

OUR LITURGY

The Israelites in the desert complained and blamed Moses for the lack of water, and God provided it. The Samaritan woman at the well recognized Jesus first as a Jew, then as a prophet, then the Christ, and finally, as the "savior of the world." The *living water* promised by Jesus is the Holy Spirit which Paul says has been *poured out into our hearts*.

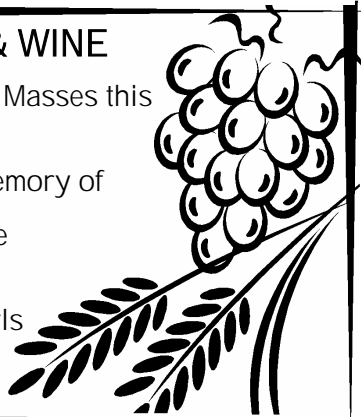
ALTAR BREAD & WINE

The gifts offered at our Masses this weekend

Are Donated in the Memory of

Beatrice Lichte

Requested by
The Fogarty Girls



REMEMBER OUR DEAD

William F Culliton, Thomas M Lowe, Evelyn Acampora, our deceased soldiers and all of our deceased relatives and friends.

REMEMBER OUR SICK

For this week, please pray for the sick, especially:

Michael Ambrosio	Rob Barello	Susan Bateman
Frank Belsito	Maureen Berdon	Oliver Bouchard
Emmanuel Coby	Regina T Cohen	Maggie Errico
Robert Filce	Catherine Gracey	Andrea Griffin
William J Guthrie III	Raymond Harold	Mary Hayes
Warren Johnson	Gail Karcher	Jack Kelleher
Georgiana Lopez	Joan Marten	John McGarry
Juliana McLarney	Rita Meehan	Maureen Melchiona
Timothy M Nigro	Edward Percesepe	Valerie Perruzza
Grace C Peshkur	Joseph Poirot	Nicole Ramaglia
Thomas Rigney Jr	Frances Romagnuolo	Salvatore Romagnuolo
Barbara Rooney	Rose Russo	Joyce Ryan
Leticia Schilt	Lori Slack	Antonina Sturiano
Kathleen P Taylor	Joan Teaney	Stacie Tizzard
Henrietta Varon	Keith Vasak	Stephen Walsh
Patrick Woods	Danny Yezzo	Brandon Zartler

PLEASE NOTE: *To keep our prayer list current, we will keep names on the sick list for two months. We ask families to return the bulletin cut-out to include names of those who are ill for another two months.*

OUR PRIEST-CELEBRANTS

Saturday	This Sunday	Next Sunday
5:00 pm	Fr Maffeo	5:00 pm Fr Butler
7:00 am	Fr Maffeo	7:00 am Fr Butler
9:00 am	Fr Thomas	9:00 am Fr Boyle
10:30 am	Fr Butler	10:30 am Fr Maffeo
12:00 pm	Fr Boyle	12:00 pm Fr Thomas
5:00 pm	Fr Butler	5:00 pm Fr Maffeo

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, February 27, 3rd Sunday of Lent

- 7:00 Stella Parise requested by Diane Doran
9:00 Angelo Cosma requested by
Kathy, Chris & Matthew Russo
9:00 Deceased Members of the St Regis Knights of
Columbus and Columbiettes
9:00 For All the Poor
10:30 For the People of the Parish
10:30 Pat Vogel requested by
Mr & Mrs Thomas O'Conell
10:30 Emma Turi requested by
Claudia & Frank Tantone
12:00 Ellen Oakley requested by
The Rainone Family
12:00 Noreen Murphy requested by the Rainone Family
12:00 For the Intentions of the Celebrant
5:00 Ed Williams requested by the McCarthy Family
5:00 Ricco Luisi requested by the Pugliese Family
5:00 For the Intentions of the Celebrant



Monday, February 28

- 7:00 For the Intentions of the Celebrant
9:00 Beatrice Lichte requested by Catherine Friedman
9:00 Mary Napolitano requested by
Loving Daughter & Family
12:10 Police Officer Michael Melchiona requested by
Loving Family

Tuesday, March 1

- 7:00 For the Intentions of the Celebrant
8:45 William Fehringer requested by Loving Children
8:45 Theresa Schiano requested by The Blinn Family
12:10 John Biglin requested by Mary Ann Long

Wednesday, March 2

- 7:00 For the Intentions of the Celebrant
9:00 Debbie Schramm requested by
Mr & Mrs Robert Affenita
9:00 Michael Moore requested by the Mawn Family
12:10 Steve Torma requested by Mr & Mrs Suli

Thursday, March 3, St Katherine Drexel

- 7:00 For the Intentions of the Celebrant
9:00 Big Scott 69ers MC requested by East Legion MC
9:00 Theresa Bertucci requested by Loving Family
12:10 For Our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II

Friday, March 4, St Casimir

- 7:00 Helen L Hennessy requested by Loving Family
9:00 Augusto Lucas requested by Loving Family
12:10 Angelo Iorio requested by Loving Family

Saturday, March 5

- 8:00 Theresa DeFilippo requested by Marie DeFilippo
8:00 Elizabeth Cameron requested by
Loving Husband & Family

Anticipated Mass for Sunday

- 5:00 William & Theresa Foy requested by
Mr & Mrs James Foy
5:00 Keith Nintzel requested by ATS Secretaries

Sunday, March 6, 4th Sunday of Lent

- 7:00 Margaret McHale (living) requested by Ryan Spelman
9:00 Mrs Salazar requested by Mr & Mrs Lago
9:00 For Our Beloved Dead
9:00 Jean Castelluzzo requested by the Divone Family
10:30 For an End to Abortion requested by
Respect Life Committee
10:30 Noel Catala requested by Robert & Doreen DeSoto
10:30 For the Intentions of the Celebrant
12:00 For the People of the Parish
12:00 Mary & Agnes Moscato requested by Loving Family
12:00 Elizabeth DeMaio requested by Loving Husband
5:00 Lena Mead requested by Mr & Mrs Robert Bizzaro
5:00 Lucas Marrero requested by Norma & Arthur Owen
5:00 For the Intentions of the Celebrant

IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO BRING UP THE GIFTS AT THE MASSES ON SATURDAY OR SUNDAY, PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THE USHERS WHEN YOU ARRIVE FOR MASS.

FROM THE DESK OF FR. MIKE

“Jesus answered and said to her, ‘If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you “Give me a drink!” you would have asked him and he would give you living water.’ The woman said to him, ‘Sir, you do not even have a bucket and the cistern is deep, where then can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this cistern...’ Jesus answered, ‘Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become...a spring of water welling up to eternal life.’”

Water is the common theme of today’s readings. In one account, water meets the immediate need of thirsty people in the desert, and in the other, we are told about the water that will satisfy the soul. Both are necessary, and both pouring outs present a challenge to our spiritual and faith life.

Who can blame the Israelites in the desert for being upset when they didn’t have water! Who can blame them for their complaining, however, one does have to ask them, “Why were you so filled with disbelief and have such a strong lack of faith in God?” “After all you have seen God do great things. He freed you from slavery, he parted the Red Sea, He gave you the gift of the 10 Commandments, and He made his great Covenant with you and you still do not believe!” “How can you ask, ‘If the Lord in our midst or not?’ Yet, they did, and this became their great sin - they just didn’t trust and have faith in God. Fortunately, that does not stop God and He provides them the water from the rock. The significance of the water coming out of the rock, is that the Old Testament often makes reference to God as the Rock - the divine life which never ends and provides the world with the strong foundation. Remember the old English hymn *Rock of Ages*. So, we see that the Rock does not abandon His people even when they abandon Him, and one can only hope that after they had their fill, they once again believed and turned to faith.

In the Gospel, the Samaritan Woman goes to the well also looking for water to satisfy her thirst, but receives so much more. She does not come away with water, no she comes away with the Spirit of God and the new life given to all through Jesus Christ. “*Are you greater than our father Jacob?*” You bet, much greater, for it is with God that Jacob makes the Covenant and it is with God made human whom this woman is speaking to. After her encounter with Jesus, she, in fact the whole town, believes in Jesus and all that He gives them (new life, the forgiveness of sins, and a hope and faith that reaches deep into the heart and never disappoints - as St. Paul tells us in the Letter to the Romans). They knew that through Jesus

they could truly trust in God, how about you? How about me, and how about all of us?

Today’s Old Testament and Gospel readings are reminders of the new life we gain in Baptism and what we will celebrate at Easter. We are blessed this year to have several people making their way toward the Easter Sacraments. Let us pray for them and for the wonderful people in our parish’s **RCIA** who minister to them in our name (more to come in future weeks).

This weekend we welcome Rev. James M. Gaughan who is speaking at all of the Masses about **Food for The Poor**. As we see in Mathew’s Gospel-whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers and sisters, that you do unto me!

After 23 years of dedicated, service to our beautiful St. Joseph’s School, our beloved principal Mrs. Marie Salvietti is retiring to spend some much needed time with her family. We are so very grateful to *Mrs. Salvietti* for all of the wonderful things she has done as a teacher and principal at our school. We certainly wish her well, and we will all miss her. At present, we are in the process of looking for a new principal. Our new principal will build upon the foundation laid by Mrs. Salvietti and of the past principals of our school. Like Easter, this is a time for new beginnings and we are all very excited as to what the future will bring! This is a great time for hope and faith in what God wants to do through St. Joseph’s-both the school and the parish as a whole.

Now some people might be thinking that Mrs. Salvietti is retiring because the school is going to close. With the reports of the school closings in the Brooklyn Diocese and two in Rockville Centre that seems like a good, guess. **In this case it is not**, and nothing can be further from the truth when it comes to our school! It is not the intent of the parish or the Diocese of Rockville Centre that the school close. In fact, we are looking for even greater things to come from the school. St. Joseph’s School is indeed a great blessing for our parish, and we must all do everything we can to insure that this blessing will be here **for future generations**. Once again, please consider our beautiful school for your children’s education-while the cost may place some pressure on your budget, it is an expense well worth it for what your children will gain. More to come!

God bless you always and continue to ask God for the grace to make the most out of this Lent.

Fr. Mike

SAY A PRAYER FOR OUR TROOPS

Please continue to remember them in your prayers.

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| CPL Jason Bertran | PFC Justin Browne |
| CPL Michael Bruno | PC Michael Dean Cantley |
| CAPT Kevin Connolly | SPC Thomas E. Corcoran |
| CAPT Edward Cuevas | COL Stephen Czerwinski |
| SGT Ryan Delaney | SGT Stephen G DiGirolamo |
| PVT Matthew DiNardo | Lt John Kenneth DiNero |
| Lt Nancy DiNero | CPL Keith Flick |
| SFC Raymond Fulton | RCT Michael Gabriellini |
| SSG Jeremy Garcia | CAPT Jennifer Gotkin |
| SPC Daniel Heuman | SGT Steven Knight |
| 1SGT John Krumholz | PFC Brian Lane |
| SSG Stephen LeGrady | GM2 Gerard McGarity |
| PFC Edward McGinn | SGT Patrick McNally |
| PFC William Meyer | Andy Mezador |
| SGT Daniel Montville | SPC Tristin Mortensen |
| SGT James Munro | SSG Joey Napolitano |
| LCPL Thomas Napolitano | LCPL Michael Napolitano |
| LCPL James Neubauer | COP Jonathan Norris |
| PFC Anthony Notaroberta | N/Seal Paul Padro |
| ENS 3 Lucy Padro | PFC Christopher Reid |
| SGT Edwin Rivera, II | SR/SA Jason Schiavo |
| RCT Brian Schildt | SPC Rudy Schoverling |
| PO2 Roger Schoverling | SPC James Stanek |
| SSG Thomas J Valentino | SSG Nick Vicale |
| SGT John Thomas Vogt | CPL Mark Ward |
| MAJ Edward Ward | CPL Zachary Wilga |
| SSG Dusty Williamson | |

(If you would like to include a soldier from your family who is serving, place their name and rank on a piece of paper and put it in the collection basket)

Religious Education

Office hours are Monday 9 to 4:00

Tuesday and Wednesday 10 to 3:30

Thursday from 9 to 3:30.

If you need to reach us after 3:30 pm on Tues, Wed or Thurs please call the school number 588-4760.

The office is closed on Fridays.

Classes resume this week.

Level 6 Reconciliation Monday, February 28th.

Level 2 Parent meeting in Auditorium during class times on Tuesday, March 8th, 9th, and 10th. Please bring your child to class then come over to the Auditorium.

Entertainment Books are on sale in the Religious Ed Office and the Rectory at a cost of only \$20.



Help Wanted

The Parish Confirmation program is in need of 2 volunteers to work 3 hours either AM or PM on either Tuesday or Wednesday. Knowledge of data entry is necessary. Please contact Deacon Jim at the rectory - 588-8456. We need your talents, so please call. Thank you.

Stewardship

Think of us in this way,
as servants of Christ
and stewards of
God's mysteries.



When Jesus asked the Samaritan woman for a drink of water, He opened the door for a life changing relationship with Him. Scripture says her testimony drew many others to Him as well. We, too, must be ready to respond whenever and wherever the Lord speaks to us and be prepared for it to change our lives.

Weekly Offering

686 envelopes	\$13,826
Loose collection	2,431
Total Last Sunday	\$ 16,257
Weekly Operating Expenses	21,250
Same Collection Last Year	17,145
Poor Box last weekend	237

Scrip Corner

We have scrip for Domino's Pizza & Lowe's Cineplex in stock. Why not stop into the rectory for your pizza & movie night.? **Don't forget it costs you nothing more & helps the Parish.**

Parish Outreach

Free employment counseling is now being offered by a retired business executive. Sessions will be held at the Outreach office by appointment only. If you are interested, please call Outreach between 10am and 3pm Monday through Friday, at 981-6888. You will then be contacted for an appointment date and time.

PREGNANCY CRISIS HOTLINE - We are here to help you. Please call 981-6888.

DEFENSIVE DRIVING

The next Defensive Driving course will be held on March 12th from 8:30 am to 3 pm in Carew Hall. The cost is \$45 per person. Call the Rectory at 588-8456 to register for the class.

Welcome to the Newest **Baptisms**
Members of Our Parish Family

Michael John Accardi	Krysta Erin Churns
Heath Richard Daseking, Jr	Joseph Robert Dinson
James Peter Emburey	Kayla Ann Kane
Dylan Maxwell Miller	Christopher Dennis Moran



Apostolate for Family Consecration

Invites you to bring your family and friends for a Lenten opportunity to pray with your parish family. We meet on Mondays at 7:30 PM in the church for a holy hour which includes: Listening to some of our leading theologians, Praying the

Rosary using meditative music video images of the life of Christ and Fellowship (coffee & cake). All are welcome.

Respect Life

MINOR Decisions

Teens may feel like parents run their lives, but according to the New York State Civil Liberties Union Web site, minors – those under the age of 18 – can make certain decisions themselves on things such as: Their own reproductive health, including abortions, contraception, and testing and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases, including AIDS. Drug and alcohol counseling without parental permission or consent, Rape crisis counseling and appropriate medical aid, Emergency room treatment without parental consent, if it's a true emergency. BUT in NYS minors need their parents' permission to get their ears or any other parts of their body (lip, navel, eyebrow, etc.) pierced.

Stacy Altherr, Newsday 2/15/05

DID YOU KNOW?

The sign at the entrance to Mercy Medical Center in Rockville Centre boldly proclaims that this is a "Safe Haven for Newborns". This means that any unwanted newborn can be left at this place, and others such as police stations and firehouses, and other hospitals. If this fact had been more widely known, then maybe the baby boy found in the recycling bin by workers sorting clothes could have been saved. In the year 2000 these places were established to save babies, and the parents would not be prosecuted.

The Mineola, N.Y. based AMT Children of Hope Foundation offers a toll-free hotline for parents of newborns at 877-798-HOPE. For speakers for your community organization, church or school or for AMT posters, stickers and pocket cards, call the AMT business office at 516-781-3511.

The Life Center of Long island has a similar program called "Dumpster Baby Task Force." Their emergency 24/7 number for parents needing information on how to find a Safe Haven, etc., is 1-888-OP4infant.

Life News, February 2005

Feast of St Joseph Brunch

Saturday, March 19, 2005
11 AM

Everyone is welcome to come and celebrate our parish feast day. Please fill out and return to rectory as soon as possible.

Name _____

Number of People _____

Creative Ministries Presents



The Journey, Cross & Crucifixion
Sunday, March 13
7:00 PM

A live dramatic presentation of the Stations of the Cross. Join us as we experience the trial of Jesus, His journey through the streets of Jerusalem, and His final moments on the cross.



Stations of the Cross
EVERY FRIDAY OF LENT
AT
7:30 PM
IN THE CHURCH

Mark Your Calendars

Mar 4,11,18 Stations of the Cross 7:30 PM

March 6 Unity Sunday


March 13 Creative Ministries
Journey, Cross & Crucifixion

Mar 19 Feast of St. Joseph
 Mass 10 AM Brunch 11AM

Mar 24 Holy Thursday 7:30 PM Mass

Mar 25 Good Friday

12 noon Reflections on The Seven Last Words Of Christ
 3PM Communion Service


 Check Your Calendar

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL 2005

Touching the lives of many through diocesan and parish ministries and services Catholic Charities is the largest beneficiary of the Catholic Ministries Appeal now underway in our parishes. Last year Catholic Charities served over 80,000 people, including the homeless, those with HIV/AIDS, seniors with disabilities, single mothers, those struggling with mental illness, families without health insurance and the marginalized.

To fully appreciate the vital work in which Catholic Charities engages, we need to examine how individual lives have been changed. Joan (not her real name) is a 56-year-old woman suffering from a mild mental retardation. While still a young girl, she lost both of her parents and was forced to enter a Suffolk County facility for people with disabilities. While at the

center, Joan showed she could be very productive in a number of different jobs and it was clear that she had the potential to live more independently.

She moved to the Catholic Charities' Christopher Residence located in Valley Stream, a more home-like environment. She continued to work and she was known to be exacting, diligent and well adjusted, although fairly shy. Some years later, Joan chose to move to another Catholic Charities site in Southold, where she could be even more independent. She's there today, holding down a job and living a high quality life, with a great deal of freedom, not so very different from that of most Long Island parishioners.

Now, Joan's story could have turned out quite differently. After all, what happens to a young,

developmentally disabled woman who loses her family? Does she end up in a cold, impersonal institution? Is she taken advantage of and mistreated? Does she become homeless, hopeless and forgotten?

Our Church responds to those in need. The Church says she comes home, and the place Joan calls home was built and is sustained by the generosity of our parishioners.

Each year the challenges facing Catholic Charities grow. Recognizing these increased needs, the 2005 Appeal allocation to Catholic Charities has been increased. Please give as generously as you can to the Appeal. More than ever before, your support will help people and families in need in our neighborhoods.

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The Long Island Catholic

Catholic Ministries Appeal 2005
St Joseph R C Church, Ronkonkoma, NY

Diocese of Rockville Centre
PO Box 4000, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-4000
516 379-5210 ext 2 Fax 516 379-5043 email: catholicministries@drvc.org

Pledge: \$ _____ Initial Payment: \$ _____ Balance: \$ _____

Thank you for your support. Please make checks payable to: **Catholic Ministries Appeal**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

A Guide to Giving	
Pledge	10 Payments
\$ 300	\$ 30
500	50
1,000	100
1,500	150
2,500	250

This form can be returned to St Joseph Rectory or put in an envelope and placed in the Sunday collection. We thank you for your support.

**ST. JOSEPH'S HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
11TH ANNUAL SPRING FASHION SHOW
HAWAIIAN STYLE**



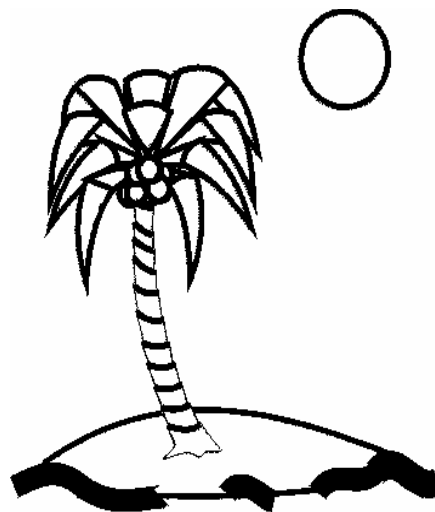
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2005
7PM - 11PM
AT VILLA LOMBARDI'S
877 MAIN STREET
HOLBROOK, NY**



**\$50. PER TICKET - INCLUDES SALAD, DINNER, DESSERT,
COFFEE/TEA, BEER/WINE/SODA & VALET PARKING.**

CHINESE AUCTION

50/50 CASH PRIZE



GIVE- A- WAYS

RAFFLES

**TICKETS CAN BE ORDERED BY FILLING OUT THE
FORM IN THE CHURCH LOBBY BY APRIL 13,2005**

PARISHIONER REQUEST FORM

I/we would like to register as members of St. Joseph Parish.

NAME(s): _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ - _____ *unlisted? (Yes) (No)*

I/we would like become members of the parish. () Yes

I/we would like to receive contribution envelopes. () Yes () No

We make our donations each Sunday () Weekly

We make our donations once a Month () Monthly

..(..)I would like to become an usher

() I would like to become a lector.

() I would like to become an altar server.

() I would like to become a Eucharistic Minister.

() I would like to become a choir member

() I would like to become a Catechist

() I would like to help maintain the parish plantings

() I would like to offer my following talents to the parish

(Please return to the Church Office or place in Collection Basket)

REMEMBERING THE SICK

Please include the following in the bulletin sick list:

Name of person who is ill:

Person making this request:

Relationship to ill person

Your Phone #: _____

(Please place in collection basket or return to Church Office)

PARISH RESTORATION FUND

I/we wish to pledge (or increase our pledge to)
 ___ \$5,000 ___ \$4,000 ___ \$3,000 ___ \$2,000 ___ \$1,000
 to St. Joseph's Parish Restoration Campaign.

I/we would like to make payments

___ Annually ___ Semi-Annually ___ Quarterly ___ Monthly
 spreading the payments over

___ One year ___ Two years ___ Three years ___ Four years

NAME (s): _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ - _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED NOW: \$ _____

(Please return this form in the collection basket or to the Church Office)

One Person's Trash, Another's ...

BOX TOPS from cereals for Educational purposes are always welcomed. Please drop them in the collection.

DEPOSIT BOTTLES AND CANS—Please place them in the white trailer that is located on the school side of the Church on weekends or behind the rectory during the week.

CELL PHONES—Please bring your no longer used or needed cell phones and deposit them at the Scrip table in the Church lobby.

Even Used Inkjet Cartridges, Have Their Uses

We have found a way to help St Joseph and keep those complicated pieces of plastic, metal and printed circuit boards out of the land fill. Drop them off (in a plastic baggie) when you come to mass. We will send them to a company who reuses them and gives the parish a bounty for each. One note, to clear confusion, if it is larger than a fist, it is not an inkjet cartridge!!!



Cub Scout Pack 272

Boy Scout Troop 272



St. Joseph's Cub Scout Pack 272 and Boy Scout Troop 272 have fun, exciting, educational, character building programs for boys, age 7 through 17 (*first grade and up*).

For more information or to enroll your child, contact Dr. Louis Scotti at 656-8428 or e-mail JoinScouting@StJoRonk.org.



Sport for all Seasons

**ST JOSEPH
CYO**



Travel Soccer:

Gene ☎467-0541

Intramural Soccer:

Beth ☎737-6299

Track

Karen ☎588-8636

Chairman: Henry

Baseball:

Gene ☎588-1879

Girls Basketball:

Christine ☎737-3142

Boys Basketball:

Frank ☎585-6921

Melchiona ☎467-6091

Events are happening in towns and churches all over Long Island. Discover what's happening in our parish and our community.

Visit our parish pages at

MyChurchandTown.com