

OUR LITURGY

The readings for today give us hope. Through the darkness and misery we receive a message of light. Jerusalem will be robed in the splendor of glory. All the hills will be leveled, all the roads made straight, and God's work in us will be completed. What an awesome promise of salvation.

ALTAR BREAD & WINE

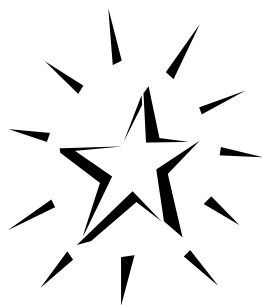
Betty Mulligan
Requested by
Loving Family



OUR PRIEST-CELEBRANTS

| This Week End | Mass | Next Week |
|---------------|----------|-----------|
| Fr Boyle | 5:00 pm | Fr Tapel |
| Fr Boyle | 7:00 am | Fr Tapel |
| Fr Tapel | 9:00 am | Fr Boyle |
| Fr Maffeo | 10:30 am | Fr Thomas |
| Fr Thomas | 12:00 pm | Fr Maffeo |
| Fr Maffeo | 5:00 pm | Fr Thomas |

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.



**You're Invited to
St Joseph's
Advent Evenings of Prayer**

Please Join Us on

**Tuesday, Wednesday &
Thursday**

December 12th, 13th & 14th 7:30 - 8:30

In the Church

Baptisms

Grace Elizabeth Alessandro
Kaylee Lynn Bridgwood
Edward Jeffrey Bullard
Briana Nicole Cenci
Paul Eric DeLamar Jr
Alexander Harrison Gambino
Jamie Christine Taylor

MASS INTENTIONS



Sunday, December 10, Second Sunday of Advent

- 7:00 Norma Brown requested by Loving Husband
- 7:00 Joseph DiBiasi Jr requested by Chris & Dyann Woolcock
- 9:00 Joseph Onufrak requested by Loving Wife & Family
- 9:00 Everett Olsen requested by Susana Munoz
- 10:30 Harry Romney requested by Mr & Mrs E Scandiffio
- 10:30 Josephine Russo requested by Mr & Mrs Robert Rate
- 12:00 Brian McGee, Mary & Jack D'Agostino requested by Family
- 12:00 Antonio Flores requested by The Lucas Family
- 5:00 Margaret Long requested by Carlo & Mary Verardi
- 5:00 Alexander J Baker requested by Frank & Maria Maccalone

Monday, December 11, St Damasus

- 7:00 Joan Pinaud requested by The O'Hagan Family
- 7:00 Fidelangelo Polcini requested by
Vincenzina, Domenick & Natalina
- 9:00 John Andrusz Kiewicz requested by Loving Wife
- 9:00 Mary Harkin requested by Ann Bannon

Tuesday, December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe

- 7:00 Concetta Hirsch requested by Gloria & Richard Bender
- 7:00 Anna Bosack requested by Jane & Jim
- 8:45 Augusta Lucas requested by Loving Family
- 8:45 Anne Johnson requested by Joe & Marie Califano

Wednesday, December 13, St Lucy

- 7:00 Liga Rosaria requested by Loving Family
- 7:00 Dominik L Pinzone requested by Aunt Chris & Uncle Gerard
- 9:00 Gerard McCormack requested by Joe & Marie Califano
- 9:00 Michael A DuBritz requested by Ida & Peter

Thursday, December 14, St John of the Cross

- 7:00 James LaSalle requested by Francisco Sandoval
- 7:00 Mary Mullaney (living) requested by
Terrence & Eleanor McMurray
- 9:00 William Biles requested by Henry & Annette Mullaney
- 9:00 George Sullivan requested by Faye Lazear & Family

Friday, December 15

- 7:00 Mun Chin requested by The Wolf Family
- 7:00 Katheryn Thompson requested by Donald Schaefer
- 9:00 Stanley Kwiathouski requested by Loving Family
- 9:00 Marie Barraga requested by Mrs John Mawn & Family

Saturday, December 16

- 8:00 Helen Kwiathouski requested by The Kwiathouski Family
- 8:00 Alice Bajadek requested by Loving Son Robert

Anticipated Mass for Sunday

- 5:00 Deceased Members of the Cusanelli Family requested by
Loving Family
- 5:00 Alice & Ted Budzinski 60th Wedding Anniversary
requested by Larry & Claudia Tavano

Sunday, December 17, Third Sunday of Advent

- 7:00 Cornelius J Dunleavy requested by Loving Wife Anne
- 7:00 Kevin Flynn requested by Martin DeBobs
- 9:00 Deceased Members of the Knights of
Columbus & Columbiettes
- 10:30 Margaret & Stephen Guarino requested by
Louis & Genevieve Guido
- 10:30 Dominick Annecca requested by Lisa & Anthony Lupo
- 12:00 Helen Soyka requested by Peter Seitz
- 12:00 Charles P Van Rossem requested by John R Kelleher
- 5:00 Charles R Contato requested by Loving Family
- 5:00 Richard Young requested by Grace Stillman

FROM THE DESK OF FR. MIKE

Sometimes when I watch the *Discovery Channel*, or the *National Geographic Channel*, or even the *History Channel* I come across a program which features pre-modern people and some of their cultural and societal characteristics. One item they sometimes cover is how a society has their adolescents go through a rite of passage as they become adults. For some groups, they send their young people on a *Spirit Quest*. During this quest, a young person is required to journey to a secluded place (some distance from the village) where they fast and meditate. It was hoped that the person would have a vision of a guardian spirit, and it was hoped that this vision would remain as a source of strength and encouragement, especially in difficult times.

In a sense, Advent could be looked at as a Spirit Quest for us! During these 4 weeks we are invited to journey away from all that would distract us from the coming of God into our hearts and souls, and when Christ will come again. Advent, like Lent, gives us an opportunity to rediscover God's presence and to once again hear God's voice. This hearing of God's voice will help us in times of difficulty, so that no matter what we go through in life, we will know that God will be there for us thus fulfilling the words of the Prophet Isaiah quoted in Luke's Gospel—"all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

Unlike the person on the Spirit Quest, we make our Advent journey not in isolation, but together as a community who has been brought to new life through Christ and have been given all of the spiritual gifts as a Church to follow Isaiah and John the Baptist and be a voice crying out to the whole world to prepare the way of the Lord. So to accomplish this, we should ask ourselves are we using this Advent wisely to get more fully in touch with God, are we doing our best to make way for the Lord in our lives here and now, and for when Christ comes again? Are we helping others to see that salvation has truly come into this world, which we will celebrate two weeks from now with the birth of the infant at Bethlehem?

Remember this afternoon at 2:30 PM in the Church; we will have our *Annual Advent Lessons*

and *Carols*, which promises to be a wonderful hour of prayer and song so we can get ourselves more into this prayerful season. Take some time from your holiday shopping and preparation to take advantage of Lessons and Carols and the three evenings of prayer taking place this week -Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday Evenings starting at 7:30 PM.

Thursday Evening will consist of a Reconciliation Service, followed by individual confessions.

Please read the information concerning the Christmas Eve and Day Schedule of Masses which you should have or soon will receive in our Christmas Mailing. A very special thank you to our **Pack, Troop and Crew 272** for all of their help at yesterday's *Breakfast with St. Nicholas* and thanks to *Katrina Payne, Evelyn Batt, St. Nicholas*, and all those who worked hard at putting it all together. Also for the members of *The Parish Council and the Music Ministry*, and all others who helped us with the Tree Lightings.

Let us pray: Dear Lord, in this busy time let us rest in you, God who is coming with unimaginable gifts. Let us not be anxious as we prepare to welcome your Son. Amen

Fr. Mike





REMEMBER OUR SICK

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Paul Ahearn | Rosemarie Aiello | Lucy Amato |
| Michael Ambrosio | | Andrew Anderson |
| Anne Bannon | Bill Barry | Rose Bassett |
| Marie Behling | | Richard Berkhout |
| Christine Biancrossia | Richard Bossi | Oliver Bouchard |
| Mary Ellen Bowers | | Hazel Boyce |
| Mr Michael Boyle Sr | Cynthia Caesar | Cynthia Caesar |
| Bill Cairns | | Ashley Cirigliano |
| Dominick Costanza | Dylan Jack Cuevas | Richard Delamater |
| Ryan Delaney | | Joseph DeMaio |
| Michael DePinto | Angelina DeSimone | Msgr Donald Desmond |
| Pricilla DeStanfo | | Brian Devereux |
| Barbara DiGirolomo | Nancy DiTrapani | Mary Dougherty |
| Kathy Errico | | Richard Fahey |
| Angela Ferrante | Robert Filce | Margaret Fitzgerald |
| Flavio Gabrielli | | Frances Gaeta |
| Frank Gaeta | Edward Gilvey | Virginia Giommetti |
| John Gracey | | Pat Gracey |
| Sonny Grosso | Peter Harkins | Gary Hernandez |
| Catherine Hickey | | Gregory Hionas |
| Tom Horvath | Jack Kelleher | Cecelia Keller |
| Stephen Kelly | | Joseph Liguori |
| Nicholas Liguori | Paul Liguori | Betty Limov |
| Georgiana Lopez | | Marie Mangan |
| John McCullagh Sr | Howard Meeks | Sam Monteleone |
| Daniel Mungavin | | Susan Percoco |
| Sylvia Persico | Grace C Peshkur | Joseph Poirot |
| Nicole Ramaglia | | Joan Reilly |
| John Reynolds | Joseph Sabourin | Dawn Saporito |
| Louise Schaaf | | Richard Shadwick |
| Darryll Smith | Frances Stagnitta | Anntonina Sturiano |
| Jesse Taylor | | Lloyd Turnier |
| | Joseph Vereline Jr | |

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.

PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS

Please continue to remember them in your prayers.

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| CPL Deborah Alfieri | PFC Matthew Altonji |
| Tech SGT Louis Barletta | 2LT Stephen Bartoszak |
| PFC Justin Browne | SGT Michael Bruno |
| CPL Glenn Clacher | SPC Thomas E. Corcoran |
| SGT Ryan Delaney | TSGT Timothy Dermody |
| LTCOL Kurt Diehl | SGT Stephen Gene DiGirolamo |
| LT John Kenneth DiNero | SSGT Tony Elliott |
| LT Kelly Fletcher | PFC Adam Franciosa |
| CPT Evan Gotkin | PVT2 Edward Johnston |
| SGT John W Keohane | SSGT Steven Knight |
| CPL Andrew Kochman | PVT Thomas B McGinn |
| SGT Patrick McNally | PFC William Meyer |
| SGT Glenn Miller | 2LT Heather Miras |
| SGT Daniel Montville | SSGT Brian Moran |
| CPT Gregory Mueller | LCPL Thomas Napolitano |
| LCPL Michael Napolitano | Pvt Todd Nelson |
| LCPL James Neubauer | LCPL Anthony Notaroberta |
| PVT James Notaroberta | SGT Brian O'Leary |
| SGT Brian Pacella | N/Seal Paul Padro |
| ENS3 Lucy Padro | CPT Michael Parisi |
| 2LT Anthony Parisi | MAJ Paul E Pinaud |
| CTR2 Matthew Pistritto | SGT Edwin Rivera, II |
| PFC William R Rodgers | LCPL Anthony M Sbrocco |
| SSGT Jason Schiavo | LCPL W.Mason Shehan |
| SPC James Stanek | SSGT Nick Vicale |
| SGT John Thomas Vogt | SGT Randolph Weaver |
| 2LT John Wolven | |

If you would like to include a soldier from your family who is serving, place their name and rank and branch of service on the cut -out and put it in the 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)
(Friends can be placed on the silent prayer list only)

REMEMBERING OUR TROOPS

Please include the following soldier in your prayers :

Name, Rank and Branch of Service

Person making this request: Relationship to Soldier

Your Phone #: _____
(Please place in collection basket or return to Church Office)
(Friends can be placed on the silent prayer list only)

REMEMBER OUR DEAD

Joseph A Bottie, Mildred DeSalvo, Dorval Frois, for our deceased soldiers and all of our deceased relatives and friends.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen

Religious Education

reled@stjoronk.org

Monday & Thursday 9 am to 4 pm

Tuesday & Wednesday

10 am to 3:30 pm

The office is **closed** on Fridays.



Reminder for **Level 1** Parent/Child Prayer Service in Church at 7:15 pm on Monday, December 11th. Angel Ornaments, which were received at the Prayer Service should be returned at either the 5 pm Mass on Saturday, Dec. 16th or at the 10:30 am Mass on Sunday, Dec. 17th.

Level 2 & 3 Advent Prayer Service on December 16th in the Church at 12 noon.

Level 5 Reconciliation on Monday, December 18th. Follow the instructions you received on your reminder notice.

“That’s Entertainment” Yes we have the Entertainment Books on sale again. You may contact our office at 981-1805 if you wish to buy one. They are only \$20.00 and make great Christmas gifts.



Outreach

sjpo@verizon.net

For the month of November we serviced 284 clients. Financial assistance amounted to \$3774. There were 27 new clients added and total services and referrals provided were 687. This included food, living needs, Health Care information, advocacy and housing. Your continued support of the Outreach Program makes all of this possible.

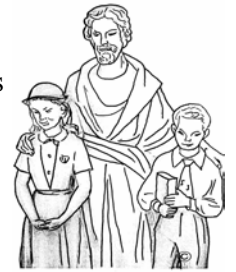
**Book Rack
Advent and You**

Do you want to learn more about Advent? Then you might want to check out the pamphlets in our bookrack in the vestibule of the Church.



St Joseph’s School

school@stjoronk.org



Congratulations to the students in grades K-3. Their choral performance of “A Shepherd’s Story” was excellent! Bravo to all students, teachers and especially to Mrs. Rainone, our music teacher, who wrote the show and also directed it.

Congratulations to the students in our experienced band. Their band performance was also excellent! A superb thank you to all students, teachers and especially to Mr. Licata, our band teacher, for doing such a great job.

The school jacket order has arrived. Our children look great throughout the community wearing their St Joseph apparel!

Our students are doing great things in the classroom with the use of the “Smartboard”. The students in grade Pre-K and kindergarten are working on alphabet identification. Our 2nd graders are making recipes, grade 3 is writing poetry, grade 4 is using it for graphing and grades 7 & 8 are using it for the stock market game to compete with many districts on Long Island.

All parents are welcome to shop at our Scholastic Book Fair this week from 12:00 - 1:00.

Our Pre-K children will be presenting their Christmas Pageant on Tuesday, December 12th.

The students in our school will be celebrating Fun with Santa on Friday, December 15th. They will be sharing lunch and taking photos. If they have been good all year, Santa may have a special treat for each child!

Congratulations to our 6th grader, Matthew Terrano. Matthew was accepted into the Student Ambassador Program with People to People. He will be traveling to Australia in the summer of 2007 as a member of the local delegation.

Congratulations to the following students who have graduated from St Joseph School and are now on the Honor Roll at St John the Baptist High School.

Joseph Antonucci, Dylan Evans, Ashley DiGregori, Vanessa Nicosia, Michele Galdi, Grace Tobin, Karissa Johnson, Felicia Cruz, Ian Powell, Thomas O’Malley, Teresa Schmitt, Michael Pacifico, Gabrielle Stasiowski, Michael Raggi, Taylor Stephens, Thomas Ballato, James Doran, Amber King, Thomas Dulovic

You Are Great

Yes, we mean you. You seem surprised. You are great because you are doing great things. They may appear to be little things, but your consistent concern, week after week, as you contribute your coins in the Poor Boxes is a great thing. Thank you.





RESPECT LIFE

On October 17, 2006, the Suffolk County Legislature took a big step forward; they approved legislation that authorized the county health department to become more active in the education of parents regarding the benefits and advantages to saving the umbilical cord blood after the delivery of their babies. It was signed into law by County Executive Levy on November 2, 2006.

The importance of umbilical cord blood cannot be overstated. According to Steven Stern (D-Huntington) who is the vice chairman of the Health and Human Services Committee, the legislation brings Long Island one step closer to creating its own cord blood bank and helping to increase "matches" on a local, national and even worldwide level in the future. He goes on to say "Scientists say that it is more promising than even bone marrow stem cells, which have serious procedures in order to transplant."

"Cord blood cells are a wonderful resource that is now being thrown away," says Teresa Pinkow, president of the Spinal Cord Injury Project, Long island chapter. "As soon as a woman gives birth, she should be given the choice of either storing this privately for personal or family use, or donating it publicly so that any man, woman or child that needs it can avail themselves of it." More women need to be aware of the value of saving their cord blood. According to Pinkow, cord blood stem cells have helped cure patients in Taiwan of a fatal blood disease called thalassemia. Nine out of ten children in Taiwan were treated and have survived; in addition, Pinkow noted that cord blood stem cells are currently being used in human clinical trials in China to treat individuals with spinal cord injuries. That is an interesting fact as there are four hundred thousand people in the United States who suffer with spinal cord injury. We of course hear about the most famous or prominent, and those who are campaigning for embryonic stem cell use. But here is something God-given, umbilical cord blood, which doesn't hurt anyone to use. The stumbling block now seems to be the cost of privately storing this resource, and so it is important that we find a way to publicly store it, for the good of all of us.

Suffolk Life, November 15, 2006

If you are expecting a baby and are thinking of storing the infant's umbilical cord blood, be sure to ask your doctor about this. There is also Stembanc, Newborn Stem Cell Preservation which can give you some information. Go to www.stembanc.com or call 877-836-2262.

Hugs – A hug is the perfect gift – one size fits all- and no one minds if you exchange it. Author unknown

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

Weekly Offering

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Sunday, December 3, 2006 Offerings | \$19,387 |
| Same collection last year | 18,079 |
| Number of envelopes | 664 |
| Poor Box last weekend | \$528 |
| Fuel Oil Collection YTD | \$6221 |
| Same time last year 2005 | 6981 |

Thank you for your generous response to the appeal for increased giving.

God Bless You Always, Fr Mike



*Christmas began
in the Heart of
God.*

*It is complete
only when it
reaches the
hearts of people.*

Mark Your Calendars



| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Dec 10 | Lessons & Carols 2:30-4:00 in the Church |
| Dec 12, 13 & 14 | Advent Evening of Prayer 7:30-8:30 |
| Dec 14 | Reconciliation Service |
| Dec 17 | Sunday School Christmas Pageant 10:15-11:15 AM School Auditorium |
| Dec 17 | K of C Christmas Concert 7:00 PM |
| Dec 21 | Reconciliation from 7-8 PM |

*Please refer to
Schedule for
Christmas on
page 11 of
this bulletin.*



| | |
|-------|---------------------------------------|
| Jan 1 | Solemnity of Mary 8 AM & 12 Noon Mass |
| Jan 3 | Blessing of Throats |

REMEMBERING FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES



Help Us Grow
the
Tree Of Life
At
St Joseph's

Throughout the ages, trees have symbolized life. The Tree of Life at St Joseph's represents our parish's commitment to life by providing for the spiritual, educational and social needs of our parish. The beautiful sculptures, leaves and stones render a tale of support, friendship, remembrance and dedication.

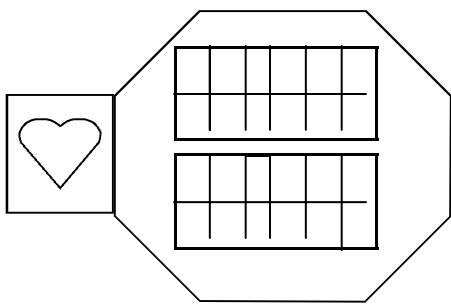
Occupying a prominent position in our Baptistry, and All Saints Shrine, the Tree of Life commemorates our support of St Joseph's Parish. Leaves and stones may be engraved to honor benefactors, highlight or memorialize people or events with special significance in life, or express the sentiments of donors.

The Leaves

Each inscribed leaf on The Tree of Life represents a gift of \$1,000 or more. Inscriptions may recognize a valued friend and supporter of St Joseph's Church, celebrate a significant event in your family, or memorialize a loved one.

The Stones

Each inscribed stone permanently recognizes a contribution of \$5,000 or more given by an individual benefactor, foundation or corporation.



Bricks For The Future

Bricks For the Future welcome our parishioners and friends alike as they enter St Joseph's Church each day. Some stop to read the inscriptions, others to say a prayer in memory. As we hear The Word proclaimed inside the Church building, outside on the step we are witnesses to that faith.

The growth of the Bricks for the Future program at St Joseph's Church through your gift, allows you to have a significant and meaningful part in developing and sharing our Community of faith and love in Jesus. Your contribution helps St Joseph sustain our parish plant and buildings to keep them from deteriorating now and in the future as major projects arise.

Your tax deductible gift gives you the opportunity to share with others those special persons and meaningful events that touch, shape and illuminate your life.

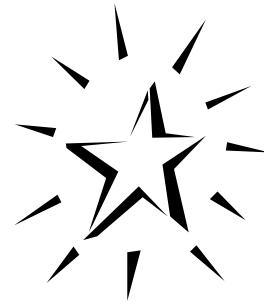
Each brick in the walk represents a gift of \$1,800. Brick inscription allows up to 4 rows of characters, symbols and spaces as shown above (approx 28). If you wish to have a special symbol (shamrock, cross, heart) on the tab of the brick, please contact the rectory.

| | Single | Annual | Semi Annual | Quarterly | Monthly |
|----------------------|--------|--------|-------------|-----------|---------|
| Tree of Life Leaf | \$1000 | \$334 | \$167 | \$84 | \$28 |
| Tree of Life Stone | \$5000 | \$1667 | \$834 | \$417 | \$139 |
| Brick For the Future | \$1800 | \$600 | \$300 | \$150 | \$50 |

Name _____
 Address _____
 Town _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____

Upon receipt of your down payment we will send you a form for the exact wording of the inscription. For your convenience we will mail you a statement according to your payment schedule.

**"PREPARE
YOURSELF
THE WAY
OF THE
LORD"**



**YOU'RE INVITED TO
ST JOSEPH'S**

**ADVENT EVENINGS OF
PRAYER**

PLEASE JOIN US ON

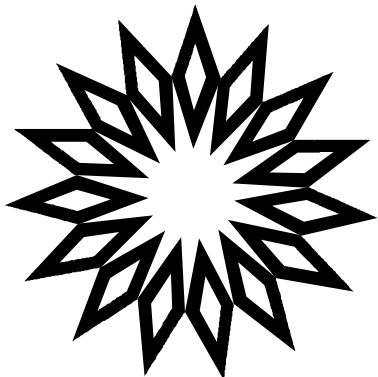
**TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY &
THURSDAY**

DECEMBER 12TH, 13TH & 14TH

7:30 - 8:30

IN THE CHURCH

**THURSDAY THERE WILL BE A
PENANCE SERVICE FOLLOWED
BY
INDIVIDUAL CONFESSIONS**



You're encouraged to take advantage of this

Lessons and Carols



Sunday
December 10th
2:30 PM
in the Church



Readings and Music to Celebrate the Season

A Brief History of THE FESTIVAL OF LESSONS and CAROLS

The tradition of the “Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols” was established in England on Christmas Eve, 1918, in the chapel of Kings College, Cambridge University. The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols usually consists of nine lessons (beginning with the Old Testament and working through to the beginning of the Gospel of Saint John) each followed by a carol. The custom of performing Lessons and Carols on the first Sunday in December, began as a festival in thanksgiving for the impending Incarnation.

Join us for an Advent Celebration

time to reflect on the true meaning of the season.

*THE GIVING TREE IS UP IN THE
LOBBY OF THE CHURCH*



This year we are asking for donations of gift cards rather than wrapped gifts.

Many of our generous parishioners have told us how much they enjoy purchasing gifts for the Giving Tree.

When we give our clients gift cards they are able to experience the same joy of selecting gifts for their family.

For those of you who would still like to purchase a gift rather than give a gift card, please know that a toy for children from ages 2–8 would be truly appreciated.

Please take an angel from the tree and return you gifts by December 14th to the Outreach office or the Rectory.

AS ALWAYS YOUR GENEROSITY
ALLOWS OTHERS TO SHARE IN THE SPIRIT
OF THE SEASON
THANK YOU

Peace On Earth • Peace On Earth • Peace On Earth

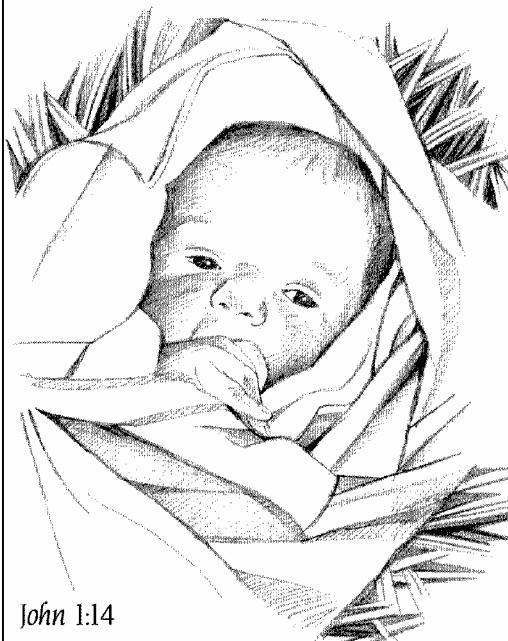
Peace On Earth • Peace On Earth • PEACE ON EARTH • PEACE ON EARTH

Peace On Earth • Peace On Earth • PEACE ON EARTH • PEACE ON EARTH

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

2006

*The Word became flesh and
made his dwelling among us.*



John 1:14

Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24th

4:00 PM (Upper Church & Lower Church)

6:00 PM & 10:30PM

We do not have a Mass at Midnight

Christmas Day

Monday, December 25th

7:00AM - 9:00AM - 10:30AM - 12:00 Noon

We have no evening Mass on Christmas Day

Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday, December 30th 5PM

Sunday, December 31st

7:00, 9:00, 10:30AM - 12 Noon & 5:00 PM

New Year's Day

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Monday, January 1, 2006

8:00 AM & 12 Noon

Epiphany of the Lord

Vigil Mass Saturday, January 6, 5:00 PM

Sunday, January 7, 2006

7:00AM - 9:00AM - 10:30 AM

12:00 Noon - 5:00 PM

Confessions For Christmas

Weekdays - Monday, Wednesday, Friday

after the 7:00AM and 9:00AM Masses

And

Thursday, December 14th

at the 7:30 PM Penance Service

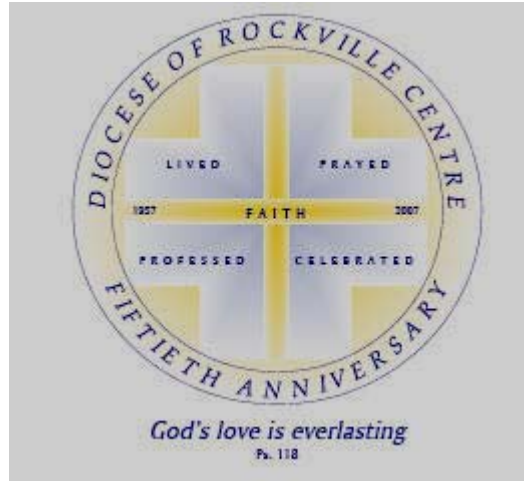
And

Thursday, December 21st 7:00-8:00 PM

Peace On Earth • Peace On Earth • PEACE ON EARTH • PEACE ON EARTH

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

50TH ANNIVERSARY



50TH ANNIVERSARY CALENDAR

January 21, 2007

11AM Mass at Saint Agnes Cathedral with Bishop Murphy opening the anniversary year.

February 21, 2007

Ash Wednesday and all of Lent should be a special time of reconciliation.
Monday of Holy week - Diocesan Day of Reconciliation

Easter Season 2007

Special liturgies at stational churches in each deanery to celebrate the anniversary.

May 27, 2007

Pentecost - each parish will be invited to make mention of the anniversary

June 3, 2007

Holy Trinity - Diocese celebrates at Saint Agnes Cathedral
Parish representatives
3 PM Mass with reception after

Spring/Summer 2007

Youthfest - youth celebrate the anniversary
Anticipate World Youth Day 2008

November 4-12, 2007

Pilgrimage to Rome

January 21, 2008

Close of anniversary year at Saint Agnes Cathedral

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL 2006

My Dear Parish Family,

Last time in this place, we printed a letter we received from the *Catholic Ministries Appeal Office* informing us that we were receiving a check for the amount of **\$1,175.20**. Previously, as was noted in the letter, we received a check for **\$5,597.90**, bringing our total to **\$6,773.10**-as we had attained **91%** of 2006 goal of **\$74,800**.

This all came about thanks to your great generosity and from your desire to support the good and holy work of the *Catholic Ministries Appeal*. Thank you, for helping Saint Joseph to meet its pledge goal (in fact going over the goal) for 2006, and as a result of this, we can earn a total rebate of **\$14,000**. However, we can not receive the total **\$14,000** unless all that was pledged is totally paid off. So, if you have not totally fulfilled your pledge please try to do so before the end of December or the early part of January. Just think of what a great help that \$14,000 will be for the support of the parish and it will be all because of you!

If you have made a pledge this year, again I thank you from the bottom of my heart. Thank you, for helping us to achieve our goal, for your great gift to the people of the parish and our brothers and sisters throughout the *Diocese of Rockville Centre*. I also ask you to be as generous as you were this year for the upcoming *2007 Catholic Ministries Appeal*. If you were not able to make a pledge this past year, please consider one for the 2007 Appeal as your gift will go a long way in helping so many people, including people right here in Ronkonkoma.

God bless you always,

Fr. Mike



A Special
THANK YOU





BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND
The Calendar Club

**ST. JOSEPH'S 2007 CALENDAR CLUB
 OFFICIAL REGISTRATION FORM**

*YOUR \$25.00 DONATION MUST ACCOMPANY THIS FORM. THANK YOU AND GOOD LUCK!!
 YOUR 2007 CALENDAR WILL BE MAILED TO YOU WHEN ALL RETURNS ARE RECEIVED.*

MAIL ALL DONATIONS TO: St Joseph Church
 45 CHURCH STREET
 RONKONKOMA, NY 11779-3300

*IN ORDER TO KICK OFF THE DRAWING IN JANUARY OF 2007, WE ASK YOU TO RETURN
 YOUR REQUEST AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BUT NO LATER THAN 12/31/06.*

NOTE: If more than 1000 calendars are sold, prizes will be increased proportionately.

MEMBERS NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

NUMBER OF CALENDARS: _____ **X \$25 = \$** _____

5 FOR \$100 TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Advent Project 2006

AN ACT OF KINDNESS

As we prepare for the coming of Christ this Advent season, we are reminded of the precious gift of the Holy Family.

Many of today's young mothers face the same challenges as the Holy Family, and are in dire need of shelter, basic amenities, love, and prayer. Their choice for life enables another child of God to be born. Please support these young mothers' choice for life.



Your generous donation will help Maternity Homes on Long Island:

Regina Maternity Services,
a Diocesan Residence under the auspices of Catholic Charities
Mother of Good Counsel Home, Momma's House,
Bethany House

Catholic students and their families are invited to collect
MONEY, METRO, PHONE, and GIFT CARDS for young families.
Special Advent banks are available for your convenience.
Christmas cards and greetings are welcome!

FOR MORE
INFORMATION
CONTACT:

DIocese OF
ROCKVILLE
CENTRE

RESPECT LIFE
OFFICE

200 West
Centennial Ave.
Suite 204,
Roosevelt, NY
11575

(516) 379-8292
ext. 215

respectlife@drvc.org



**ALL DONATIONS ARE DUE BY
DECEMBER 15, 2006!**

Please make checks payable to Diocese of Rockville
Centre – Respect Life Office

Sponsored by the Diocesan Respect Life Office in
collaboration with:

- * The Education Office
- * The Office of Catechesis
- * Catholic Charities

Seasons Greetings !!



Dean Jauregui, in an effort to raise money for his Eagle Scout Project, will be selling wreaths and grave blankets outside the Church this holiday season.

The wreaths and grave blankets are of the same great quality as they were last year and the prices still unbeatable.

The wreaths are 24" at \$14 & 26" at \$16.
The grave blankets are 2'x3' at \$17 & 2'x2' at \$15.
75' length of roping is only \$22.

Dean will be outside the church on December 9th & 10th or you can call him at 467-1683 to set up delivery or confirm an order.

Your support is appreciated & will go towards "The Rosary Walk" behind the church.

**Gala
New Years Eve
Celebration**



**St. Regis
Knights
of
Columbus**

December 31st at 8PM

Where else can you go for New Years Eve for \$55.00 per person ?

The Menu includes:

**Fresh Ham, Roasted Turkey, Stuffed Eye Round Roast,
Stuffed Loin of Pork, Salad and all side dishes.**

Desert, Coffee & Tea

Open Bar

**Only 100 tickets will be sold. For individual or Table Reservations
call Joe Matera at 585-1615.**

For the Young at Heart



YOUTH IN MINISTRY

Every Sunday at 5:00 PM, St. Joseph's Parish offers a modern, upbeat, worship experience designed especially for youth and their families.

Everyone in grades 7-12 is invited to participate.

We're looking for: Lectors Ushers Musicians/Singers Altar Servers
Eucharistic Ministers (Eucharistic ministers must be over 18)

**Youth
Worship
Service**

For more information about joining *Youth in Ministry*, contact YIM@StJoRonk.org

Venturing Events

Alternate Sundays in Carew Hall after 5:00 PM Mass

Pius XII Faith Discussion Groups

Share with your peers how our faith applies in your daily life. Usually on alternate Sundays (12/17)

Join Us on the 17th!

Table Tennis Clinics

Learn to play "ping-pong" or improve your current skills. (12/17)

Fr Renee will show you how !

Plans in progress :

Karaoke Workshop

Karaoke is fun for everyone, even those who don't usually sing.

Auto Painting 101

Learn by doing – We'll paint one of the parish trucks.



CPR Course

Learn skills that could save a life.

Café Construction Project

Build new equipment for Café De Notre Dame, our Crew's contribution to the Family Festival.

E-mail: Crew272@StJoRonk.org

Phone: Advisor Mike Keller (631) 467-6468

Attention Catholic Boy Scouts and Venturers...

Earn the Catholic Awards for Scouting.



Our parish has a team of six counselors/facilitators for the Ad Altare Dei and Pius XII religious awards.



AAD meets every Sunday after the 5:00 PM Sunday Mass. Join us ASAP. Meetings have already begun. See *Venturing Events* for **Pius XII** schedule. (open to all troops and crews)



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 ☎275-8321

Boys Basketball:

Frank ☎585-6921

Melchiona ☎467-6091



St Joseph's
Play Group



Calling all babies, toddlers and pre schoolers -
Come meet new friends at the St Joseph's Playgroup!
Bring your Mom, Dad, Grandparents or caregiver to Father Carew Hall on Thursday's at 9:30 AM. There you'll meet other St Joseph's families and spend an hour of fun with other children from birth to age 5. For more information please call Sally Miller at 737-5120. Hope to see you there!

Courtesy Announcements



You are invited to join the **Pro-Life Community** in celebrating **The Feast of the Holy Innocents, December 28th at 7:30 PM Mass at the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Centereach.** Msgr Curley, will be the main celebrant. Hospitality will follow. Info 585-8760.

Retrouvaille You can help your marriage now - Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue? Or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it make it worse? Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriage. The program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples experiencing ALL types of marital difficulties. For confidential information about the Retrouvaille program, or to register for the upcoming weekend beginning on Friday, January 12th, please call 1-800-470-2230 and you will be connected directly to Long Island/ Metro Retrouvaille.

Healing Mass at Sts Philip & James on Monday, December 11th at 7:30PM. Info call 584-5454.

Smithtown Central School District Adult Basic Education Program—Free Classes ! All Welcome! Learn English, Earn your GED (High School Equivalency Diploma, Prepare for Citizenship, Gain

Basic Computer Skills (Seniors & ESL Students) & Receive Career Counseling! For more info call 382-2181 or www.smithtown.k12.ny.us

St John's Bohemian Singles - 55 & Up meets on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of every month in the lower level of our church. Coffee & cake is served. If you are interested in a very active group that offers a full calendar of social events every month. Please call Mary Ann at 563-8982. Admission is \$4.00. (St John Nepomocene Church)

Professional Therapy & Counseling provided by NYS licensed psychologists are available to our parish. You may be seen at any of the other 70 participating parishes. This program, under the direction of Dr George Giuliani, has been conducted in the diocese for the past 34 years for the convenience of parishioners. It is provided by the Catholic Counseling Center, a propriety professional corporation, which is independent of and not controlled or supervised by the parish or diocese. Most insurance policies are honored. For confidential information and appointment, call Dr Giuliani at 243-1550.

Cenacle Retreats -

* **Christ Lights Our Darkness - (for those who have lost a loved on through suicide)**

Sunday, December 17, 1:30 to 5:00 PM

* **Holiday Evening with Your Higher Power -** Friday evening December 15, 6-10PM, includes supper.

A 12-Step evening, with a festive dinner followed by presentation, personal processing & integration.

For more information concerning these retreats please call 631-588-8366.

Pilgrimage to Sicily & Southern Italy; Spirit & Spirituality with St Joseph's College faculty members from May 31 to June 10, 2007. For a detailed brochure call Sister Grace at 654-0199 or e-mail growland@sjcnyc.edu.

St Catherine of Sienna School in Franklin Square is celebrating it's 50th Anniversary. To mark this historic event they are inviting alumni and past faculty from all graduating classes to attend a grand reunion on Saturday, April 21st. For more information you can call Diane Shanahan at 1-800-424-3367 Ext 422 or email them at alumni@siennaspirit.org

We're Looking For...

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 baskets that are 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.

INKJET CARTRIDGES - 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