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.

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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

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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

By **Witness**
We love God and neighbor each day.

By **Support**
We share our gifts and we encourage one another.
Baptism
Call the Parish Office for more information or to schedule an appointment for a Baptism interview. This should be done as soon as practicable.

Matrimony
Arrangements for marriage should be made as soon as possible but not less than 18 months prior to the intended wedding date.

Reconciliation
Held every Saturday at 4-4:45pm in the Church or call for an appointment.

Anointing of the Sick
Celebrated each Saturday during the 8:00am Mass for those facing surgery or those with major disorders. Call the Parish Office for other arrangements.

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.

Parish Office Hours:
Monday and Tuesday: 9am – 9pm
Wednesday – Friday: 9am – 5pm
Saturday: 3-6pm and Sunday: 9am – 12pm

Please take note:
The Parish Office hours for Monday, Dec. 16th - Friday, Dec. 20th will be 9:00am - 5:00pm.

Our Clergy
Rev. Joseph Davanzo, Pastor
Rev. Gabriel Miah, Associate
Rev. Martin Adu Gyamfi, Associate
Deacon Ricardo Garcia
Deacon Brian Miller
Deacon Irwin Saffran

Our Pastoral Staff
Jeanmarie Florio, Day Care Director
Peggy Harnisch, Faith Formation Director
Ann Kristoffersen, Parish Social Ministry
James Pisano, Facilities Manager
Terence Purtell, Director of Music
Doreen Scalise, Kids of the Kingdom / Summer Fun Coordinator
Tischa Stanley, Angel Care Coordinator

Our Pastoral Council
Lee Abseck  Ralph Fiorillo
Mary Ellen McEntee  James Nevins
Maria Russello-Chetti  Lucy Sanchez
Kathleen Scheid  Concetta Whelan

Our Finance Council
Richard Korcz (Trustee)  Joseph Salzone
Leonardo LoCricchio  Robert Scharf (Trustee)
Debra Nicosia  Thomas Villella

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
The classic philosophical definition of a person is “an individual substance of a rational nature.” A person possesses a center point of being, autonomy and self-sufficiency, which irrational beings do not have. To be a person, one must have a nature capable of self-consciousness, self-possession and self-control. These definitions control and focus the philosophical discussion of personhood. Since the person is the smallest component of what makes up society, defining the person is important. If agreement on such a fundamental is not had, then the foundation of society and law is no more. But, today, the classical idea of a person is being challenged where one need not be a person to have personhood, where anything can be a person, even if it is not living or rational. For some, the only requirement for personhood is that the thing exists. Such a definition only brings chaos to society when people no longer understand what things really are.

A few weeks ago I read that the Yurok tribe in California has declared that the Klamath River now has the “rights of personhood.” Because of low water flows, diseased salmon and canceled fishing seasons over the past years, the elders decided the river’s rights were violated. With the river now a person, the tribe’s lawyers want to establish a new legal framework where non-humans are considered persons with rights who enjoy equal legal standing with humans. In 2018, Minnesota’s White Earth Band of Ojibwe tribe declared that wild rice growing within its territory now has the rights of a human. In 2015, a judge in Argentina, granted the rights of a person to an orangutan named Sandra, so she could “spend the rest of her life in a more dignified situation.” As part of Sandra’s rights, she was moved to a special sanctuary in Florida a few weeks ago.

These declarations and official recognitions are dangerous. Their intention is to destroy the traditional Christian notion of personhood and the Catholic concept of the order of the universe in which humans have dominion over the lower orders of Creation. Their goal is to exalt the earth as a living being to which all things belong equally and to reject the presence of God “in which we all live and move and have our being” (Acts 17:28.) It is a denial of reality to granted personhood rights to any non-human. Non-rational beings like rivers, rice and orangutans are not self-conscious and cannot express themselves rationally. Non-people can never be persons. Rivers, rice and orangutans must be treated according to their nature, not human nature.

What’s more tragic than this is that today real human persons are denied their personhood rights and are not considered persons. The unborn child in the womb is “an individual substance of a rational nature,” but efforts by pro-lifers to guarantee their personhood rights from conception are ignored and unborn persons continue to be killed. Unlike rivers and rice, unborn babies have a beating heart and they feel pain. Unlike orangutans, unborn babies have a God-given and immortal soul. While we have a responsibility care for the environment, we must not destroy a reasonable legal system that protects the rights of actual human persons. The true reality is not that “God is in all things” (river, rice, orangutans), but that all things are in God. May we never misplace the honor due only to Our Creator by placing His honor on things.

Respect Life: Eating People to Combat ‘Climate Change’

Swedish behavioral scientist Magnus Söderlund has suggested that eating people after they die could combat climate change. Söderlund will hold seminars at “Gastro Summit - the Future of Food” to discuss eating people in the name of reducing greenhouse emissions. According to his research, the problem with the idea is the taboo of eating human flesh and the conservative attitudes that make it hard to convince Swedes to take up cannibalism. Regardless of the likely resistance, Söderlund said it is important to examine different options in the name of sustainability. Last year, atheist and evolutionary scientist Richard Dawkins advocated for “lab-grown meat” to “overcome our taboo against cannibalism.” Climate change activists have also supported “meat” made from insects to reduce emissions and save land and water.

(www.breitbart.com; Sept. 6, 2019)
Our Parish Communion

This week:

**Monday, December 2:**
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
2:00PM-9:00PM (Church)

**Tuesday, December 3:**
Bingo: 6:00PM-11:00PM (PES)
Youth Ministry
7:30PM-9:00PM (Room 212-214)

**Wednesday, December 4:**
RCIA: 7:00PM-9:00PM (Room 106)
Bereavement Class
7:00PM-9:00PM (Room 109)

**Saturday, December 7:**
Youth Ministry Bake Sale
4:00PM-6:00PM (Lobby)
Monthly Concert Series
6:00PM-8:00PM (Church)
Bingo: 6:00PM-11:00PM (PES)

**Sunday, December 8:**
Youth Ministry Bake Sale
8:00AM-2:00PM (Lobby)

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Worship This Week

**Mon. Advent Weekday**
Dec. 2
8:00
Rev. Michael Carroll
9:00
Vincent Hagan

**Tues. St. Francis Xavier**
Dec. 3
8:00
Rev. Harold Buckley
9:00
Maureen D’Andria

**Wed. St. John Damascene**
Dec. 4
8:00
Rev. Msgr. James P. Kelly
9:00
Rev. George J. Michell

**Thurs. Advent Weekday**
Dec. 5
8:00
Rev. Lawrence B. Rafferty
9:00
George Savino

**Fri. St. Nicholas**
Dec. 6
8:00
Rev. Vitalis B. Pedzik
9:00
Holy Face of Jesus – Living and Deceased

**Sat. St. Ambrose**
Dec. 7
8:00
Rev. Joseph M. Nolan

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Worship for Sunday, December 8, 2019
Second Sunday of Advent
Is 11:1-10/ Rom 15:4-9/ Mt 3:1-12

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Presider</th>
<th>We Pray Especially For</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td>Fr. Gabriel</td>
<td>Edrian Hernandez</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Fr. Gabriel</td>
<td>Catherine Mastro Simone</td>
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<td>Madeline Costello (B’day)</td>
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<td>Dorothy Thiel</td>
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<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Fr. Martin</td>
<td>Frank P. Saraceno</td>
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<td>12:00pm</td>
<td>Fr. Joe</td>
<td>People of the Parish</td>
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<td>1:30pm</td>
<td>Fr. Martin</td>
<td>For Persons with Special Needs</td>
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Memorials for the Week of:
December 1, 2019

**Rose for Life**
In Memory of
Frances Geraldine English

**Bread and Wine**
In Memory of
Walter McCabe
Faith Formation

Faith Formation Hours: Monday to Friday: 9:00AM - 4:00PM.
Also open on Saturdays while class is in session.
Evening and weekend appointments available; please call.

It’s Advent!

Today, the 1st Sunday of Advent, begins the Church’s Liturgical year. Advent is a beautiful time of preparation, but not in the usual way we think. We are preparing our hearts to celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus. I remind students Jesus doesn’t care how our house is decorated, he cares how our hearts are prepared! Students this month will work on Advent related activities and noticing the difference in Church environment. This is a great time to remember those less fortunate and spend time with family. Take out your Bibles and read the infancy narratives or pray together as a family. Light an Advent Wreath each week. Remember- it’s not Christmas Season for the Church yet!

Confirmation Service

Confirmation level 8th grade students held a walk-a-thon in the back field and a bake sale. Thanks to all who have supported their efforts. This is a hard working group of students!

Our first night of peanut butter and jelly sandwich making was a success, and we made and donated 275 sandwiches to the soup kitchen!

It is a pleasure to watch them grow toward Confirmation!

This month our Faith Formation students will donate some of their favorite foods for the Food Pantry to help families in need.

Congratulations to our Pastor, Fr. Joe

On Sunday, November 17th, Fr. Joe Davanzo was installed as Pastor of Our Lady of Grace.

We wish Fr. Joe all the best.

Pictured with Fr. Joe is Grand Knight Rob Lodato.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS
REGISTER ONLINE WWW.DRVC-FAITH.ORG
Training of Volunteers in the Ministry to the Sick - Part B for Eucharistic Ministers
Mercy Medical Center, Rockville Centre
Saturday, December 7, 2019 - 8:30AM to 3:30PM.
Parish Social Ministry

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

What Do You Really Want for Christmas

Dear God, your will is that we may be one.
We thank you that you call us into communion with you & each other.
Your generosity & mercy are always taking us by surprise.
We bless you for the vision of inclusion, solidarity, & compassion
that opens our minds, widens our sympathies, & enlarges our hearts.
Strengthen us & give us togetherness to serve the needy, the rejected & the forgotten.
Confront our indifference, break down our barriers, surprise us with joy. Amen

Happy Advent!

As politically active Catholics, our primary responsibility is the common good. A culture of the common good provides for the health, welfare, & dignity of all people & promotes the best interests of everyone & focuses on helping those most in need: the poor & vulnerable. The common good is not solely a Catholic value. The 1st three words of the Constitution, “We the people,” remind us that concern for the common good is a founding principle of our nation.

With Christmas approaching it is a good idea to look at Christian consumers vs. cultural consumers. In “Catholic Wisdom,” Dolores Curran writes:

Cultural vs. Christian Consumers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cultural consumers:</th>
<th>Christian consumers:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-Buy according to want</td>
<td>-Buy according to need</td>
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<tr>
<td>-Evaluate success on image &amp; possessions</td>
<td>-Evaluate success on relationship with God &amp; humans.</td>
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<tr>
<td>-Identity is closely linked with possessions (I am what I have)</td>
<td>-Identity is based on the true self created by God (I am who I am)</td>
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<td>-Treasure the new &amp; novel</td>
<td>-Treasure the old &amp; familiar</td>
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<td>-Enjoy shopping as a leisure-time activity</td>
<td>-Shop only when necessary</td>
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<td>-Find it difficult to discard unused possessions</td>
<td>-Find freedom in discarding unused possessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Focus on what they don’t have &amp; can’t afford</td>
<td>-Focus on relationships, nature, faith, family, &amp; sharing</td>
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<tr>
<td>-Always have in mind an item that will make them happier</td>
<td>-Seek happiness in inner peace rather than external goods.</td>
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The Giving Tree

Our Giving Tree is in the Lobby. Baskets with cards suggesting gifts for Christmas will be at the doors. Please take a card & return the unwrapped gift by Monday, December 9th to give us time to sort the gifts for our families. Thank you & God bless you for your help. Your past generosity has been wonderful, & we truly appreciate all you do.
Ministries with Children and Families

We host the monthly breakfast after the 10am Mass, and we also offer spiritual and several social events.

If you’d like to help, contact Maria at mchetti4olog@gmail.com or call the office at 661-9353 or come to our next meeting on Monday, November 25th, at 7:30pm in Room 109.

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Save the Date!

Please come see our Christmas Pageant on Friday, December 20, 2019, at 7:00pm in the church. Over 60 children will participate and will act, sing, and dance. Bring your family!

What a beautiful way to prepare in the final week before Christmas!

Wanted:

Altar Servers

Our Lady of Grace Parish would like to invite all 3rd graders and older to serve the Lord by participating in Altar Service. Would your child like to serve in assisting the priest at Mass? Please return the following permission slip to the Parish Office. Or you may email: worship@ourladyofgrace.net and leave your name and phone number.

I give permission for my child to participate as an Altar Server:

Child’s Name _____________________________________       Grade _________________
Parent/Guardian Name ____________________________________
Address ___________________________________________________________________
Telephone ______________________ Email _____________________________________
Parent/Guardian Signature _________________________________________________

You will be contacted with an Altar Service training schedule when the dates have been confirmed.
Parish News

Let Us Welcome Our Newly Baptized Into Our Parish Communion

Maeve Ellen Henshaw

Please Pray for Those Who Have Died This Week

Patrick E. Tobin

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Mass Intentions

Unannounced Masses

We offer unannounced Mass intentions which will be offered almost immediately. These intentions will not be put in the bulletin or announced at any of the Masses. The cost is $20. Please come to or call the Parish Office at 631-587-5185.

Multiple Mass Intentions

We offer one multiple Mass Intention for Sundays alternating between the Saturday, 5pm (Vigil) and the Sunday, 8am Masses.

Still Talking Turkey

Even when the holiday is over, we will still be able to accept donations of turkey to help assist families in our community. So if you have an extra turkey, please drop it off at the Parish Social Ministry during their office hours: Monday through Thursday 10:00AM—2:00PM.

They Are In The Mail

The Calendar Raffle tickets are in the mail. If you do not receive them, please stop into the Parish Office during work hours; and you can purchase them. Good Luck!

Support Our Lady of Grace with a Calendar Raffle

$25 ticket that lasts six months.

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>11/30/19</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/1/19</td>
<td>451</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
OLOG Daycare
Call Jeanmarie Florio at 631-422-4681
or email jflorio@ourladyofgrace.net

Advent Wreath Memorial Opportunity
Our Advent Wreath is available in 4 shares for a Memorial opportunity.
Please call or visit the Parish Office for more information.
Memorial donation: $100

Save the Date!
Advent Lessons and Carols
December 7th @ 7pm
Join us for this seasonal worship featuring Fr. Gius and the Sts. Cyril & Methodius choir.

Angel Care
Opens at 7:00AM and is $10 daily when used. After care is $13 per day and closes at 6:00PM. Please contact Tischa Stanley at 631-893-6564 or pstanley@ourladyofgrace.net.

Bringing Forth the Bread and Wine
If you would like to carry the offerings forward at the Presentation of the Gifts during the Mass, please let the ushers know this before Mass begins. (You must arrive early).

Low Gluten Hosts
Low gluten hosts are available for those who cannot receive Holy Communion using the usual bread. Please speak with one of our sacristans, Anthony Colletti or Fran Sarvis. They will be happy to accommodate you.

Youth Ministry News
Mark your calendars! The Youth Ministry will be having a ‘Bake Sale’ just in time for the holidays the weekend of December 7th and 8th after all the Masses.

The Altar Society
Altar Society members take turns caring for the altar linens used at Masses. If you would like to help, please call the Parish Office at 631-587-5185 or email: galetwohig@ourladyofgrace.net.

Stewardship in Action
2019 Catholic Ministries Appeal
Goal: $91,800.00
201 Pledges to Date: $45,476.00
Average Pledge: $226.25
Dear Friends and Parishioners,

I am happy to announce we are beginning a **Sacred Music Society** here at Our Lady of Grace. With the generosity of patrons like you, we will be able to continue offering beautiful music for our liturgies, concerts, and special programs throughout the year.

Contributions will be used to directly support the music program at Our Lady of Grace, including Advent Lessons and Carols, the monthly concert series, additional instruments for the special liturgies of Christmas and Easter. Acknowledgments are made in programs for our concerts and special musical offerings throughout the year as well as in our parish bulletin. Contributions can be given at any of the following levels:

- ♦ St. Cecilia ($350 or more)
- ♦ Schola Cantorum ($200 to $349)
- ♦ Cantor’s Circle ($100 to $199)
- ♦ Psalmist’s Platform ($50 to $99)
- ♦ Chorister’s Guild ($25 to $49)
- ♦ Angelic Chorus (up to $24)

It will be primarily through the support of the **Sacred Music Society** that we will be able to continue to produce high-quality music in our church. To contribute, please mail or bring the completed form below and a check made payable to “Our Lady of Grace R.C. Church” in an envelope to the Parish Office, Attn: Terence Purtell. If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to contact me at tpurtell@ourladyofgrace.net or (631) 587-5185 ext. 219.

Please consider being a part of our music history at Our Lady of Grace!

God bless you in advance for your generosity and support.

- Terence

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**Our Lady of Grace SACRED MUSIC SOCIETY 2019 - 2020**

I wish to support the **Sacred Music Society** by making a donation of $_________.

*(please make checks payable to Our Lady of Grace R.C. Church)*

Name:_______________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Address:_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________

E-mail:_______________________________________________________________________

Phone#:_________________________________

This donation is:

- ☐ In memory of _________________________________________________________________________________________
- ☐ In honor of  ____________________________________________________________________________________________
- ☐ Anonymous

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