



# **Our Lady of Grace**

**Roman Catholic Church**

**December 8, 2019**

**Second Sunday of Advent**



**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.

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](http://www.ourladyofgrace.net)

[parish@ourladyofgrace.net](mailto:parish@ourladyofgrace.net)

## **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.

# Our Parish Communion

## 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



## Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Tuesday: 9:00am - 9:00pm  
Wednesday - Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm  
Saturday: 3:00-6:00pm & Sunday: 9:00 am-12:00pm

## Please take note:

Parish Office hours  
Monday, Dec. 16 - Friday, Dec. 20: 9:00am - 5:00pm.

## 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.

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## Matrimony

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

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## Reconciliation

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

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## Regular Devotions:

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Mondays: 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 July & August.)

## From The Pastor

Had December 8<sup>th</sup> this year not been a Sunday, we would today celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. On March 25<sup>th</sup> in 1858, a 12-year old peasant girl, Bernadette Soubirous, felt called to a grotto in Lourdes, France, where a beautiful lady had been appearing to her since February 11<sup>th</sup>. Bernadette asked her who she was, and the lady in white said in the local dialect, "*I am the Immaculate Conception.*" We are not exactly sure what those words meant to the barely literate Bernadette; but when she repeated them to the local clergy, they knew that this was significant. In 1854, just 4 years earlier, Pope Pius IX defined the "Immaculate Conception" as a dogma of our faith.

Today, many mistakenly believe this doctrine refers to the conception of Jesus in the womb of Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit at the Annunciation. The Immaculate Conception refers to the conception of Mary in the womb of her mother St. Anne. The word "immaculate" properly means "not spotted or stained." The spot or stain is original sin. The Immaculate Conception means Mary never had original sin; because the grace of Christ was always present and never missing from her, unlike the rest of humanity who are all born without grace and salvation. Proclaiming Mary as the Immaculate Conception affirms that God's gift of grace and holiness to her was never lacking. She was God's most beloved from the 1<sup>st</sup> moment of her existence and was holy and able to share in the life of the Trinity. It would be inconsistent and not make sense for the Mary, the Mother of Jesus, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Person of the Trinity, to have ever been with sin. The "Preface" prayer in the Roman Missal for this feast tells us that Mary is related both to her Son and to the Church. It reads: "...almighty and eternal God... you preserved the most Blessed Virgin Mary from all stain of original sin, so that ...you might prepare a worthy Mother for your Son and signify the beginning of the Church, his beautiful Bride without spot or wrinkle."

Our society and world today has lost both a sense of sin and a sense of holiness. It does not appreciate or understand the sinlessness of the Mother of God. The Immaculate Conception affirms that sin can be overcome and it will be conquered by Jesus. It affirms that the Church is to reflect the beauty and model of Mary's holiness. It celebrates both what God has done for Mary, because she was destined to be the Mother of God, and what God has done for the Church by giving us Mary as our advocate, as a model of perfect holiness, and as an image of the beauty that God will eventually give His Church.

Our Blessed Mother's 1858 words to Bernadette at Lourdes, "*I am the Immaculate Conception*" was God's and Our Lady's confirmation of Pope Pius' 1854 proclamation. Mary's love for God was total, and her treasure is to be in His perfect love always and to never be separated from Him. Her sinlessness is a pure gift from God and also a gift of perfect love for God. Through the intercession of the Blessed Mother, may our goal be to be without sin, as much as possible, through prayer, sacrifices, and regularly confessing our sins.



### Respect Life: "A Robot Baby for Lonely People"

Despite technology making communication easier, people are lonelier than ever. About 8% of Americans are diagnosed with clinical depression; and suicides, particularly of young men, are increasing. The latest bizarre invention to alleviate loneliness is the "Somnox Sleep Robot," a bean-shaped white robot the size of a baby (yours for \$600.) Its weight and feel mimic a newborn, and it comes with a "birth certificate" which reads: "*Creating life is our design philosophy. It took 9 months to create your new sleep companion, just like a real baby.*" It supposedly helps owners achieve a full night's sleep with its simulated breathing apparatus and an air bladder that expands and contracts. The simpler alternative to buying a fake baby robot is to have a real child, but people are avoiding children. Birthrates are low in industrialized nations, and there is a trend for people to remain single, such as in Japan where some say 50% of the population will be "lifelong singles" within 15 years.

([www.returntoorder.org](http://www.returntoorder.org); Sept. 6, 2019)

# Our Parish Communion

**This week:**

**Monday, December 9:**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
2:00PM-9:00PM (Church)

**Tuesday, December 10:**

Rosary Makers  
10:00AM-12:00PM (Room 112)  
Bingo: 6:00PM-11:00PM (PES)  
Padre Pio  
7:30PM-9:00PM (Church)

Youth Ministry

7:30PM-9:00PM (Room 212-214)

**Wednesday, December 11:**

RCIA: 7:00PM-9:00PM (Room 106)

**Saturday, December 14:**

Bingo: 6:00PM-11:00PM (PES)

**Sunday, December 15:**

Babylon Chorale Concert  
4:00-6:00PM (Church)

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## Banns Of Marriage

**First Banns:**

Kimberly Cardinal - Richard Andrew Jensen

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**Memorials for the Week of:**

**December 8, 2019**

**Rose for Life**

In Thanksgiving for Life



**Bread and Wine**

In Memory of  
Mildred & Michael Sofia,  
Betty, Virginia, Grace,  
Nancy, Laurie & Josephine



**Sanctuary Lamp**

In Memory of Dorothy Thiel



# Worship This Week

**Mon. The Immaculate Conception**

**Dec. 9** Gn 3:9-15,20/ Eph 1:3-6,11-12/ Lk 1:26-38  
8:00 Maria & Alfonso Calleia  
9:00 Maria Musacchia

**Tues. Advent Weekday**

**Dec. 10** Is 40:1-11/ Mt 18:12-14  
8:00 Annette McManus (Anniv.)  
9:00 Domenico Francasca Minardi

**Wed. St. Damasus I**

**Dec. 11** Is 40:25-31/ Mt 11:28-30  
8:00 Antoinette Ognibenne  
9:00 Bob Olanick (2nd Anniv.)

**Thurs. Our Lady of Guadalupe**

**Dec. 12** Zec 2:14-17/ Lk 1:26-38  
8:00 Francesco and Maru Jemenez  
9:00 Angelo V. Minichiello

**Fri. St. Lucy**

**Dec. 13** Is 48:17-19/ Mt 11:16-19  
8:00 Rev. Patrick Amabile  
9:00 Virginia Fiorello (Anniv.)

**Sat. St. John of the Cross**

**Dec. 14** Sir 48:1-4,9-11/ Mt 17:9a,10-13  
8:00 Rev. Martin Klein

**Worship for Sunday, December 15, 2019**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

Is 35:1-6,10/ Jas 5:7-10/ Mt 11:2-11

**Presider**

**We Pray Especially For**

5:00pm Fr. Martin

Dorothy Thiel

8:00am Fr. Martin

People of the Parish

10:00am Fr. Joe

Nicolina DiBartolo

12:00pm Fr. Gabriel

Vincent Ingrisano



## 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.

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## It's Advent!

Last week many families came together to make Advent Wreaths for their homes. This is a wonderful tradition of preparing our hearts and homes to celebrate the birth of Jesus. This week we light two purple or violet candles.

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## JOURNEY

Our Lady of Grace Parish offers Middle School Students in Grades 6, 7, and 8 their very own Youth Ministry Program called "JOURNEY." The group provides youth the opportunity to deepen their relationship with Jesus and their faith while having fun and building friendships. JOURNEY will meet 1-2 Mondays per month between September and May.

Please join us from 7pm-8:30pm in Rooms 210/212 on the following dates: Dec. 16, Jan. 13 and 27, Feb. 10 and 24, Mar. 9 and 23, Apr. 6 and 20, May 4 and 28. (Dates are subject to change if needed).

Please check out our Facebook Page @ Journey OLOG or email us at: JourneyOLOG@gmail.com. Bring your friends!!

### UPCOMING WORKSHOPS JANUARY 2020 THROUGH MARCH 2020 REGISTER ONLINE [WWW.DRVC-FAITH.ORG](http://WWW.DRVC-FAITH.ORG)

#### RCIA Level I

##### St Martin of Tours, Bethpage

Thursdays, January 16, 23, 30, February 6, and 13, 2020

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

For more information, workshops, or to register online,  
please visit [drvc-faith.org/event/](http://drvc-faith.org/event/)

## Mass Remembrances

With Christmas on the way, please don't forget to remember your loved ones, living and deceased, in the Christmas Mass Remembrance envelopes.



The form is titled "Christmas Mass Remembrance" and features a small illustration of the Virgin Mary and the infant Jesus. It includes a "Name" field with checkboxes for "Living" and "Deceased", a "Requested by" field, and a note: "Please return envelope to church with name of person who is to be remembered in the Mass." At the bottom right, there is an "Offering \$" field.

# Parish Social Ministry

## CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

### Pope Francis: More Than Christian “Service Stations”

“To love God is to live by Him and for Him, for what He is and for what He does.” It means, the Pope continued, “to invest one’s energies every day to be his collaborators in serving our neighbor without reserve, in trying to forgive without limits and in cultivating relations relationships of communion and fraternity.” Pope Francis pointed out that Mark the Evangelist, “does not bother to specify who the neighbor is...”as it is not a question of pre-selecting my neighbor, but of having eyes to see him and a heart to love him.”

The Gospel, he went on to say, “invites all of us to be projected not only towards the urgencies of our poorest brothers and sisters, but above all to be attentive to their need for fraternal closeness, for a sense of life and for tenderness. This challenges our Christian communities: it is a question of avoiding the risk of being communities that live by many initiatives but with few relationships: “service stations” but with little company, in the full and Christian sense of the term.” The Pope underlined that “God, who is love, created us out of love, so that we can love others while remaining united to Him. The two dimensions of love, for God and for our neighbor, in their unity, characterize the disciple of Christ.” (Vatican News)

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### Project Warmth – Opens December 16th

Project Warmth provides one-time grants for heating and/or fuel related electricity emergencies. The program opens December 16<sup>th</sup> and continues until funds are exhausted. You must apply for HEAP first. Call the Social Ministry Office for information, 631-669-9354.

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### H.E.A.P. – Home Energy Assistance Program Season

HEAP is a federally funded energy program intended to provide financial assistance to low income households to meet their immediate home energy needs.

Applications are available on line at [www.odta.state.nyh.us/main/heap/application.asp](http://www.odta.state.nyh.us/main/heap/application.asp)

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### Thank You! Thank You! - God Bless all of You!!



Sincere thanks to the many people who helped make Thanksgiving a true holiday for many families: Pat Farrell and the West Babylon Community Center for over 50 turkeys; our parishioners who donated turkeys and food baskets; Eagle Scout Colin Reiff and Leader Sheila who helped distribute the food; Michael Frohnhoefer and grandson, Thomas, who delivered to the homebound; and the many wonderful Out-

### The Giving Tree

This is the last weekend for our Giving Tree in our lobby!  
Please take a card and return the unwrapped gift by Monday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>.  
Gifts only for children up to age 12. Gift cards for teens and adults are welcome.



## Ministries with Children and Families

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

If you'd like to help, contact Maria at [mrchetti4olog@gmail.com](mailto:mrchetti4olog@gmail.com) or call 631-661-9353 or come to our next meeting on Monday, January 6, 2020, at 7:30pm in Room 109.

### Save the Date!

Come see our Christmas Pageant on Friday, Dec. 20, at 7:00pm in the church.

Over 60 children will participate, act, sing, and dance. Bring your family!

What a beautiful way to prepare for Christmas!



### ***Congratulations to Our High School Students!***

The following student from Our Lady of Mercy Academy has achieved 1st Honors for the 1st semester :

Paige Thomson

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The following students from St. Anthony's High School has achieved Honor Roll status for the 1st quarter of 2019:

Louis Casale	Anthony Cascio	Lilly Feehan	Aiden Morel
Paige Murray	Marissa Romano	Amanda Schmitt	Alyssa Seidler
Ashlee Seidler	Jake Stateman	Eliza Stoehrer	Jack Weidman

Gabriel Zeccolella

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The following students from St. John the Baptist High School have maintained honor roll status:

Summa Cum Laude: Emily Duci, Julianna Mazur, Kathryn McHugh

Magna Cum Laude: Jullian Duci, Abigail Engrassia, Bailey Wrede

Cum Laude: Mia Pizzo

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# Christmas Season Schedule

## Christmas Confessions:

- ♦ Saturday, Dec. 21: 3:30PM - 4:45PM
  - ♦ Monday, Dec. 23: 8:00-9:00PM
  - ♦ Tuesday, Dec. 24: after the 9:00AM Mass
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## Christmas Season Masses

### Christmas Eve: Tuesday, Dec. 24:

3:00PM: Main Church

3:00PM: PES Hall

4:30PM: Main Church

10:00PM: Main church

### Christmas Day: Wednesday, Dec. 25:

8:00AM: Church

10:00AM: Church

12:00PM: Church

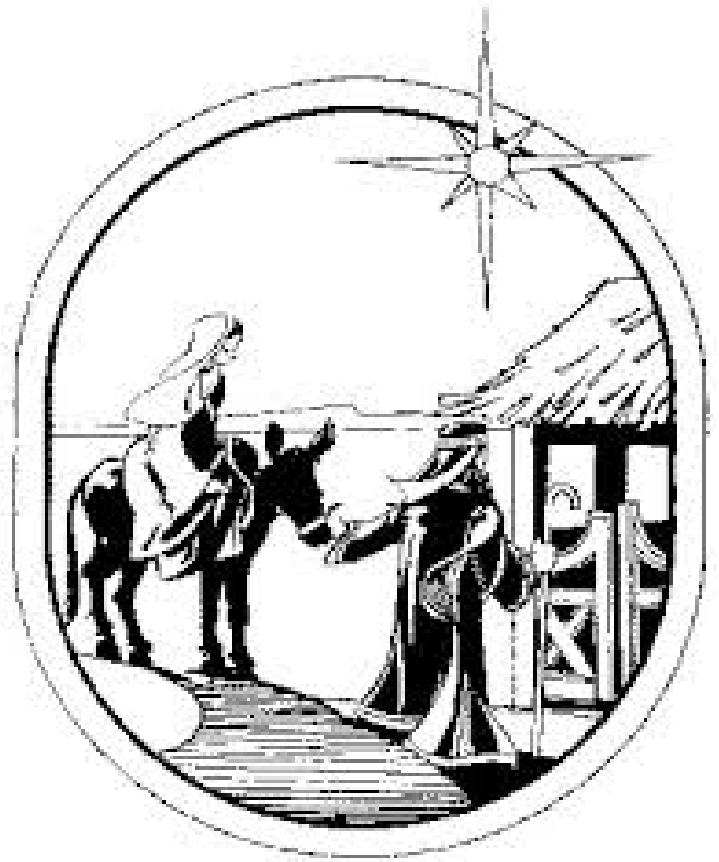
### New Year's Eve: Tuesday, Dec. 31:

5:30PM Vigil: Church

### New Year's Day: Wednesday, Jan. 1:

9:00AM: Church

11:00AM: Church





# Parish News

Let Us Welcome Our Newly Baptized Into Our Parish Communion

Patrick Paddy Gianna Berry

Please Pray for Those Who Have Died This Week

Rosina Zabatino

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## Parish Memorial Opportunities

We offer several ways to remember or honor loved ones through our liturgical memorials:

Sanctuary Lamp: \$10

Rose for Life: \$10

Bread & Wine: \$25 each

Prayer Garden Paver: \$75



You can also make a donation to our Altar Fund; cards are available in the Parish Office.

Please stop in to the Parish Office to arrange a special memorial for your loved one.

For more information, call 631-587-5185.

## Mass Intentions

### Unannounced Masses

We offer **unannounced** Mass intentions which will be offered almost immediately. These intentions are not put in the bulletin or announced at any Mass. 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 though Thanksgiving is over, we will still accept turkey donations to help assist families in our community. You can bring a turkey to Parish Social Ministry during their office hours: Monday through Thursday 10:00AM - 2:00PM.

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## Support Our Lady of Grace with a Calendar Raffle

\$25 ticket that lasts six months.

12/2/19

12/3/19

12/4/19

12/5/19

12/6/19

12/7/19

12/8/19

145

390

583

507

214

41

429

# More Parish News

## OLOG Daycare



Call Jeanmarie Florio at 631-422-4681 or email [jflorio@ourladyofgrace.net](mailto:jflorio@ourladyofgrace.net)

Daycare has open enrollment for all ages all year long. We are also looking to hire loving assistant teachers. Many different hours available: 8-1:30; 12-5:30 and 3-6. Call Jeanmarie at 631-422-4681.

## 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 [pstanley@ourladyofgrace.net](mailto:pstanley@ourladyofgrace.net) or 631-893-6564.

## 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

## 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.

## 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](mailto:galetwohig@ourladyofgrace.net).

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to the winner of the 'American Girl' doll raffle, Elaine Benfante.



## Youth Ministry News

Don't forget! The Youth Ministry is having a 'Bake Sale' just in time for the holidays this weekend after all the Masses. Stop by and support the youth of our parish.

## Stewardship in Action

2019 Catholic Ministries Appeal

Goal:	\$91,800.00
201 Pledges to Date:	\$45,476.00
Average Pledge:	\$226.25