



# Our Lady of Grace

## Roman Catholic Church

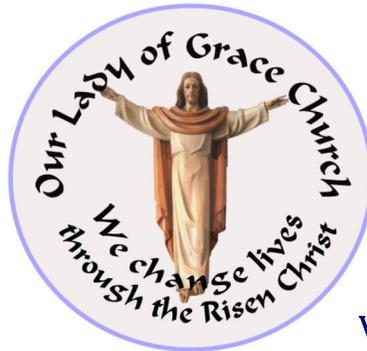
**Our Mission: We change lives through the Risen Christ**

### 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

666 ALBIN AVENUE, WEST BABYLON, NEW YORK 11704

PARISH OFFICE (631) 587-5185 || FAX (631) 587-1427

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE (631) 661-9353

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY OFFICE (631) 661-9354

DAY CARE OFFICE (631) 422-4681

WWW.OURLADYOFGRACE.NET • PARISH@OURLADYOFGRACE.NET

**March 24, 2019 • Third Sunday of Lent**

## Worship This Coming Week

**Mon. The Annunciation of the Lord**  
 Mar. 25 *Is7:10-14;8:10/Heb10:4-10/Lk1:26-38*  
 8:00 Giuseppe Granata (B'Day)  
 9:00 Dennis Forgit (B'Day)

**Tue. Lenten Weekday**  
 Mar. 26 *Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35*  
 8:00 Domenico and Francesca Minardi  
 9:00 Salvatore Cuffaro

**Wed. Lenten Weekday**  
 Mar. 27 *Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19*  
 8:00 Pauline Donnelly  
 9:00 Francesco DelVecchio

**Thu. Lenten Weekday**  
 Mar. 28 *Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23*  
 8:00 Maria and John Chao, Maria and Enrique Cheng  
 9:00 Antonino Bonventre

**Fri. Lenten Weekday**  
 Mar. 29 *Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34*  
 8:00 Stephen Kish  
 9:00 Giuseppe Mozzone

**Sat. Lenten Weekday**  
 Mar. 30 *Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14*  
 8:00 Colette Nasser, Anthony Zito, Theresa Calcanes.

### The Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

## Worship for Sunday, March 31, 2019

### Fourth Sunday of Lent

*1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41*

	<b>Presiding</b>	<b>We pray at this Mass especially for</b>
<b>5:00pm (Sat.)</b>	Fr. Gius	Louro Rafella
<b>8:00am</b>	Fr. Gius	People of the Parish
<b>10:00am</b>	Fr. Vin	Charles Grosso
<b>12:00pm</b>	Fr. Gabriel	Giuseppina Puleo

### The Sacrament of Baptism

*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

*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

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## **This week:**

**Monday, March 25:** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 2-9pm.

**Tuesday, March 26:** Scripture Sharing 9:30am. Youth Ministry 7pm.

**Friday, March 29:** Stations of the Cross 9:30am.

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## **Next week:**

**Monday, April 1:** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 2-9pm.

**Tuesday, April 2:** Scripture Sharing 9:30am. Youth Ministry 7pm.

**Friday, April 5:** Stations of the Cross 9:30am.

**Saturday, April 6:** Monthly Concert 6pm.

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## **Upcoming:**

**Monday, April 15:** Holy Week Confessions, 3pm – 9pm.

**Wednesday, April 17:** Holy Week Confessions, after 9am Mass.

**Thursday, April 18, Holy Thursday:** Morning Prayer, 9am; Mass of the Lord's Supper, 8pm; adoration after until 10pm.

**Friday, April 19, Good Friday:** Morning Prayer, 9am; Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion and Death, 3pm; Outdoor Stations of the Cross, 5:30pm.

**Saturday, April 20, Holy Saturday:** Morning Prayer, 9am. No 5pm Mass. Vigil of Easter, with Sacraments of Initiation and Mass, 8pm.

**Sunday, April 21, Easter Sunday:** Masses at 8am, 10am, Noon, and 1:30pm.

**Sunday, May 19:** Family Ministry Spring Tea, 1:00pm to 4:00pm.

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## **Lenten Regulations:**

All Catholics who have reached their fourteenth year are bound to abstain entirely from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent. All Catholics between the ages of eighteen and fifty-nine inclusive are also bound to observe the law of fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This means limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Two other light meals, which together do not equal a full meal, may be taken during the day. Illness or other serious reason excuses from the obligations of fast and abstinence.

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## **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

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## **Our Finance Council**

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

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## **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

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By Fr. Vin

*(It came to me recently that I have only about a dozen more columns before I retire; so I'm going to aim – unless circumstances interfere – to focus on “what really matters” between now and June.)*

## What Really Matters - I

Jesus does something very interesting in today's Gospel; we can learn from it. When people around him raise an issue in the news of the day (in this case, an atrocity committed by the local government), he changes the frame: instead of local gossip, the story becomes a challenge to conversion. The story is not about other people at another place and time; it becomes a challenge to the tale-teller in the here and now.

We see Jesus do this over and over: Remember the question he gets asked, “Are there only a few who are to be saved” [Lk13:23]? He ignores that question and implicitly replaces it with the one that the questioner, from Jesus' perspective, ought to have asked, and then Jesus answers that one: “You try to enter through the narrow gate.” The question about salvation can't be a general, curious inquiry: It has to be direct and personal: Other people's situation doesn't matter. What about me?

Buddhist teachers, I have heard, follow the same rule: They refuse to answer any question for information *about* Buddhism, responding only with a challenge or directive for the inquirer to *do something* that will lead toward the inquirer's own enlightenment. These teachers understand that general questions, however well-intentioned, inevitably have two extra dimensions: First, any possible answer will be misunderstood since the inquirer has not yet reached a state of personal clarity and development that is the foundation for proper understanding of such an answer. And second, the process of asking a general question and receiving an answer is in itself a distraction from the one thing that matters: moving toward (from the teacher's perspective) the one thing necessary – personal enlightenment.

- For us, the language and goal may differ; but human nature being the same everywhere, the process is the same – and Jesus knows it. We can all too easily substitute thinking about religion, grace, sin, salvation, and all the rest for the one thing that matters: responding to God's personal invitation to me by changing my life.

This isn't just work that matters to me and to my individual salvation (although it certainly does). The quality of our life together – our culture, our art, our politics, our education system, our material well-being – are affected to no small degree by the number of saints among us. Whatever good personal character each of us has is the result not only of our own hard work but also of the accurate, self-sacrificial love of others: parents, teachers, mentors at school or work, interested strangers who helped us at a moment of confusion or of need, and many more. And note that it was their *accurate* self-sacrificial love: well-meaning but distorted help can be less than helpful. And accuracy in loving others requires self-knowledge, self-discipline, and a wide and deep awareness of where one still has to grow.

Jesus knew (and knows) that having opinions about the latest atrocity (or fad) does no one any real good. We contribute to the well-being of ourselves, of others, and of society as a whole, by doing the hard work of cooperating with God's grace that will, if we allow it consistently, change us. Nothing could be more valuable. Until next week. Peace.

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For those of you interested in whether and where I plan to continue to write, here's an update: I'm in conversation with a web-developer to use my personal website as a place to put occasional pieces. I'm not exactly sure what the format or regularity might be, but the focus will remain on how to think and act as an adult Catholic in 21<sup>st</sup> century American culture. More details to follow.

# Faith Formation

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## Faith Formation Office Hours

The Faith Formation Office is open daily from 9:00am to 5:00pm. We are available by appointment evenings and weekends.

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## FORMED

### Opening the Word:

Would you like a way to prepare for Sunday Mass? Or perhaps reflect on the Sunday readings? Try Opening the Word on FORMED. Through a short video clip each week, learn more about the readings through insights given by presenters from the Augustine Institute. If you are looking for a more in-depth experience, use the Personal Prayer Journals provided for each week for further reflection.

### Daily Reflections

Are you looking for a new way to learn more about your faith? Can you devote two minutes each day? Through FORMED's Daily Reflections, these short clips will teach you about our Catholic faith as well as expose you to the types of content available on FORMED. You can view them each day through FORMED or sign up for the reflections to be sent to your email at: <https://formed.org/promo/daily-reflections-signup>.

Would you like to learn more about the Mass? In the short video clips, the new FORMED series, *Elements of the Catholic Mass*, will help you gain a better understanding of and appreciation for the Mass. Each video is about three minutes long and is accompanied by a guide with references and information.

Lent is here. Are you looking for a way to pray and reflect? Sign up for the FORMED Daily Lenten Reflections given by Dr. Tim Gray, President of the Augustine Institute. Visit <https://formed.org/promo/lent-registration> to sign up!

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## Pasta Dinner

Thanks so much to everyone who made our Annual Pasta Dinner a success! We had a large crowd and the food was terrific! This year we have a lot of raffles and will have more next year. It is always so rewarding to see our Confirmation students work so hard to make this a success! They are truly bright lights for our future Church! Special thanks go to:

Olive Garden in Bay Shore – for donating many trays of pasta, sauce and jumbo salads!

Stop & Shop on Route 109 – for donating all of our bread.

Christine Gilliland – for cooking a wonderful meal.

Cub Pack 105 – for donating pasta, sauce and drinks.

Our Confirmation students and parents who donated for the raffle and helped that day!

# Parish Social Ministry

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## **CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING**

### **Pope Francis: Women Build World with Peace, Love**

(Vatican News) Pope Francis marked International Women's Day, stressing the "irreplaceable contribution of women in building a world that can be a home for all," through their efforts toward peace and love. "Women make the world beautiful, they protect it and keep it alive." "They bring the grace of renewal, the embrace of inclusion, and the courage to give of oneself."

Speaking about the role of women in "making humanity a family," the Pope said that peace, born of women, "arises and is rekindled by the tenderness of mothers." "Thus the dream of peace becomes a reality when we look towards women." He said they "dream of love into the world." "If we take to heart the importance of the future, if we dream of a future peace, we need to give space to women," the Pope urged.

Pointing to the indifference of Cain before he killed his brother, Abel, Pope Francis lamented the growing distance today between the many who have little and the few who have much. "We are called to take care of the most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters: the poor, the weak, the sick, children, and the elderly," he urged.

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### **Free Legal and Financial Planning Conference: For people in the Early Stage of Alzheimer's disease, their care partners and family members**

March 31, 2019

8:30am – 1:30pm

Plainview Holiday Inn  
215 Sunnyside Blvd., Plainview

Topics: Advanced Directives and Guardianships, Paying for Long-Term Care, Insurance, Medicaid, Home Care, Asset Protection, Trusts, Tax Benefits and more.

Registration is required. Space is limited. To register, call 800-272-3900.

Brunch will be served mid-morning \*\*Free onsite respite care provided by Home Companion Services. Space is limited and registration is required\*\*

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### **Suffolk County Police Department- Exam Registration Forms**

The next SCPD police exam is scheduled for June 15, 2019 - Registration deadline for this exam is April 3, 2019. This exam is given only once every four years. You can register for the exam at [www.JoinSCPD.com](http://www.JoinSCPD.com). Flyers with information regarding requirements, salary and benefits in both English and Spanish recruitments are at the Parish Outreach Office - or call the Suffolk County Police Department in Yaphank at 631-852-6000.

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### **Exam Fee Waiver Available for Suffolk County Police Exam**

EOC (Economic Opportunity Council) of Suffolk, INC. is prepared to cover the cost of the \$125 exam fee for applicants with incomes that stand at or below 125 percent of poverty level. The requirement and application for financial assistance with the exam fee can be found on the Economic Opportunity Council of Suffolk, Inc.'s website at: [www.eoc-suffolk.com](http://www.eoc-suffolk.com).

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### **Annual Bereavement Conference: "Grief is...A Journey"**

Saturday, March 30, 2019 – 9am to 3pm - St. Patrick Parish, 400 Main Street, Huntington. An informative and beneficial experience for both the bereaved and those who minister to them. For full conference schedule, click the following link: [Bereavement Conference Schedule and Details](#). To register for the conference, click: [Bereavement Conference Registration](#).

# Parish News

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## Please Pray for Those Who Have Died this Week

Rocco Rongo

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### April 6 Concert, "Free Samples"

With brief selections by Billy Joel, Pink Floyd, Ben Folds, Deadmau5, and much more, our music director Terence performs a free concert densely packed with wide-ranging ideas for future concerts. Join us April 6 at 6pm and see what the monthly concert series, "First Saturdays at Six," is all about. Hospitality to follow in the lobby. Concert begins directly after 5pm Mass on April 6. All are welcome.

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### Adult Confirmation by Joseph Salzone

In the Diocese of Rockville Centre, adult Confirmations usually take place on Pentecost Sunday, which varies each year between May and June. This year it is June 9. Father Vin makes a special request to celebrate Confirmations on the Feast of the Epiphany, which is in early January, as well. I teach a seven-week class prior to each date which prepares the candidate for the sacrament. The fall class starts at the end of October, and the spring class starts the Wednesday after Easter.

Other than what I mentioned above, there is nothing I can do. Last fall, I received three emails from young adults seeking to be immediately confirmed in order to be a Godparent. Unfortunately, either my class schedule or the confirmation date was not suitable. All three had to tell their love ones they couldn't be a Godparent.

I'm sorry if I sound like a broken record, but I'm only trying to help. If you know of any adult or teenager turning 18 by June 9 and has not been confirmed, please urge them to enroll in my spring class which starts on Wednesday, April 24.

For more information, they may contact me by calling the office and leaving a message or by sending an email to [jsalzone@ourladyofgrace.net](mailto:jsalzone@ourladyofgrace.net).

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### Calendar Raffle Winners

3/18/19	3/19/19	3/20/19	3/21/19	3/22/19	3/23/19	3/24/19
488	559	125	23	556	371	573

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

### Financial Stewardship Report September 1, 2018, through February 25, 2019

**Sunday offering target: \$13,195 per week**

Target: \$343,070

Collections: \$344,125

**Over target by \$1,055**

A complete financial report for FY2018 is on the parish website,  
[www.ourladyofgrace.net](http://www.ourladyofgrace.net).

*Many thanks to our generous sacrificial givers!*

# Ministries with Children and Families

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## 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 April 1, 2019, at 7:30pm

**Our next Family Ministry Hospitality breakfast will be Sunday, March 31, 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! Everyone welcome even if you attend Mass at a different time!

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## Spring Tea

Spring Tea – Sunday, May 19, 2019, from 1:00pm to 4:00pm we will host a Spring Tea! We will begin selling tickets next week at our Hospitality Breakfast. They will also be available in the Faith Formation Office during business hours.

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## Mardi Gras

Thanks to everyone who attended or helped out at our annual Mardi Gras celebration. We started with crafts and games, had ice cream and finished the night with a prayer service including burning of the palms for Ash Wednesday. This was a great night of celebrating to usher in the season of Lent.

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## Formed for Children

Did you know that FORMED has programs for children? There are two you may want to view in March. For Lent, the Brother Francis series has an episode about Reconciliation called Forgiven - The Blessings of Confession. In this episode, Brother Francis shares with all the great gift of Confession.

In honor of St. Patrick's Day, FORMED included a show called Patrick, a program about the life of St. Patrick. You can find this and other programs for children at <https://ourladyofgrace.formed.org>.

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# Parish News

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## Bread and Wine Donation

The bread and the wine have been donated in memory of all the Souls in Purgatory for the week of March 24 through March 30, 2019.

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## Catholic Relief Services Collection - March 31, 2019

Next week, our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to all people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and help Jesus in disguise. Learn more about the collection at [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief).

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## Youth Ministry Update

Youth Ministry, 7:30pm, Tuesdays in Room 212/214. Teens 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Nothing to do Tuesday nights? Room 212. Join us for faith, fun and fellowship!

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## OLOG Daycare

The new year has begun in daycare. We are making new friends and enjoying the old. We have availability and would love to care for your little one. Please call us to set up a tour and meet my warm, loving staff.

If you would like to join OLOG teaching staff, please call to set up an interview. We have open positions from 12:30 – 6pm. Jeanmarie Florio, director, 631-422-4681.



## Angel Care

Our Angel Care Program is up and running for the new year. If you would like information about our program or would like to register your child, come down and pick up a registration packet.

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## Adult Community Garden Help Needed

Spring is arriving March 20, so it's not too early to think about our Community Garden where we grow fresh veggies for distribution through Parish Outreach. Sr. Alice will commute this season (5/19-10/19) and will work with anyone interested in continuing this important ministry. Anyone interested or who wishes more information is asked to leave his/her name and telephone at PSM at 631-661-9354. Sr. Alice will contact you. Besides playing in the soil, we also learn much and have fun. Join us.



## Golden Wedding Anniversary

This spring, couples who have been married fifty years or more will be honored at a Mass on Sunday, May 5, 2019, 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 Parish Office. Registration must be received by the Office of Faith Formation by April 15, 2019. If you have any questions, you may call 516-678-5800, extension 506.

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## 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.

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# More Parish News

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## Bereavement Support

Survival is coping every day, day by day, moment by moment. Being alone and being lonely are two different feelings. When you lose a spouse, you are plunged into roles you never expected. Single parent, bread winner, bill payer, shopping, cooking, cleaning; you don't share these any more. You are the only provider for yourself. There is no distinction between men and women. They both have to learn new skills. It becomes opposite of what you're accustomed to. Cooking, cleaning, car inspection, toilet leak have to be taken care of no matter who you are.

A bereavement support group is what helped me. Maybe it can help you. It costs nothing and you can share with others the same feeling of loss, the loneliness, and the changes you are now faced with.

On March 9, we began offering a bereavement support group which is an eight-week program that meets one day a week for 90 minutes each time. My name and phone number and the co-facilitator are at the bottom of this article. You're not going to find out unless you try.

John Laszewski 631-874-0210 and Fran Kish 631-587-1578.

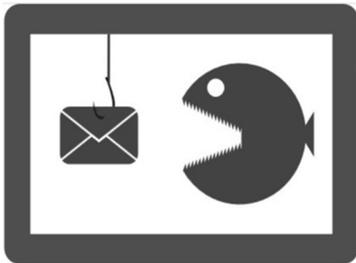
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## Annual Easter Concert, April 27

Don't miss The Our Lady of Grace Choirs perform their 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Easter Concert on April 27 at 7pm in the church. All are welcome. This festive free-admission program includes singers of all ages and is great for audience members of all ages. A wide array of styles to keep you uplifted and entertained, accompanied by professional instrumentalists. Just walk in and enjoy. As always, we're also blessed to provide hospitality in the lobby immediately after the performance.

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## Scam Alert



Some parishioners recently received an e-mail, seeming to be sent by one of the priests here, asking for donations to what seemed like a good cause. It was a scam, as are so many e-mails and phone calls these days. Someone had hijacked the priest's personal e-mail account and was using it for a fraudulent purpose.

Be smart: Don't trust e-mail or telephone requests for money or personal information, even if they seem to come from (or involve) someone you know. Don't ever give out personal information when you receive a phone call or e-mail – if you're unsure, look up the

e-mail address (don't use "reply") or phone number, and ask the person or institution for the facts.

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## Families Anonymous

Twelve-Step support group giving hope and strength to parents, family and friends concerned with a loved one's destructive behavior caused by alcohol, drugs or emotional problems. For further information, call 631-587-0966 or visit [www.familiesanonymous.org](http://www.familiesanonymous.org).

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## West Babylon Lions Club Annual Pancake and Sausage Breakfast

Sunday, April 14, 2019, from 7am to 12pm at the West Babylon Senior High School located at 500 Great East Neck Road, West Babylon, NY. Donation: \$5. Door Prize 50" Smart TV.

All proceeds go to the West Babylon Lions and the West Babylon High School Scholarship Fund.

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