 Tm 6:10]. Money – in fact, any and all systems of exchange known to history – can be a good servant of human flourishing and the common good. When we *love* money we make it a god and an idol. Look around this week for evidence of the worship of Mammon and of its rituals and its temples. (The pre-Christmas shopping season is a particularly "target-rich environment.") And pray for those who are led astray by the worship of Mammon. Until next week, peace.

.Fr. Vin

Faith Formation

Faith Formation Office Hours

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

Christian Service

Thank you to everyone who supported our Confirmation Bake Sale! Our students raised over \$600.00 toward their fundraising goal! They made the baked goods and worked at the Bake Sale.

Our Faith Formation Students in Levels 6, 7 and 8, as part of preparation for Confirmation, complete several service projects at home and in the parish as part of their discipleship journey! Our first group of Level 8 students made 342 sandwiches for the soup kitchen.

Our Walk-A-Thon was held in PES Hall due to weather conditions, but they walked and raised over \$1200.00! I am always so happy to go through this journey with them, and the students work so hard.

Our Level 7 students have started in the Community Garden even working in the rain to get things done! We talk about Jesus as our model of service and how he calls us to serve each other!

FORMED for Advent!

Prepare the Way – An Advent Journey for Our Parish

Week Two: Who is Jesus? The answer to this question makes all the difference in your life. Jesus Christ, both divine and human, is the one and only mediator between God and man. He became human to help us know God's love, to reconcile us with God and save us to model a holy life, and to make it possible for divine life to dwell within us. Do we believe Jesus is who he says?

This Wednesday evening, December 5, 2018, we will be watching this episode and discussing it. Room 109 at 7:00pm. Join us – everyone welcome if you would like join the online community.

This week, login to formed.org, go to the "Study" section and watch Symbolon Prepare the Way, Session 5.

Academic Honors

The following students from St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School have achieved honor roll status for the first quarter of the 2018-2019 school year.

Summa Cum Laude

Emily Duci

Kathryn McHugh

Magna Cum Laude

Abigail Engrassia

Bailey Wrede

Julianna Mazur

Cum Laude

Jillian Duci

Connor Lieberz

Kyle Marengo

Parish Social Ministry

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Pope Francis: Homily for World Day of the Poor, 2017

How, in practice can we please God? When we want to please someone dear to us, for example by giving a gift, we need first to know that person's tastes, lest the gift prove more pleasing to the giver than to the recipient. When we want to offer something to the Lord, we can find his tastes in the Gospel. Jesus says, "Truly I tell you that, just as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me." (Mt 25:40). These least of our brethren, whom he loves dearly, are the hungry and the sick, the stranger and the prisoner, the poor and the abandoned, the suffering who receive no help, the needy who are cast aside. On their faces we can imagine seeing Jesus' own face; on their lips, even if pursed in pain, we can hear his words: "This is my body" (Mt 26:26).

In the poor, Jesus knocks on the doors of our heart, thirsting for our love. When we overcome our indifference and, in the name of Jesus, we give of ourselves for the least of his brethren, we are his good and faithful friends, with whom he loves to dwell. God greatly appreciates the attitude described in today's reading that of the "good wife", who "opens her hand to the poor, and reaches out her hands to the needy" (Prov 31:10,20). Here we see true goodness and strength: not in closed fists and crossed arms, but in ready hands outstretched to the poor, to the wounded flesh of the Lord.

Senior Advocates – Seniors who need help with applications for SNAP, SCAT, Medicare can come to:

Spangle Drive Center	Monday, December 3	11am – 1pm
Rainbow Center, Lindenhurst	Wednesday, December 5	8:30am – 11am
Wyandanch Nutrition	Friday, December 7	8:30am - 12:30pm
Tanner Park, Copiague	Wednesday, December 12	8:30am – 1pm

Health Insurance Help

Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council Navigators will be at the Parish Social Ministry Office on Wednesday, December 5, from 12 to 3pm. Assistance is available to apply for affordable health care plans, Child Health Plus and Medicaid. First come, first served. Call 631-656-9783 for information or apply at www.coverage4healthcare.com

We are Overwhelmed!!



Thanks to your tremendous generosity, our Food Pantry is overflowing with donations of non-perishable food. The West Babylon School District, the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 1634, Ryan Sullivan of the Sci-Unison Fitness Gym, The West Babylon Community Youth Center, Best Supermarket, Angel Care parents and patrons who donated many \$5 bags of food, Boy Scout Troop 104 as well as you, our loyal parishioners, have shown the true spirit of joining us in the Gospel mission to take care of the least of our sisters and brothers. We are truly grateful for your support.

The Giving Tree

Today, the First Sunday of Advent, our Giving Tree is set up in the lobby. Baskets containing cards with suggestions for gifts for Christmas will be available at the doors. Please pick a card and return the unwrapped gift by Monday, December 10, as this will give us the necessary time it takes to sort the gifts for our families. Thank you for your help. Your generosity in the past has been wonderful and we truly appreciate all you do.



Parish News

Please Pray for Those Who Have Died This Week

Marie Fontana
Suzanne Elizabeth Commisso Baez
Anthony T. Bonventre

Burton Joseph Shook
Shirley Lewis

Lawrence Konicke
Gloria L. Pastore



Youth Ministry Update

Youth Ministry, 7:30pm, Tuesdays in Room 212/214. Teens 9th – 12th grade. Nothing to do Tuesday nights? Room 212. Join us for faith, fun and fellowship! Don't forget our Bake Sale the weekend of December 8 and 9. We will have many holiday treats made especially for you!

Sewing Group News

The Our Lady of Grace Sewing Group will raffle off the annual American Girl Doll the weekend before Christmas, December 22 and 23, after all the Masses. The doll was donated by Nina Weinsteia, daughter of Mary Dowling. We wish a blessing on her family for being so generous. The dolls clothes were made by Marie Rizzi and Marge Rosner. Thank you for supporting our group. Last year we made warm hats and mittens for aged nuns and carrier bags for their walkers and wheelchairs.

The Christmas afghan that was raffled off last weekend was won by Mark Limongello.

St. Padre Pio Prayer Group

This special group meets every second Tuesday of the month here at Our Lady of Grace Church at 7:30pm to recite the Rosary and special prayers to St. Padre Pio. Come and join us and see what they are all about.

Calendar Raffle Winners

The Calendar Raffle tickets for January through June of 2019 are in the mail. If you do not receive these tickets, please come into the Parish Office and pick them up. Remember, you got to be in it to win it.

11/26/18	11/27/18	11/28/18	11/29/18	11/30/18	12/1/18	12/2/18
437	40	503	432	301	348	261



Financial Stewardship Report September 1, 2018, through November 26 2018

Sunday offering target: \$13,195 per week

Target: \$171,535

Collections: \$173,715

Over target by \$2,180

A complete financial report for FY2018 is on the parish website,
www.ourladyofgrace.net.

Many thanks to our generous sacrificial givers!

Ministries with Children and Families

What is Family Life Ministry?

Family Life Ministry came out of the need and desire we all have for community. Would you like to get to know the people you worship with each week? We host a monthly breakfast after the 10am Mass where we gather for a light breakfast and can sit and meet some new people or bring the family for a nice break before we get busy for the day! If you attend another Mass, we would still love you to join us. Everyone is welcome, whether you are a family of many or a family of one!

We also offer several events during the year that are both spiritual and social. In addition, we meet monthly to plan these events. We meet on Monday evenings; but if you'd like to help and can't be at our meetings, contact us – we still want you involved! Our next meeting will be January 7 at 7:30pm!

Our next hospitality breakfast will be Sunday, January 27, after the 10am Mass. Please join us! We will have coffee, tea and juice plus bagels, quiche and muffins. This is a great way to get together with our worship community!

Save the Date - Christmas Pageant

Our students have been practicing for our annual Christmas Pageant which will be held on Saturday night December 15, 2018, at 7pm in the church. This is a beautiful version of the Nativity. Please come down and see this pageant – you'll be happy you did!

Coming Soon!

Journey

The Our Lady of Grace Middle School Youth Ministry

Where: Our Lady of Grace R. C. Church

When: Second and fourth Wednesday of every month.

Who: All Middle Schoolers in Grades 6, 7, and 8

Please join us for our Kickoff Meeting and Pizza on January 9, 2019.

For more information, please contact Colleen or Joe Pidel at JourneyOLOG@gmail.com.

For our first meeting (and to plan pizza) we would like to get an idea of how many are attending. If you can please email Colleen and Joe to let them know. If you forget, no problem come anyway!

What is Middle School Youth Ministry?

It's games, music, food and talking about our faith in a fun way and talking about the issues important to you. You come when you can!

Why not give it a try?

Parish News

Day Care News

September is upon us and day care is in full swing. We are looking for a lead teacher and assistant teachers. We have a few openings for September in our classrooms. Please come in to visit us. New, starting September, is our enrichment program. We hired a teacher to visit the classrooms to teach extra special lessons in math, language arts, science, music and movement. For a tour or interview, please call 631-422-4681.



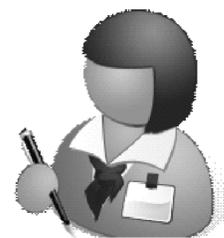
Angel Care Is Here

Our Angel Care Program is gearing up for the winter. Come and join us as we prepare to celebrate the holidays. If you would like information about our program or would like to register your child, come down and pick up a registration packet and join us for a wonderful new year. All of us from Angel Care wish everyone a very blessed Christmas and a healthy New Year.



Reminder to All Staff and Ministers – I.D. Tags Required

As part of our safe environment policy, all staff and ministers wear I.D. tags when acting in any official capacity on parish property (with the exception of presiders, deacons, lectors, musicians, and EMHCs during Mass). This is especially important with the start of the new year of Faith Formation. Please get into the habit of wearing your I.D. If you don't do so now, please do so now and (gently) challenge other ministers you see who may have neglected to wear theirs.



Religious Article Counter

The Religious Article Counter is open with new merchandise from the Holy Land. We have olive wood rosaries, Jerusalem crosses, bracelets and Christmas ornaments. All items have been blessed.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) news

Do you want to become a Catholic Christian? Do you know someone who does? The RCIA Program here at Our Lady of Grace will be starting a new session in September, and we look forward to hearing from all interested persons. The RCIA is for those who have **not** been baptized (or for those baptized in another Christian tradition). We meet regularly to pray, read the Bible and learn more about Catholic Christian faith and traditions and prepare to receive the sacraments at the Easter Vigil. If you want to learn more about the RCIA process or if you are ready to participate this September, please call the Parish Office at 631-587-5185 or Will Whelan at 631-957-0518 or e-mail: wfwwhelan@aol.com.

The RCIA team is looking to expand! Do you want to put your PFI certificate to good use? Do you like to share your faith with others? Are you being called to spread the faith? Then the RCIA team maybe the right ministry for you. The commitment is only a few hours each month, but the reward is helping others develop a lifelong loving relationship with Jesus Christ and our Father in heaven. No experience is necessary, just a desire to help others on their faith journey. Call or e-mail Will for more info or to join the team. 631-957-0518 (wfwwhelan@aol.com)

Donation of Bread and Wine

A donation of bread and wine have been made in loving memory of Maria and John Chao and Maria and Enrique Cheng and for the mercy of God on us all for the week of December 2 through December 8, 2018.

Parish News

St. Agnes Medal of Service Award

The annual St. Agnes Medal of Service for 2018 has been awarded to Will and Concetta Whelan. Bishop Barres will present the medal in a ceremony at St. Agnes Cathedral this afternoon. The medal is given to one person or couple in each parish each year in recognition of exemplary generosity to the parish community. We thank and congratulate Concetta and Will for their service to Our Lady of Grace!

Youth Choir Registration

All teenagers are invited to register as choir members. Brief training sessions will be held after 5:00 Mass starting January 20.



Rosary Makers Needed

If you have time on your hands or need to relax in the evening, please consider joining Our Lady of Grace Rosary Makers. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month to ship and send out rosaries to our local hospitals, nursing homes and missions all over the states. Some of our members have been making rosaries for over 20 years, and we continue to do so each month. However, our group is in need of additional rosary makers to keep up with the demand for rosaries.

To join the rosary makers, all you need are two capable hands, good eyes and two hours of your time once a month. We will teach you how to make the knots to make the rosaries, and then once you have mastered them; you are given a supply kit to make 50 rosaries that you will make at home and bring back the finished product at the next month's meeting. If you feel that you can help us out, please leave your name and phone number in the Parish Office; and someone will get back to you.

Volunteers Are Needed For East Neck Nursing Home Eucharist Ministry

Each Wednesday morning between 10:30am and 11:30am, a prayer service is held for the residents of East Neck Nursing Home. Holy Communion is distributed to those attending the service and also to residents who are unable to come to the prayer service. Volunteers are needed to help the residents transport to the Activity Room and Eucharistic Ministers are also needed to give Communion.

Please join us in this very rewarding ministry for our parishioners at ENNC. Please call Jim at 631-793-5912 or Lorraine at 631-587-5426 for further information.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Our Children's Liturgy is up and running. All children in kindergarten through eighth grade are welcome to attend this inspiring liturgy experience. Come to the 10am Mass on Sunday and see what it is all about. The schedule for this liturgy is on our web site www.ourladyofgrace.net.

Babylon Chorale Presents

The Babylon Chorale presents *By the Fireside*, featuring *Snow Angel* by Sarah Quartel along with holiday favorites. Saturday, December 8, 2018, at 8pm here at Our Lady of Grace Church. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for seniors and students. You can purchase tickets online at www.babylonchorale.org. For more information, please call 516-799-4974.
