



Holy Week and the Easter Season of Grace

Palm Sunday, April 14: Mass and distribution of Palm at **5pm Vigil** (Saturday evening), **8am, 10am, and Noon.**

Monday of Holy Week, April 15: Mass, 8am, 9am.

Tuesday of Holy Week, April 16: Mass, 8am, 9am.

Wednesday of Holy Week, April 17: Mass, 8am, 9am.

Holy Thursday, April 18: Morning Prayer, 9am. **Mass of the Lord's Supper at 8pm.**

Good Friday, April 19: Morning Prayer, 9am. **Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3pm.**
Youth Ministry Stations of the Cross at 5:30pm.

Holy Saturday, April 20: Morning Prayer, 9am.

Holy Saturday Evening, April 20: *The Easter Vigil.* **Vigil and Mass at 8:00pm.**

Easter Sunday, April 21: *The Masses of Easter:* **8am, 10am, Noon, 1:30pm** (no evening Mass).

Ascension Thursday, May 30: Masses at 5:30pm Wednesday (Vigil); 8am, 9am, 7:30pm.

Pentecost Sunday, June 9: Masses at 5pm Saturday (Vigil), 8am, 10am, and Noon.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, April 13: 4:00 – 4:45pm (Saturday before Palm Sunday).

Monday, April 15: 3:00 – 9:00pm (Monday in Holy Week).

Wednesday, April 17: After 9:00am Mass (Wednesday in Holy Week).

**Dying You destroyed our death
Rising You restored our life
Lord Jesus, come in glory!**

666 Albin Avenue, West Babylon, New York 11704
Parish Office (631) 587-5185 • Fax (631) 587-1427
Faith Formation Office (631) 661-9353
Day Care Office (631) 422-4681
Parish Social Ministry Office (631) 661-9354

April 7, 2019 • Fifth Sunday of Lent

Worship This Coming Week

<p>Mon. Lenten Weekday Apr. 8 Dn 13:1-9,15-17,19-30,33-62 /Jn 8:12-20 8:00 Gioacchino Prestigiaco 9:00 Maura O'Grady</p> <p>Tue. Lenten Weekday Apr. 9 Nm 21:4-9/Jn 8:21-30 8:00 Victims of clergy sexual abuse 9:00 Giuseppe Commisso</p> <p>Wed. Lenten Weekday Apr. 10 Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Jn 8:31-42 8:00 Special Intention 9:00 Angelina Gulotta</p>	<p>Thu. Lenten Weekday Apr. 11 Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Jn 8:31-42 8:00 Joan H. Thompson 9:00 Dawn Verdi</p> <p>Fri. Lenten Weekday Apr. 12 Jer 20:10-13/Jn 10:31-42 8:00 Rev. Joseph Minturn 9:00 Ruth Weinstein</p> <p>Sat. Lenten Weekday Apr. 13 Ez 37:21-28/Jn 11:45-56 8:00 Peter LoCascio, Ricardo Vermont.</p>
---	--

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Worship for Sunday, April 14, 2019

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Lk 19:28-40 /Is 50:4-7/Phil 2:6-11/Lk 22:14—23:56

	Presiding	We pray at this Mass especially for
<p>5:00pm (Sat.)</p> <p>8:00am</p> <p>10:00am</p> <p>12:00pm</p> <p>1:30pm</p>	<p>Fr. Gius</p> <p>Fr. Gius</p> <p>Fr. Vin</p> <p>Fr. Gabriel</p> <p>Fr. Vin</p>	<p>Alina Niebrzydowska</p> <p>Giovanni Iemma</p> <p>Veronica Preiss and William Preiss, Jr.</p> <p>People of the Parish</p> <p>For Persons with Disabilities</p>

The Sacrament of Baptism

Saturday, 11am: Presider: Deacon Brian

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

This week:

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

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

Friday, April 12: Stations of the Cross 9:30am.

Sunday, April 14: Special Needs Mass 1:30pm.

Next week:

Monday, April 15: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 2-9pm. Holy week Confessions 3pm – 9pm.

Tuesday, April 16: Youth Ministry 7pm.

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.

Upcoming:

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

Daily Mass Intentions:

The parish Mass book for Mass intentions from July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020, will be opened when we have information from the diocese regarding the priest staff in O.L. of Grace after June. We are awaiting information on the replacement of Fr. Gius, who has been appointed pastor in Ss. Cyril & Methodius, to begin June 26.

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

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.)

Becoming an Adult Disciple (What Really Matters – III)

“The woman caught in adultery” is a famous, but very strange, story. (One aspect of its strangeness is that it doesn't appear in early manuscripts of the John Gospel where we find it today [8:1-11], but does appear in some early texts of Luke [after Lk 21:38]; and scholars describe its theme and style as much more akin to Luke than to John. It is presumed to be a story that circulated independently in the early church, and was incorporated into the John Gospel by a scribe at some early date.)¹

But the strange aspect I'm interested in is this: When we read or hear the story, Jesus' words and actions make perfect sense: “Let the one without sin cast the first stone”; “Neither do I condemn you; but from now on, avoid this sin.” But remember: we're looking back in time – we know how Jesus answers. If we shift perspective, and try to put ourselves into the same situation – first with the Pharisees, and then with the woman – could we come up with one, much less two, perfectly-fitting actions? I doubt it.

This to me is a mark of something that religious formation all-too-often forgets: “Becoming Christlike” isn't a matter only of piety or of morals: It is a matter of learning to see, to understand, and to act on all of our experience as Christ would: that is to say, more accurately than we now do. This isn't a matter of intelligence, but it is a matter of guided practice and, perhaps more importantly, of setting and of holding fast to a goal.

To take seeing, understanding, and acting in order:

We know that Jesus was concerned that his disciples see accurately: “Take the plank out of your own eye, first, before you take the speck out of your brother's eye.” [Lk 6:42] The “plank” is our assumptions, our biases, our prejudices, and all the rest that distorts what we tell ourselves is “reality.” To become an effective disciple is to acknowledge that we are biased; to learn the minute details of exactly how those biases affect us (to the best of our ability); and to work consistently to correct for our ongoing biases.

We know that Jesus was concerned that his disciples understand not just him but the world around them accurately: “Look closely at how the wild flowers grow” [Lk 12:27]; “By their fruits you will know them” [Mt 7:16]; and too many other places to list....

And we know that Jesus was concerned that his disciples act wisely on what they perceive and understand: “The Kingdom of Heaven is like ten virgins, five of whom were wise and five were foolish” [Mt 25:1-13]. “Do not cast your pearls before swine” [Mt 7:5].

In short, Jesus wants his disciples – us – to grow more effective in doing his work. That means not just piety and good morals (although it certainly includes those), but – even more to the point – accurate seeing (acknowledging and overcoming biases); correct understanding (rather than settling for slogans or easy answers); and wise actions (rather than “taking the easy way,” or any of the other hundreds of escapist possibilities).

See. Understand. Decide and act. Wisely.² Our church needs to do a better job of helping every Catholic to learn while growing up to do this consistently. In the meantime, we can work on it in our families, and in ourselves. Until next week, peace.

¹ Cf. *The New Jerome Biblical Commentary*, 61:115. It is considered canonical and Divinely inspired revelation by our church regardless of its history.

² Cardinal Joseph Cardijn (1882-1967) originated the See – Judge – Act model for Catholic social action. He was the founder of the Young Christian Worker movement and a key influence on Vatican Council II's documents on the Lay Apostolate and on the Church in the Modern World

Faith Formation

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.

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>.

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!

Registration is open

Registration is open now for the 2019-2020 Faith Formation year! Our early incentive period is from now until August 1, 2019. The schedule will be changing slightly this year so early registration ensures the choice of class days and times you want. Remember, all tuition from this year must be paid in order for next year's Registration to be processed. Also, all classes and work must be completed.

Outdoor Stations of the Cross

Come and pray the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, April 19, 2019 at 5:30pm with the children who will re-enact the Stations and process around the church grounds.

In case of inclement weather, this will take place in the Church.



Parish Social Ministry

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Pope Francis's Angelus, 5th Sunday of Lent 2016

The Gospel of this Fifth Sunday of Lent...presents the episode of the adulterous woman, highlighting the theme of the mercy of God, who never wants the sinner to die, but that the sinner convert and live. That woman is...placed between Jesus and the crowd, between the mercy of the Son of God and the violence and anger of her accusers. Were Jesus to follow the stringent law, approving that the woman be stoned, he would lose his reputation of meekness and goodness which so fascinated the people; however, were he to be merciful, he would be flouting the law, which he himself said he did not wish to abolish but fulfill.

Jesus did not respond; he kept silent and..."bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground". In this way he helped everyone to calm down, not to act on the wave of impulsiveness, and to seek the justice of God. Then Jesus looked up and said: "Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her". This response confounded the accusers, disarming all of them in the true sense of the word: they all lay down their "weapons". That is, the stones ready to be thrown, both the visible ones against the woman and those concealed against Jesus. How much good it does us to be aware that we too are sinners! When we speak ill of others – something we know well – how much good it will do us to have the courage to drop down the stones we have to throw at others, and to think a little about our own sins.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) Food Drive for our Pantry

The AOH, St. Patrick's Division 2 will be distributing grocery bags at all the masses this weekend. Please fill the grocery bags and drop off to our Food Pantry in the bin located in the Lobby. The items we have requested are Jelly (we have plenty of peanut butter) Coffee, Tea, Canned mix vegetables, canned carrots, canned peas, Tuna, Snacks, Paper goods(toilet paper, paper towels)

The AOH is a national Irish-Catholic men's fraternal organization in Babylon that provides food through their AOH hunger program.

We thank them and you our loyal parishioners for your continued support of our Food Pantry.

REMINDER: Did you apply for your Earned Income Tax Credit (EIC) and Child Tax Credit (CTC)?

According to IRS, each year millions of eligible workers do not claim their credit missing out on millions of dollars they have earned. Even if workers don't earn enough to owe income tax (although they pay federal excise and payroll taxes as well as state and local taxes) they can qualify for these tax credits but may not realize it. Child qualifications for workers with children are: son, daughter, grandchild, stepchild or adopted child, or foster child. Check it out before it's too late!

JOBS FAIR

A chance to meet with many of Long Island's top companies who are hiring right now.

JOBS FAIR – Wednesday, April 17, 2019 - Noon – 5pm.

235 Pinelawn Road, Melville

For more information, go to newsday.com/jobfair or call 631-843-2430

Thank You Boy Scout Troop 2014

Thank you to Boy Scout Troop 2014 for their terrific Food Drive Sunday, March 10. The many cartons of non-perishable food filled up our pantry shelves. Great Job!

Parish News

Let Us Welcome Our Newly Baptized Into Our Parish Communion

Amelia Concetta Casey

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.

Calendar Raffle Winners

The Calendar Raffle Tickets for July through December of 2019 are in the mail. If you do not receive these tickets, please come into the Parish Office or give us a call and we will mail them out to you.

4/1/19	4/2/19	4/3/19	4/4/19	4/5/19	4/6/19	4/7/19
347	271	66	183	355	47	415

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

Financial Stewardship Report September 1, 2018, through March 31, 2019

Sunday offering target: \$13,195 per week

Target: \$409,045

Collections: \$409,196

Over target by \$151

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 for 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 Family Ministry Hospitality breakfast will be today, April 28, 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 is welcome even if you attend Mass at a different time!

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.

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.

Sight and Sound trip to see JESUS - Hosted by Our Lady of Grace Family Life Ministry

Come and see **JESUS** at Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster, Pennsylvania! We will travel by coach bus on Saturday, June 8, 2019, to see the acclaimed production of Jesus at Sight and Sound. The bus will leave at 7am from Our Lady of Grace back parking lot. Upon arrival we will have lunch at Good 'n' Plenty Restaurant. We will then attend the 3pm show. Afterward we will return to Our Lady of Grace on the bus.

Price for everything is \$150 per person - Call 631-661-9353 with questions or email: mrchetti4olog@gmail.com for more information. Make checks payable to Maria Russello-Chetti.

Parish News

Adult Community Garden Help Needed

Your help is really needed with spring arriving on 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.



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!

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.

Kids of the Kingdom

Registration for this summer's Kids of the Kingdom Program has begun between the hours of 2-6pm in Fr. Shanahan Hall. This action packed experience is open to children 5 through 12 years of age. Each day includes entertainment or a field trip and lots of fun. Kids of the Kingdom runs for eight weeks during the summer, from July 1 through August 23, 2019. The day begins at 8:30am and concludes at 4:30pm. (We also offer an early drop off from 7:30-8:30am and an aftercare from 4:30-5:30pm, at an additional \$5. Per session used.) For more details contact Doreen Scalise at 631-893-6564 between the hours of 2 and 6pm Monday through Friday or via email at pstanley@ourladyofgrace.net.



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.

Widows and Widowers

Our Lady of Grace Widows and Widowers will meet on Friday, April 15, 2019, at 12pm, in Room 109. For information, call 631-661-3439. New members are most welcome.

More Parish News

Spousal 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.

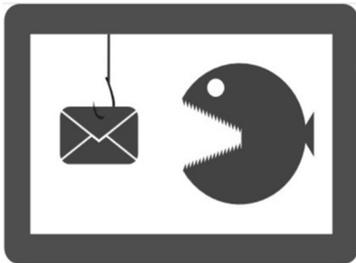
We will be offering a bereavement support group which is an eight week program that meets one day a week for 90 minutes each time. My name and phone number and the co-facilitator are listed below. You're not going to know unless you try.

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

Annual Easter Concert, April 27

Don't miss The Our Lady of Grace Choirs perform their 13th 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.

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.

Moving On Group

St. Joseph's Church in Babylon is hosting a 'Moving On' group on Friday, April 12, at 7:30pm. This is an after bereavement group for widows and widowers. For further information, please call Geri at 631-661-8994 or Linda at 631-225-9530.

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.
