



Our Lady of Grace

Roman Catholic Church

November 29, 2020

1st Sunday of Advent



We change lives through the Risen Christ

By **praying** daily for our intentions
& our mission.

By **witnessing** daily our love for God
& all persons.

By our **presence** worshiping at Mass for
mutual support & the grace of God.

By our **support** through our time, talent &
treasure & encouraging others.

We Celebrate the Eucharist

Saturday Evening: 5:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00 Noon

Monday - Friday 8:00am & 9:00am

Saturday 8:00am

Contact Us

666 Albin Ave., West Babylon, NY 11704

Office: 631-587-5185 Fax: 631-587-1427

Faith Formation: 631-661-9353

Parish Social Ministry: 631-661-9354

Day Care: 631-422-4681

www.ourladyofgrace.net

parish@ourladyofgrace.net

Our Clergy

Rev. Joseph Davanzo, Pastor

Rev. Martin Adu Gyamfi, Associate

Rev. Gregory Breen, Associate

Deacon Ricardo Garcia

Deacon Brian Miller

Deacon Irwin Saffran

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm

Saturday: 3:00pm - 6:00pm

Sunday: 9:00am - 12:00pm

Or call for an appointment: 631-587-5185.

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

Tischa Stanley, Angel Care Coordinator

Regular Devotions:

Miraculous Medal Novena with Rosary:

Mondays following 8:00am & 9:00am Masses.

Holy Face of Jesus:

Hour of Reparation 1st Friday after 9:00am Mass

Padre Pio Prayer Group

2nd Tuesday of each month after the 9am Mass.

Our Parish Communion

Pastoral Council

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

Finance Council

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

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Mass Intentions

Unannounced Mass Intentions:

Offered almost immediately & do not appear in the bulletin & are not announced at Mass. Come to the Office. Cost: \$20

Multiple Mass Intentions:

Offered weekly alternating with the Saturday, 5:00 pm Mass and Sunday, 8:00 am Mass.

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Memorials for Week of Nov. 29, 2020

Rose for Life

In Memory of: Eileen D. Calvanico

Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of: Josephine Pilmy

Bread & Wine:

Not Taken

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Memorial Opportunities

Remember or Honor Loved Ones

Sanctuary Lamp: \$10 Rose for Life: \$10
Bread and Wine: \$25 each
Prayer Garden Paver: \$75

You can also donate to our Altar Fund; cards available in Office. Call: 631-587-5185.

Baptism

Call the Office to schedule an appointment for a Baptism interview as soon as practicable.

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Matrimony

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

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Confession/Reconciliation

Every Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45pm in the church or call for an appointment.

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Anointing of the Sick

For those facing surgery or with major disorders, should call the Office.

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Becoming a Catholic

For adults, teens, or children over age 7 who are interested in becoming Catholic or completing their Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Communion), please call the Office.

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ANGEL CARE

We service children from West Babylon District. Morning care is from 7am - 9am; \$11 for first child and \$10 each additional child. Afternoon children are bused from elementary schools; \$13 first child and \$12 each additional child. Call 631-893-6564 or email pstanley@ourladyofgrace.net.

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Daycare is Open!



The children at OLOG Daycare have been having a great time playing and learning. We have been reopened since July 6, and God has kept us healthy and safe. We still have some open slots for all ages. Please call us for a tour, (631) 422-4681.

For Your Reflection

We submitted our financial report for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2020, to the diocese. In this bulletin is a financial comparison between fiscal years 2020 and 2019. Keep in mind the 2020 numbers reflect the ongoing pandemic and that the parish was closed with no Masses from mid-March to mid-June. At the same time, since our reopening, and with the priority of health and safety, Mass attendance has been well below pre-pandemic levels. Here is a summary of our finances:

- ◆ Due to the pandemic we **lost** \$317,676 in collections and other income.
- ◆ Our costs increased due to regularly sanitizing the entire facility.
- ◆ We ended the fiscal year at August 31, 2020, with total operating expenses (\$2,147,996) exceeding total operating income (\$2,341,510) giving us a net operating **deficit** of \$193,515. (Last year our net operating deficit was \$23,374.)
- ◆ Collection revenues (weekends, Christmas, Easter) were \$647,249 which is \$110,253 **less** than the previous year (\$757,503).
- ◆ The Easter collection was **down** by half: \$17,107 in 2020 vs. \$34,377 in 2019.
- ◆ With the inability to resume Bingo, fundraising revenue was **down** \$69,749.
- ◆ With fewer children in religious education and our pre-school/nursery program/summer camp, other “parish program” revenue was **down** \$384,519 (from \$1,296,478 to \$911,959.)

Also included in our net operating deficit of \$193,515 are capital projects whose bills we paid during the fiscal year. These include the heating system/main boiler pump overhaul (\$1,650.00), church air conditioning condenser fan system (\$780.00), renovations for handicap accessibility (\$15,000.00). Currently, we must replace the convent boiler (\$21,000.) These projects point to the importance for us (and all parishes) to maintain reserves. Without sufficient reserves, we would need to use our operating revenues to pay for these expenditures, which would directly impact our ability to proclaim the Gospel, serve the sacraments, and help those in need. I thank our Facilities Manager, James Pisano, for his work to cut costs, to our trustees and finance committee for their input and guidance, and to Parish Services of the diocese for their assistance.

I am grateful for your generosity during these times. I am most grateful to those who continued their offerings by mail or electronically while the church was closed, and to those who made a “catch-up” of their offerings for the missed weekends, and to those who increased their donation, either weekly or as a “one-time” gift to assist us at this difficult financial time. If you are able to make a “catch-up” or increase your donation, it would be most welcome and needed; however, I truly understand that circumstances may not make this possible. It’s at these times that electronic giving is most valuable to our parishes since our expenses remain all year round in both good times and bad. As seen in the bulletin, we offer electronic giving through “**WE SHARE.**” I encourage you to please consider this very easy option. If ever you cannot attend Mass, electronic giving allows us to receive what you have prayerfully decided without interruption, so we can continue our ministry and pay our bills. For more information or to enroll, call Gale at the office at 631-587-5185.

We are people of faith, and no matter what happens in life, it is Christ who defines us. Our Savior rose from the dead and is with us, our Church and our community. Not even a pandemic can defeat us. When life seems to come apart, it is only God on whom we can depend. May we see our challenges as opportunities to strengthen our faith, our Christian living, and our response to others. Thank you again for your generosity and for all you do for our parish. You are in my prayers each day.

Chinese Persecution Targets Crosses

From January to April 2020, China forcibly removed crosses from 250 churches. Officials claimed the crosses might fall and hurt people, or they were “*too tall, large, or eye-catching.*” Inside, churches are forced to display rulers, such as Chairman Mao. In 2018, Rev. Bob Fu spoke at a House Foreign Affairs hearing on persecution in China. He testified China enacted a 5-year plan to “convert” Christianity making it compatible with socialism. They plan to rewrite the Bible and add Buddhist and Confucian teachings.

Pray for our Recent Deceased

Mary Ellen Ramos

Richard Joseph Verderosa



Welcome Our Newly Baptized!

Anthony James Forde



Christmas Schedule

Christmas Confessions:

- ◆ Saturday, Dec. 19: 3:30pm - 4:45pm
- ◆ Monday, Dec. 21: 8:00pm - 9:00pm
- ◆ Tuesday, Dec. 22: after 9:00am Mass

Christmas Season Masses

Christmas Eve: Thursday, Dec. 24:

- 2:00pm: Main Church
- 2:00pm: PES Hall
- 4:00pm: Main Church
- 4:00pm: PES
- 10:00pm: Main Church

Christmas Day: Friday, Dec. 25:

- 8:00am: Church
- 10:00am: Church
- 12:00pm: Church

New Year's Eve: Thursday, Dec. 31:

- 5:30pm Vigil: Church

New Year's Day, Friday, Jan. 1:

- 9:00am: Church
- 11:00am: Church

We apologize for the misspelling of Nolan John Delfino who was Baptized here.

Cello Concert



The concert series continues on Dec. 5 at 7:00pm with cellist Richard Cotlib and pianist James Kendall. Suggested \$10 donation. Thanks to all who support our concert series!

Worship This Week

Mon.	St. Andrew
Nov. 30	Rom 10:9-18 / Mt 4:18-22
8:00am	
9:00am	Sr. Loretta Wundrok
Tues.	Advent Weekday
Dec. 1	Is 11:1-10 / Lk 10:21-24
8:00am	Joseph Zimmerman
9:00am	Vera Lombardo
Wed.	Advent Weekday
Dec. 2	Is 25:6-10a / Mt 15:29-37
8:00am	
9:00am	Joseph Napolitano
Thurs.	St. Francis Xavier
Dec. 3	Is 26:1-6 / Mt 7:21, 24-27
8:00am	
9:00am	Michael Azzarelli
Fri.	St. John Damascene
Dec. 4	Is 29:17-24 / Mt 9:27-31
8:00am	
9:00am	Holy Face of Jesus - Living and Deceased
Sat.	Advent Weekday
Dec. 5	Is 30:19-21,23-26 / Mt 9:35 - 10:1,5a,6-8
8:00am	Daniel Foley, Edward Maxwell, Jr. (37th Ann.)
5:00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday	The Second Sunday of Advent
Dec. 6	Is 40:1-5,9-11 / 2 Pt 3:8-14 / Mk 1:1-8
8:00am	Frank Martorana, Vincenzo, Benjamin Geremia
10:00am	Pasqua Chiodi
12:00pm	Gaetano Lo Monaco

Mass Intentions

Many Masses are available for intentions. Please contact the Office.

**OUR LADY OF GRACE
STATEMENT OF REVENUE and EXPENSES**

Comparison of fiscal years ending August 31, 2020 and August 31, 2019

<u>Income</u>	<u>Year End 2020</u>	<u>Year End 2019</u>
Collection Revenues	\$647,249	\$757,503
Fund Raising	79,341	149,091
Parish Programs	911,959	1,296,478
Auxiliary Revenues	509,446	262,601
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Total Operating Revenue	2,147,996	2,465,672
<u>Expenses</u>		
Salaries	1,143,074	1,171,896
Fringe Benefits	364,270	364,928
Fund Raising	18,710	29,908
Parish Program	107,505	200,189
School Subsidy	90,900	95,530
Printing & Office	98,052	98,769
DRVC Assessment/Church Expense	180,294	192,644
Rectory Household	19,741	16,583
Utilities & Maintenance	318,965	318,599
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Total Operating Expenses	2,341,510	2,489,046
Net Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	(193,515)	(23,374)

National Night of Prayer for Life

Tuesday, December 8, after the 7:30 pm Mass

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament at 8:30 pm with Benediction at 10:00 pm

Join us with parishes across the nation to pray the Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet,
and to spend time in silent adoration for an end to abortion
and greater respect for pre-born human life.

Parish Pantry: Nonperishable Food Items

We need the nonperishable food items for our regular food distribution: canned soups, pasta sauces, pasta, canned vegetables, canned tuna, canned beans, macaroni and cheese, Pasta-Roni, Rice-A-Roni, Tuna Helper and similar products, dried rice, dried beans, canned fruit, dried soup or ramen, breakfast cereals, oatmeal, snacks, peanut butter, fruit juices, jelly, powdered milk, sugar, pudding, gelatin, flour, cake and brownie mix. These can be brought any time and placed in the food bin in the Parish Lobby. Thank you for your outreach to those in need.



Faith Formation and Parish Social Ministry

Children's Faith Formation

Registration for Faith Formation classes is ongoing. Parent meetings have begun. Virtual option for most levels. Call 631-661-9353 for information.

***Fratelli Tutti* – On Fraternity and Social Friendship – Part 3**

In *Fratelli Tutti* Pope Francis says, “The story of the Good Samaritan is constantly repeated. We see this clearly as social and political inertia is turning our world into a desolate byway, even as domestic and international disputes and robbing of opportunities are leaving the marginalized stranded. In his parable, Jesus does not offer alternatives; he does not ask what might happen if the injured man or the one who helped him yielded to anger or revenge. Jesus trusts in the human spirit; he encourages us to persevere in love, restore dignity to the suffering and to build a society worthy of the name.”

Christmas At Outreach

Christmas – We will distribute **ONLY GIFT CARDS. We are unable to accept and/or distribute clothes, toys, other gifts, etc.** Gift cards needed: Applebees, Bath & Body Works, Bed, Bath & Beyond, Burger King, Big Lots, Dollar Tree, Dunkin Donuts, 5 Below, Marshalls, McDonalds, Old Navy, Panera, Taco Bell, Target, Walmart and Wendy's. We are grateful for your support to make Christmas special for those who need assistance.



“WE SHARE” is a Win-Win.

Please prayerfully consider “WE SHARE” for your contributions.

WE SHARE helps us budget and gives you piece of mind that your contributions to OLOG are automatic each month.

According to Reuters News Agency:

The majority of Americans (53% and growing) pay bills electronically and have moved away from cash or writing checks. This has accelerated with online shopping. Due to the pandemic, people are also avoiding handling money and paper. Other reasons: electronic bill payments are faster, more convenient with debits directly from their bank accounts, offer more protection against theft, fraud, counterfeiting, are more environmentally friendly, and offer peace of mind. **WE SHARE** distributes acknowledgement cards for those who attend Mass yet feel awkward letting the collection basket pass without putting something in it.

WE SHARE has been servicing Catholic dioceses and other faiths since the 1990s. Apart from the weekly collection, online donations can also be done for special appeals, such as for disasters. During this pandemic and also with inclement weather, many churchgoers stay at home, and our parish suffers financial loss. Nationwide, parishioners miss an average of ten services a year at their home parish.

Not only do direct debit and credit card payments mean more consistent giving, collections increase an average of 10-30%. Please remember: Your donation is not a business transaction, but a personal gesture of stewardship towards your faith community.

For more information or to enroll, contact Gale at 631-587-5185.

Be a Winner and Support Our Calendar Raffle - \$25 ticket lasts 6 months.

11/23/20	11/24/20	11/25/20	11/26/20	11/27/20	11/28/20	11/29/20
188	555	312	533	372	311	415