

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church

Parish Office Hours

Monday Through Friday (effective January 2, 2009)

9am to Noon; 1:15 to 5:00 PM; 6:00 to 8:00 PM

Saturday - 9:00 AM to Noon; 1:00 to 5:00 PM

Sunday - 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Pray with the Parish

Rosary - Prayed daily after the 9 AM Mass

Eucharistic Adoration - Mondays (except holidays),
2:00 to 6:45 PM

Nocturnal Adoration & Devotion to the Sacred Heart -
7:30 to 8:30 PM on First Fridays.

Eucharist

The Lord's Day: Saturday 5:00 PM

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

Weekdays 7:00 AM & 9:00 AM,
8:00 AM Saturday

Holy Days As announced in Bulletin

Exposition Monday 2:00 to 6:45 PM
First Friday 7:30 to 8:30 PM

Penance/Reconciliation

Mon., Wed., and Fri. after the 7:00 AM & the 9:00 AM Mass.

Saturday after the 8:00 AM Mass and 4:00 to 4:45 and also upon request



Our Lady of Fatima Devotion

The 1st Saturday of each month will be devoted to Our Lady of Fatima. The devotion will include 8am Mass, Novena to Fatima / the Rosary, Confessions after Mass and fellowship in Carew Hall at 9am.

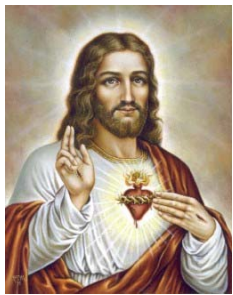
Our Lady came to Fatima with a message from God to every man, woman, and child of our century. Our Lady of Fatima promised that the whole world would be in peace, and that many souls would go to Heaven if Her requests were listened to and obeyed. Please join us in this devotion.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place every Monday (except holidays) from 2-6:45 PM

And on each First Friday from 7:30- 8:30PM

Please come and spend some quiet time with the Blessed Sacrament



St Joseph's Parish Monthly Recollection

On the First Friday of every month, at 7:30 PM, we hold our Monthly Parish Recollection. This is an hour of prayer, of recollection before our Lord present in the Blessed Sacrament - whose Sacred Heart is the source of immense charity and generous love. The foundation of this prayer is God's presence in our souls as Creator, Preserver, and Author of Graces ("in Him we live, and move, and are" Acts 17:28). God is our Father, and our Friend and is our sweet Guest. We must acknowledge the realization of this great truth: God is in each of us, our soul is His Temple.

This prayer of recollection includes the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction, Praying of the Psalms, Silence, Gospel Reading and a Talk /Reflection on the following topics: The Cardinal Virtues of prudence, justice, temperance and fortitude. The Theological Virtues of faith, hope and love. The gifts of the Holy Spirit; wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord.

Every soul, hungry & thirsty for God, is invited to this holy hour every First Friday of the month to adore, venerate & contemplate the Sacred Heart of Jesus, & to have a quiet dialogue with God.

Baptism

Celebrated most Sundays at 1:30pm. Please contact Parish Office when child is born to schedule Baptism Preparation requirements and date of Baptism.

Confirmation

A parish program building on foundation laid by the School and Religious Education Program. There is a separate program for any adult or teenager who has not yet been confirmed. Those interested should contact the Parish Office.

Marriage

Couples should contact the Parish Office to see one of the priests or deacons at least 6 months before the proposed wedding date, and before making any other arrangements. Both parties must complete marriage preparation programs before the marriage date. At least one of the parties must be registered in the parish.

Anointing of the Sick

This is a Sacrament for the living. A Catholic should receive this Sacrament if they are chronically ill, or are about to undergo surgery and hospitalization, or are suffering the effects of advanced age. We celebrate it during a Special Mass each Spring and Fall. Reception of the Sacrament at other times can be arranged by contacting the Parish Office.

Holy Orders

Anyone feeling called to the priesthood or religious life should feel free to contact one of the parish priests or deacons for guidance and direction.

Interested in becoming a Catholic?

Anyone interested in becoming a Catholic can contact the Parish Office for information about becoming part of the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.

FROM THE DESK OF FR. MIKE

I came upon this *Norwegian Legend* in my hunt through the internet. It is the story about **The Night the Animals Talked**. This legend draws children to stalls and stables throughout Norway on each Christmas Eve; as they are hoping to see a miracle.

This is how the story goes: *“Now according to legend, Christ’s birth occurred at exactly midnight. Inside the stable, the animals watched in wonder as the new-born babe was lovingly wrapped in swaddling clothes and placed in a manger. Suddenly, God gave voice to the animals and immediately they began to praise God for the miracle they had just seen. This went on for several minutes and, just before the entrance of the shepherds; who had hurried to the stable because angels had told them the Christ had been born there, the animals again fell silent. The only humans who heard them were Mary, Joseph and of course the Christ Child. The legend of the talking animals persists to this day in Scandinavia. And every Christmas Eve, wide-eyed children creep into stables just before midnight to hear the animals praise God for the wondrous birth of His Son. Of course adults scoff at this. ‘Old wives tales’ they grump. ‘Those children should be home in bed, not out in the cold waiting for a cow to preach a sermon.’ But the children know, or at least believe, that animals really do praise God at midnight every Christmas Eve. And who of us, those who believe in an all-powerful God, can say that it really doesn’t happen?”*

As we celebrated Christmas Day yesterday, **and the Feast of the Holy Family** today, we remember what this great season is all about, The Birth of Jesus at Bethlehem and our re-birth to new and eternal life through Him. Today we read the account of how the Holy Family fled into Egypt to escape Herod’s command to kill all male children two years old and younger; as he was afraid of the new born king. We know that Jesus, Mary and Joseph existed like any other family with troubles and trials, but they also knew happiness and joy. We know that Jesus experienced a full human life so that by being one of us, God could fully and righteously transform us. This is the greatest gift God has given us, after our physical life, the gift of spiritual and eternal life. We could not have realized this gift on our own, since so much was lost to us by the sin of Adam, but it was given to us by the God who loves us so much that He would not allow any of the chaos caused by Original Sin to keep us away from Him. God does this for us through the Life, Death and Resurrection of His only Son whose birth we celebrate well into January.

If God could transform us through such a wondrous gift, maybe the animals did speak on that first Christmas Eve. It might be better than eight tiny reindeer?

Let us close with the opening prayer from today’s Mass: Father in heaven, creator of all, you ordered the earth to bring forth life and crowned its goodness by creating the human family. In history’s moment when all was ready you sent your Son to dwell in time, obedient to the laws of life in our world. Teach us the sanctity of human love, show us the value of family life, and help us to live in peace with all that we may share in your life for ever. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Merry Christmas
Fr. Mike**



We regularly update our SICK LIST and our TROOPS LIST. Please notify the Rectory Office if you would like to renew your relative's posting in either list. Each week we remove entries older than two months on the sick and six months on the troops.

Remember Our Sick

Thomas Altomare	Janet Bonawandt
John Amato Sr.	Mary McGee
Gabrielle Aversano	Sheila McGovern
Anne Bannon	Martin McNeill
Michael Barbieri	Michael A. Medico
John Bertone	Eugene Merkle
Sara Bertone	Kerry Migliaro
Mary Biglin	Lorraine Milano
Pat Blinn	Toby Monti
Maryann Bonitz	Anthony Morena
Michael Bottega	Anne Murtha
Marie Califano	3 year old Nathan
Florence Castagna	Lucas Oliver
Christine Ryan Coffee	Anna Pepe
Regina Cohen	Richard Pepe
Shaun Cohen	Mason Plouffe
Michael Costanza	Lisa Polis
Victor Crema	Anthony Prestigiacomio
Susan Cronin	Gina Purcaro
Helen Crupi	Nicole Ramaglia
Kathy Cunningham	Toni Rand
Raffaella Daniele	Lisa Rapp
Janice DeLalia	Ralph A. Redo
Michael DePinto	Baby Emma Grace Riccio
Ann Doherty	Emma Rivera
Sharon T. Eichler	Andrew Rosa
Lois Emma	Louis Russo
Robert Filce	Ann Sabourin
Margie Galabert	Joseph Sabourin
Carolina Gaudio	Dawn Saporito
James Gill	Anna Schramm
Brian Ginsberg	Krista Schramm
Katie Grace Hanson	Marie V Scott
Carolyn Hillenbrand	Darlene Smith
Jasper Indelicato	Darryll Smith
Margaret Indelicato	Robin Smith
Luke James Infanzon	Richard Stapleton
Thomas Jankay	Cynthia M. Stewert
Jerry Kalish	Matthew Swenson (7yr. Old)
Jim Keebler	Michael Supakoff
Cecelia Keller	Pauline Sykora
Frances Kern	Cathy Szynaka
Kathleen Kern	Michael Tenore
George Labriola	Mary Thron
Al LaRocca Jr.	Richard Troiano
Rosemary Larotonda	Lloyd Turnier
Kevin Latini (7yr. Old)	Larry Walsh
Nicole Laudadio	Norm West
Mae Liebhaber	Steven Wilmott
Vito Lucivero	Diane Zimmerman
Rosalia Manzella	
Msgr. Ken McAteer	
Edna McGreevy	

PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS



SGT Deborah Alfieri	ENS3 Lucy Padro
SPC Matthew Altonji	PFC Matthew Pandolfi
PRVT Andrew Altonji	CPT Michael Parisi
Paul Donato	2LT Anthony Parisi
TSGT Louis Barletta	MAJ Paul E Pinaud
LT Michael-Jon Bonacorsa	CTR2 Matthew Pistrutto
LCPL John Brown	LT David A Rewkowski
PFC Justin Browne	SGT Edwin Rivera, II
LTCOL James Cersosimo	LCPL William R Rodgers
CPL Glenn Clacher	LCPL Anthony M Sbrocco
SPC Thomas E. Corcoran	SSGT Jason Schiavo
SPC Jason Crawford	LCPL W. Mason Shehan
CPT Edward Cuevas	SGT Jennifer Tomaneng
PFC John B Cuneo	SSGT Timothy McGoyne
CPT Ryan Delaney	SPC James Stanek
TSGT Timothy Dermody	SPC Erica Sweeney
SGT Stephen DiGirolamo	EO3 Taylor Taranto
SSGT Tony Elliott	MM3 Gregory Taranto
LT Kelly Fletcher	PFC Greg Terrish
SPC Adam Franciosa	SGT Jason Tulowitzki
CPT Mark Gillman	SSGT Nick Vitale
CPT Evan Gotkin	SGT John Thomas Vogt
CPL RJ Hartmann	CPL Brandon Waldon
SRA J.R. Kay	SGT Randolph Weaver
SSGT Jessica Kay	MSTR Robert Casey
SGT John W Keohane	MAJ Jennifer Kochman-Gotkin
MAJ Sean P Kilkenny	ILT Richard Lutz
CW2 Steven Knight	HN Frederick James Borsell
CPL Andrew Kochman	PFC Darian L. Clark
LCPL William Langdon	SAMN Bill Ried
SPC Christopher Leone	CPL Michael Casonova
RCT Tiffany LiCausi	SPEC4 David Cooper
SPC Thomas J Lupo	MIDN Michael Cristiano
SGT Wade Lynch	SGT Brian P. O'Leary
MAJ Kevin McCue	PFC Gregory Caplan
PVT Thomas B McGinn	MPS Timothy Caplan
SGT Patrick McNally	E6PO1 Gerard McGarrity
PFC William Meyer	LT John Cox II
CPL Brian G Meyer	PFC Nicholas Barbieri
CPO Gregory Migliore	LCPL Jim A. Mock
SGT Glenn Miller	SGT Maj. John A. Krumholz
LT Heather Miras	LCPL Joseph R. DeGroot USMC
SPC4 George Monica	RCT Dustin A. Whitton USMC
SPC4 John Monica	
SGT Daniel Montville	
SSGT Brian Moran	
MAJ Gregory Mueller	
LCPL Thomas Napolitano	
LCPL Michael Napolitano	
PVT Todd Nelson	
LCPL James Neubauer	
SGT Brian Pacella	
N/Seal Paul Padro	

REMEMBERING THE SICK

Name of person who is ill

Person making this request: _____

Relationship to ill person _____

Your Phone #: _____

(Friends can be placed on the silent prayer list only)

REMEMBERING OUR TROOPS

Name, Rank and Branch of Service

Person making this request _____

Relationship to Soldier _____

(Friends can be placed on the silent prayer list only)

REMEMBER OUR DEAD Hector Alvarez

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

e-mail: RelEd@StJoRonk.org

website: RelEd.StJoRonk.org

981-1805

Office Hours

Monday through Thursday

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM



The office will be closed from December 24th until Monday, January 3rd. We wish everyone a very peaceful and Happy New Year.

Tuesday classes will resume on January 4th. On **Wednesday, January 5th** and **Thursday, January 6th** religion classes *will not* be held. The staff will be attending a conference.



ENTERTAINMENT BOOK 2011

Savings begin Nov. 1, 2010 and end Nov. 1, 2011. The books are \$25 (\$30 + tax in stores) and are also available for other cities. You will be able to save hundreds of dollars using these books and will be helping our Parish at the same time. For more information or to order, call Kathy at 981-2617 or leave a message with us at 981-1805.

St. Joseph School

e-mail: school@stjorok.org

website: www.stjoeronkelem.org



Thank you to all families who helped with our clean-up. A special thank you to Mr. & Mrs. Smith for organizing it with Mr. McCormack. The following students came to help and some even brought parents! Teresa Santiago, Kelsey Smith, Jane Maloney, Madelyn Miessmer, Elina and Evan McAteer, James Cunningham, Alesis and Rocco Zanini, Vanessa, Jonathan and James Pham, Jessica and Allison Guerra, Patrick, Ryan and Kayla Kutch. Our school looks great! Thanks for all your hard work.

Our breakfast with Santa was a great success. Our children enjoyed Santa's visit and we have beautiful class photos to display in our school.

Our families were so generous this year especially with our Toys for Tots Christmas program. We were able to fill 2 collection boxes with toys for Christmas.

Our second graders did a wonderful job collecting donations for a needy school family for the holiday. Along with a collection the children baked goodies and had a bake sale to raise funds. Great work.

Congratulation to Mr. Licatta and Mrs. Rainone for a wonderful Christmas concert. Our students performed beautifully. All who attended were impressed. Thank you to Mrs. Schreiber, Mrs. Carnavos and Mrs. Bartoszak who helped prepare our children.

To all parishioners at St. Joseph, Mrs. Arpino and The Faculty and Staff at the school wish everyone a Blessed and Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year!

Victorian Tea

February 13, 2011

2:00 pm

At

St. Regis Council

2850 Pond Rd

Ronkonkoma, NY



Tea, coffee, dessert, games raffles & prizes. Tickets are \$15.00. For more information please contact, Curine Young at 631-648-4349 or Pat Blinn at 631-619-6181.

Respect Life

While singing that popular Christmas song “**The Twelve Days of Christmas**” may seem like an endurance contest, there is a very interesting story (anonymous) behind it.

In England, in the period of 1558 – 1829, Catholics were not permitted to practice their faith openly.

So, “**The Twelve Days of Christmas**” was written and sung in England, as a sort of catechism for young Catholics.

The hidden meaning of the song’s gifts was intended to help the children remember lessons of their faith. Instead of referring to an earthly suitor, the “true love” mentioned in the song refers to **God Himself**.

The ‘me’ who receives the presents is symbolic of every baptized person; the ‘partridge in a pear tree’ is Jesus Christ, symbolically presented as the mother partridge, feigning injury to decoy predators from her helpless nestlings.

The meanings of the other symbols are:

Two turtledoves – the Old and New Testaments of the Bible

Three French hens – the gifts of faith, hope and charity

Four calling birds – the four gospels written by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John

Five golden rings – the first five books of the Old Testament

Six geese a’laying – the six days of Creation

Seven swans a’swimming – the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit (wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, piety, knowledge, fear of the Lord)

Eight maids a’milking – the eight Beatitudes

Nine ladies dancing – the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit

Ten lords a’leaping – the Ten Commandments

Eleven pipers playing – the eleven faithful Apostles

Twelve drummers dancing – the twelve points of belief of the Apostles’ Creed

A Christmas Wish

May all the days of all the years that God may have in store
 Be filled with joy and peace to bless you more and more.
 May the happiness of Christmas be in your heart to stay
 And to brighten all your moments, long after Christmas Day!
 -Virginia Luers



Weekly Offering

Fiscal Year Begins 9/1/2010

* Sunday, Dec. 19, 2010, Offerings	\$20,050		
Same collection last year (storm)	7,349		
Poor Box last weekend	\$356		
Fuel Collection YTD	\$4,399		
Same time last year	6,254		
YTD Fuel Cost	\$3,533		
Weekly Budget Amount	\$18,500	YTD	\$296,000
Collection	<u>20,050</u>	YTD	<u>279,633</u>
Overage	+1,550	Shortfall	- 16,367

* Pay Down Debt Donations	
This Month	\$ 7,307
Total Funds	\$ 88,914

Immaculate Conception Collection	2010	\$5,608
	2009	4,664

*Includes Faith Direct Collections for Dec.

Average weekly shortage is \$4,202 based on last year’s figures.

An increase of only \$5 a week in the Sunday Collection would cover this shortage.

If you missed last week, please make it up this week. Thank you.

Envelopes 543

Envelope users: Please enter the amount of your donation in the envelope on the space provided. This will be a big help to us when counting the collection. Also, it is not necessary to tape or staple the envelope closed. Your help is appreciated!!!

*Thank you
 Deacon Mike DeBellis*

**Thank you and God Bless You Always,
 Fr. Mike**

Celebrating 100 Years of Service



The Mother Church of the Ronkonkomas



We did it!

But don't stop!!

It's true, we have surpassed our goal of 92,000 for the 2010 Catholic Ministries Appeal with pledges totaling \$92,324

Our sincere and heartfelt THANKS to the 440 families that did make a pledge...

Your promise of support toward this wonderful appeal will be a tremendous help to so many in need throughout the Diocese . However, the work is not done! In order for our Parish to receive the rebate portion of the appeal, which amounts to just about \$18,000, we need to surpass the goal in actual payments received. So we encourage you to continue making your payments through January and we are still accepting new pledges and donations.

Calendar Club 2010

THE WINNERS ARE!!!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
11/28 #128 John Donohue \$50	11/29 #171 Michael Lawlor \$25	11/30 #787 Linda Green \$25	12/01 #525 Thomas McManus \$25	12/02 #330 Vincent Festa \$25	12/03 #526 Thomas McManus \$25	12/04 #27 Catherine Anello \$25
12/5 #933 MaryAnn Schaudel \$50	12/6 #197 David Boutot \$25	12/7 #235 John & Victoria Ryder \$25	12/8 #753 Anne Kelly \$75	12/9 #946 David Boutot \$25	12/10 #781 Mary Williams \$25	12/11 #670 John Balkam \$25
12/12 #659 Camile & Nick Vicale \$50	12/13 #213 Arline Scotto \$25	12/14 #568 Cathy & Jim Foy \$25	12/15 #709 Chris & Ron Firestone \$25	12/16 #84 Camilla Raab \$25	12/17 #65 Les Brown \$25	12/18 #122 Lillian Kirwin & Family \$25
12/19 #395 Kathleen Marter \$50	12/20 #942 Carol A. Fischer \$25	12/21 #984 Catherine Anello \$25	12/22 #587 Janet & Bill Wroblewski \$25	12/23 #167 Agnes Ludwigson \$25	12/24 #157 Anne Richard \$25	12/25 #37 Victor DyReyes \$200

Congratulations to our winners. Thank you for your generous support!

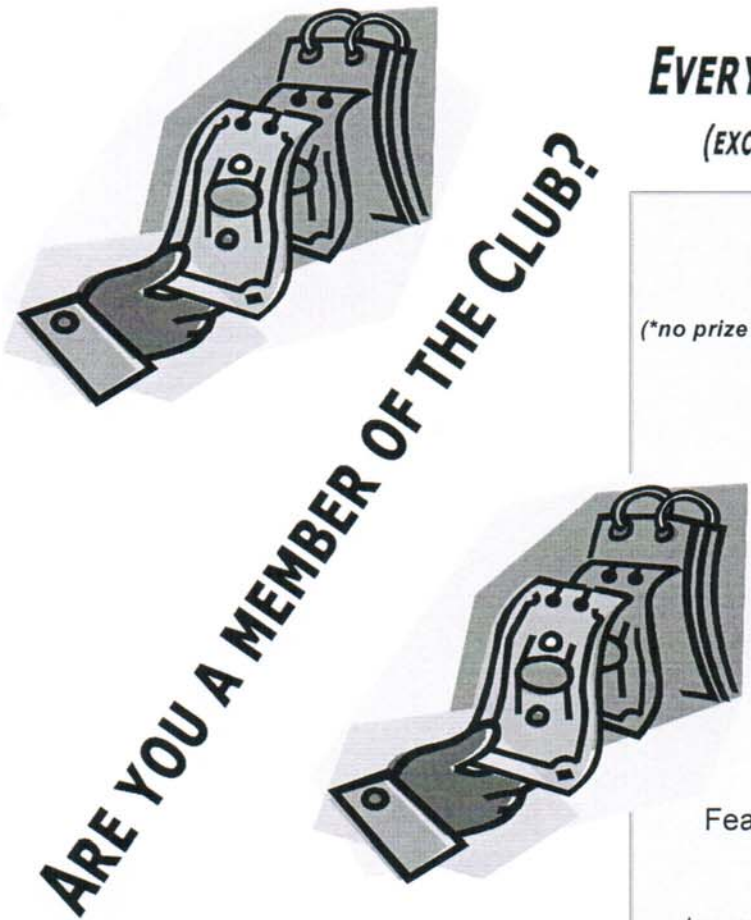
Attention all babies, toddlers and preschoolers:

Need to get your mom, dad, grandparent, or caregiver out of the house? Then join us on Friday mornings for an hour of fun and friends. St. Joseph's Playgroup is open to all children and their caregivers. We meet at 10 AM in Father Carew Hall (church basement) on all Fridays that school is in session. Our first session this year will be Friday, October 8th.. Come join us. No registration necessary. For information, call Sally Miller 737-5120. Hope to see you soon.

Calendar Club 2011

EVERY DAY THERE'S A CHANCE YOU'LL WIN!

(EXCEPT HOLY THURSDAY, GOOD FRIDAY AND HOLY SATURDAY)



Calendar Club 2011 Prizes

Weekdays* and Saturdays*---\$25

(*no prize is awarded for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, or Holy Saturday)

Sundays---\$50

larger prizes on the following special days...

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God---\$50

St. Joseph's Day---\$50

Easter Sunday---\$200

April Fools Day---\$50

Ascension Thursday---\$50

Mothers Day---\$75

Fathers Day---\$75

Independence Day---\$75

Feast of the Assumption of Mary---\$75

All Saints Day---\$75

Thanksgiving Day---\$75

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary---\$75

Christmas Day---\$200

New Years Eve---special drawing,

drawn from those who have not won throughout the year---\$250

MEMBERSHIP DONATION IS \$25 PER "CALENDAR".

GET FIVE MEMBERSHIPS FOR A DONATION OF \$100.

Sign me up for calendar club 2011

Member Name:	#	@ \$25 each	
Address:	#	@ 5 for \$100	
City, State, Zip		Total	
Phone Number:	Place in envelope with donation and mail or bring to the Rectory or drop in the collection basket.		

Make check payable and mail to St. Joseph R.C. Church, 45 Church Street, Ronkonkoma, NY 11779



New Year's Eve Party

**At St. Regis Knights of Columbus
2850 Pond Road**

**Friday, December 31, 2010
8:00 pm - 1:00 am**

Advance Tickets:

\$60.00 per person / \$100.00 per couple

At-The-Door:

\$65.00 per person / \$110.00 per couple

ONLY 90 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD

MUST RESERVE BY DECEMBER 15

Includes:

- ~ Hot Buffet ~ Open Bar ~**
- ~ Champagne Toast at Midnight ~**
- ~ DJ ~ Dancing ~**
- ~ Hats ~ Noisemakers ~ Streamers ~ Raffles ~**

Tickets available Nov. 1 at the Bar or call:

Frank Avvento (631) 428-4498

Gerry McMenamin GK (631) 648-3090



Outreach Resources

Emergency Resources

Response of Suffolk County

Crisis Hotline

631-751-7620 or 631-751-7500 (hotline 24 hrs./7 days)

[Www.responsehotline.org](http://www.responsehotline.org)

Victims Information Bureau of Suffolk—VIBS

Domestic/date violence, rape, sexual assault, & elder abuse
631-360-3730 or 631-360-3606 (24 hrs hotline for domestic violence and rape)

[Www.vibs.org](http://www.vibs.org) or www.inforatvibs.org

Suffolk County Coalition Against Domestic Violence

631-666-8833 (hotline)

[Www.sccadv.org](http://www.sccadv.org)

The Retreat

Domestic Violence

631-329-2200 (hotline 24hrs/7 days shelter)

[Www.theretreatinc.org](http://www.theretreatinc.org)

Brighter Tomorrows

Domestic Violence

Hotline (631)395-1800

Islip Hotline

Crisis Hotline: 631-277-4700

Runaway Hotline

631-549-8700, 1-800-621-4000

American Red Cross, Suffolk County Chapter

631-924-6700

[Www.redcross.org/ny/suffolk](http://www.redcross.org/ny/suffolk)

Child Abuse

1-800-342-3720 (24-Hr.)

HIV and Aids Teen Hotline

1-800-440-TEEN (fri./Sat. 6:30PM to Midnight)

Child Health Plus Information and Referral

1-800-522-5006 (24 Hr.)

Family Resources/Support Groups

Child Care Council of Suffolk

631-362-0303

[Www.childcaresuffolk.org](http://www.childcaresuffolk.org)

Family Service League of Suffolk County

631-427-3700

[Www.fsl.li.org](http://www.fsl.li.org)

Hope House Ministries

631-928-2377

[Www.hhm.org](http://www.hhm.org)

Islip Town Teen Parent Resource Center

631-224-9766

Suffolk County Department of Health Services

Project Hope Mothers' Group

631-853-3035 (call for locations)

[Www.co.suffolk.ny.us/health](http://www.co.suffolk.ny.us/health)

Haven House/Bridges

631-231-3619

[Www.tsli-hhb.org](http://www.tsli-hhb.org)

Alcoholics Anonymous

631-669-1124

Gamblers Anonymous

631-586-7171

Narcotics Anonymous

631-827-9500

Life Center of L.I. - Pregnancy Care

631-243-0066

Birthright of Nassau/Suffolk

516-785-4070

St. Joseph Parish Outreach Center

e-mail — sjpo@verizon.net

website — <http://outreach.stjorok.org>

Through your generosity we were able to help more than 333 people throughout the month of Nov. Financial assistance for the month of Nov. was \$6,157.79. In these tough economic times we are seeing people of increasing need. On their behalf, we thank you for sharing your own limited resources with your brothers and sisters.



"Whenever you did it for the least of my people, you did it for me."



**USING SCRIP
MAKES
DOLLARS
and SENSE !**

Please use parish-purchased gift cards for all your shopping needs. Not only will you take advantage of the gas-saving convenience of *one-stop shopping* here, at St. Joseph's, but our church will benefit from the profit of selling the cards. **God bless you for using your time, talent, and treasure to support the ministries of this parish.**



Christmas Eve

Friday, December 24th

4:00 PM (Upper Church & Lower Church)

6:00 PM and 10:30 PM

We do not have a Mass at Midnight.

New Year's Eve

(Vigil Mass for Solemnity of Mary)

Friday, December 31 - 5:00 PM

Christmas Day

Saturday, December 25th

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

We have no evening Mass on Christmas Day.

New Year's Day

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Saturday, January 1, 2011

8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 Noon

Feast of the Holy Family

Sunday, December 26th

7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM,

12:00 Noon and 5:00 PM

Epiphany of the Lord

Vigil Mass Saturday, Jan. 1, 2011 5:00

Sunday, January 2, 2011

7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

(Confessions for Christmas)

Scheduled Confessions

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays

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

Sat. Mornings after 8:00 AM Mass and 4:00 - 4:45 PM

Individual Confessions

(with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament)

Tuesday, December 21st

7:00-8:00 PM



Christmas 2010

St Joseph Church



Automated Contributions with Faith Direct!

Advent is the time of joy and sacrifice as we prepare for the return of Jesus and celebrate the memory of His birth. As we begin this liturgical year, we encourage you to sign up with *Faith Direct*. With *Faith Direct's* online account management you can manage your giving at your convenience. Stop writing checks and using envelopes. Using Faith Direct saves precious time and money for both you and the Parish.

Make the change today by picking up an enrollment form at the parish office or sign up online at www.FaithDirect.net, our Parish code is **NY252**.

I pray you realize how important your gifts of treasure to St. Joseph are, and will continue to be, and how much I appreciate your generosity.

God bless you!

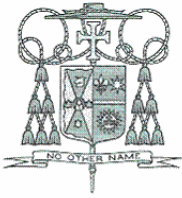
Why Go To Church?

A Churchgoer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher: "I've been married for 30 years now...In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this. They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

When you are **DOWN TO NOTHING**...God is **UP** to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible! Thank God for our physical **AND** our spiritual nourishment!

I think everyone should read this! "When Satan is knocking at your door, simply say, "Jesus, could you get that for me?"
(As seen in Our Place Newspaper)



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Christmas 2010

Dear Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

This year my Christmas Greetings to you will be brief but no less heartfelt. The Angels who raised the joyous hymn that first Christmas night can be heard again this Christmas in the hearts of us all. "Glory to God in the Highest" echoes in our hearts and lives because we all are thankful that God so loved the world that He sent His only Son. He so respected us, created in His own image, that He wanted "one like us in all things but sin" to become our redeemer.

"One like us" is truly that because, like us, He is born of a human mother. Mary, like all mothers, carried her beloved Son in her womb from the day the Angel Gabriel announced to her God's plan of salvation to the moment in that Bethlehem stable when she, the perpetual Virgin Mother, gave birth to Him Who is the light of all humankind.

This is the gracious and wondrous gift who comes to dwell in our hearts as surely as He dwelt in her womb and as surely as He lived his days on earth. He is "God with us". He knows us and we know Him if only we open our hearts to Him as the Magi opened their gifts to honor Him.

The best way we honor Him is to do what He calls us to do: celebrate the Eucharist, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. My full Christmas message to you can be found in my Advent/Christmas Pastoral Letter, **Belong More Deeply**. You can find it in your parish Church, as an insert in parish bulletins, in *The Long Island Catholic* and on our diocesan website, www.drvc.org. Telecare is another source where it can be found.

Please read it at your leisure. I wrote it after the priests of our Diocese urged me to do so. They shared their thoughts which helped shape my words. I did so with eager longing for the implementation of the new Roman Missal which will begin on the First Sunday of Advent next year. I did so because I believe this coming year will offer us many opportunities to deepen our personal and ecclesial ties to the Lord and to one another.

No place and no moment is more precious in bringing all this about than when we gather in our Churches to celebrate Sunday Mass. My deepest Christmas wish for all of us is that this Christmas we discover how deep is the love God has given us through His Son and how much He calls us to belong more deeply in Him and the Church through the Mass where Jesus is born and re-born every time we gather to proclaim our faith in the Lord Who calls us to be one with Him.

A Happy and Blessed Christmas to one and all.

Bishop of Rockville Centre

Celebrating 100 Years of Service

St. Joseph's Parish Take a Closer Look:



The Mother Church of the Ronkonkomas

Altar Servers: Boys and girls 4th grade and older are trained to assist the priest in the celebration of the sacred mysteries.

Baptismal Assistants: Some assist priest or deacon during the baptism ceremony. Others cut and sew bibs given to the babies being baptized.

Baptism Prep: Trained leaders facilitate the class to remind parents of the significance of the role they play in guiding their children in the faith.

Bereavement: This ministry meets every Thursday at 7:30 in Carew Hall.

Boy & Girl Scouts: Adult scout leaders help to develop qualities of leadership as well as strong moral and social values.

Catholic Daughters: The main purpose of this organization is charity work mostly within the parish.

Catholic Seniors: We welcome any seniors to join us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month at the K of C hall, Pond Rd.

CYO: Baseball, Basketball and Track program which helps to promote sportsmanship for children, their parents and coaches through Catholic Christian ideals.

Columbiettes: An integral part of the Knights of Columbus raising money for charitable organizations.

Consolation: Compassionate volunteers help families in making arrangements for the funeral mass of a loved one.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Formal Diocesan training required to assist in the distribution of Holy Communion at Mass and to the home bound.

Knights of Columbus: Members live principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism and are strong volunteers in the parish and the community.

Lectors: Parishioners who read well may feel called to proclaim *The Word of the Lord*.

Music: We have many choirs. So if you like to sing, we invite you to join us. Anyone who plays a musical instrument may be interested in providing accompaniment.

Parish Outreach: We have food & clothing to share as well as instructions on how to attain help with medical & everyday needs.

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process to receive people seeking full initiation into the Catholic Church,

Religious Education: Faith formation of young people ages 3-17 taught by volunteer catechists.

Right to Life: An Organization that educates people about Pro Life issues. Meetings held quarterly at St. Joseph's.

St. Joseph's School: Co-educational school, Nursery through Grade 8. Our mission is to educate our children through a love of learning and strength of character while contributing to the Church and the community.

Servants of the Lord: A prayerful group meeting the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month.

St. Vincent de Paul Society: Serving the poor and needy in our community.

Sunday School: A pre school religious education program that teaches 3, 4 & 5 year olds about our Catholic Faith. We meet during the 10:30 mass.

Unity Sunday: First Sunday of each month in the lower church, we meet after the 9, 10:30 and 12:00 mass. Come enjoy coffee, tea and baked goods while you have a chance to socialize with fellow parishioners. Each month is hosted by one of our many ministries which will share more information about what they do and how to participate and become an active volunteer.

Ushers: They are the men and women who greet and help seat our parishioners and visitors and assist by taking the collection of your donations at mass.

Venturing Crew: Venturing is a youth development program for young men and women 14- 20. The dynamic relationship of the youth, adult leaders and the parish is what helps our youth pursue their special interests and grow and develop leadership skills for life.

Mass Schedule and Prayer Opportunities listed inside the front cover of the bulletin along with information of the sacraments.

Plus, we have many celebrations and fund raising events throughout the year such as, **St. Joseph's Feast Day** in March, **Annual Golf Outing**, **St. Joseph's Family Festival** in July, the **Backward Drawing for \$10,000 Grand Prize**, **Breakfast with St. Nicholas** and much more.

We invite you and encourage you to become involved in what ever facet of our Parish that you feel called to and please know that whatever you do, it is greatly appreciated. If you are interested and would like more information, please call the rectory, 588-8456 for contact phone numbers of selected ministries.



YOUTH IN MINISTRY

Every Sunday at 5:00 PM, St. Joseph's Parish offers an upbeat experience of celebrating Mass 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)

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



CYO Sport Programs

<http://stjoecyosports.com>

Baseball:

Intramural (Coed, ages 5-16): Gene ☎588-1879
Travel * (Boys): Vinny ☎467-3651

Basketball:

Girls Intramural Debbie ☎467-6174
Clinic Division (Coed Grades K-2) Henry ☎467-6091
Boys Intramural(Grades 3-12) Henry ☎467-6091
Travel* (Boys): Vinny ☎467-3651

Track:

Boys & Girls, Grades K-8 Jerry 585-4048

Soccer :

Intramural Boys & Girls(ages 3-13) Joe ☎737-6299
Travel (LIJSL): Tony B ☎737-5159

*Must register for the intramural program as well

Scouting as Youth Ministry



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.

Pack, Troop, and Crew 272 have a YEAR-ROUND scouting program.



Venturing Events

In Carew Hall after 5:00 PM Mass

Venturing is open to men and women age 14 through 20 who have graduated from 8th Grade. This year's crew plan is jam packed with interesting and fun activities here at St. Joseph's and "off-campus" as well.

Come down to our meeting and check it out.

Visit our next meetings —

Sunday, Dec. 26th (Tonight)

Sunday, Jan. 2nd

e-mail: Crew272@StJoRonk.org

phone: Advisor Mike Keller (631) 467-6468

What did *you* do this weekend?



D.O.G.
DEPEND
On
GOD

My salvation and my honor depend on God;
He is my mighty rock, my refuge.

Psalm 62:7

Courtesy Announcements



Charismatic Prayer Meeting - at Our Lady of the Island Shrine the fourth Wednesday of each month from 7- 9PM. Praise, worship & teaching. Contact the Shrine at 631-325-0661 for info.

Free Food for NY Seniors - The C.S.F.P. funded by USDA NYSDOH, and administered by Catholic Charities is offering free food for 6 to 12 months post partum women, children from the age of 5 up to their sixth birthday, and seniors age 60 and over, who are income-eligible. Gross monthly income for seniors: Single Senior \$1,174 or less or Senior Couple \$1,579 or less. For further information, and income guidelines for women & children in Nassau or Suffolk, please call 631-491-4166 or 631-491-4156.

Meals-On-Wheels - Lake Nutrition Meals-on-Wheels provides food to elderly & homebound Monday thru Friday, two meals a day. Hot meals & cold meals are available for a charge of \$6 for both meals. Call 467-8948 for information.

Professional Therapy - provided by NYS licensed therapists, are available to our parish & 80 other parishes. It is provided by the Catholic Counseling Center which is independent of & not controlled or supervised by the parish or diocese. Most insurance policies are honored. For information & appointment, call Dr Giuliani at 243-2503 or visit our website at <http://thecatholiccounselingcenter.net>.

Host Families Needed - Rotary District 7260 is looking for 2 Host Families located in Connetquot School District to host a foreign exchange student attending 12th grade in Connetquot H.S. Hosting dates are January-April 2011 and April-July 2011. For more information please contact Arnie & Rose Quaranta at 631-467-8226 or Roseq40@aol.com

College Scholarships - At Thomas More College, in Merrimack, NH, you will find an academic community dedicated to providing a comprehensive Liberal Arts education in the Catholic tradition. The students, faculty, and staff invite all high school seniors to join us through the 2011 **Faith & Reason Essay Contest** in pondering how the rich heritage of the Church's culture can offer hope to the world today. Over \$100,000 in scholarship money will be awarded this year to incoming freshmen. To learn more, visit us online at www.ThomasMoreCollege.edu or contact the Director of Admissions, Mark Schwerdt, at (800) 880-8308.

Annual Holy Innocents Mass - will be celebrated at the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Crown Acres Rd, Centereach on Tuesday, Dec. 28th at 7:30PM by Monsignor Joseph Curley, Pastor Emeritus. All are invited to attend the mass and share fellowship and refreshments in the parish center hall. For Information : 631-585-8760 or 631-588-7242.

Dominican Village—Independent and Assisted Living Residence Rental Retirement Community Open House Thursday, Dec. 30th 1-3 pm., Saturday, Jan 8th, Thursday, Jan. 13th, Saturday, Jan 22nd, & Thursday, Jan 27th from 1-3 pm. For more information or to schedule a tour contact us today at 631-842-6091 or info@dominicanvillage.org.

Faith & Light Meeting - . Parish of the Holy Cross, 95 Old Nichols rd, Nesconset. Friday, January 7th at 7 pm. For more information call Marcia Gaudet at 631-439-9724. (A faith-sharing group for people with handicaps & their caregivers).

St John the Baptist D.H.S. - located in West Islip, is proud to announce their 12th Annual Service & Goods Auction which will be held on Friday, January 21, 2011 @ 7 pm in the Cougar Café. Many items to bid on, door prizes (a month's tuition) and raffles!! Vacations, camps and dinners are just a few items to bid on. Please join us for a fun evening where the proceeds will benefit all the students at St. John's!.

MERRY
CHRISTMAS

