

We come together as a community of faith to celebrate with praise and joy!

The Celebration of the Sacraments

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:30-4:15 PM and Eve of Holydays 4:00-5:00 PM in the Church

Anytime by appointment-please call and speak with a priest.

On Becoming A Catholic

R.C.I.A. welcomes those interested in becoming a Catholic and/or anyone seeking to further their education in the Catholic Faith. Please leave your name and telephone number at the Rectory Office.

Parish Membership

All new families and individuals are welcome to our parish. We request that you register in the rectory when you move into our community so that we can be of service to you. Our parish family invites all of its members to participate fully in our spiritual and social life. The priests and ministers are here to serve your needs, to share your joy, and to help lighten your burdens.

Sacrament of Baptism

Communal Celebrations of Baptism are on the second Sunday of each month at 1:30 PM. Beginning as of Sept 25th, 2016 All arrangements for Baptism must be made at the rectory.

Sacrament of Marriage

The Sacrament is celebrated on: Fridays: to be arranged. Saturdays: 10:30 AM, 12:30 and 2:30PM

Sundays: to be arranged. Arrangements must be made by personal appointment with one of the priests. Couples should make an appointment with the priest at least six months to a year in advance of the marriage date. Nuptial Masses as well as ceremonies are available on Friday and Saturday. Ceremonies only are available on Sunday.

Marriage Preparation Program at OLM

All engaged couples who plan to get married in the Catholic Church are required to complete **Pre Cana Program**. Our Program is offered twice a year. The Fall program meets once a week for 4 weeks: and the Spring program runs for an entire weekend. FOCCUS, a communication study, is administered twice a year and is required for all couples.

FOCCUS dates for fall 2016 & spring 2017 are as follows: Sunday, Sept 25, 2016 at 6:45PM - Sunday, Feb 12, 2017 at 6:45PM. Fall Pre Cana Weekly format starts Friday October 28, 2016 at 7:30PM. Spring Pre Cana Weekend format runs Friday Mar 10 through Sunday, March 12, 2017

Anointing of the Sick

The Sacrament for the seriously ill and elderly can be arranged by contacting one of the priests or at any time in an emergency. The Sacrament is also celebrated communally during the year.

Ministry to the Sick and Homebound

Parish priests and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist regularly visit those who are ill or homebound. Please call the rectory to arrange for home visitation

Pastoral Council Members

Raymond Badra

Nick Perrotta

Timothy Snee

Donna Varney

To contact: pastoralcouncil@olmrcc.com

Parish Finance Committee

John Beaudette (Chairperson)

Daniel Pisani (Trustee)

Joseph Vacca (Trustee)

Carmine Serravalli (Business Mgr.)

Lorraine & Fred Anderson

Richard Faccio, Jr.

Timothy Snee

Serena Perrotta

Maintenance Staff

Mr. Larry Burns

Mr. Kevin McAvoy

Mr. David Mullan

Rectory Cook

Michelina Gambale

Convent Cook

Susan Bennett



Our Lady of Mercy, Pray for us

Masses for the Week

Monday, Jan 30,
 Heb 11:32-40/Mk 5:1-20
 7:00 AM Thomas F. Toppin
 9:00 AM Anna Morris Simone
 Vito Delustro
 Rev. Peter McCrann



Tuesday, Jan 31,
 Heb 12:1-4/Mk 5:21-43
 7:00 AM Michael Fornino
 9:00 AM Patrick James Looney
 Rose Stagliano
 Rita Fagan

Wednesday, Feb 1,
 Heb 12:4-7,11-15/Mk 6:1-6
 7:00 AM Jean Nough
 9:00 AM Elizabeth Ann Marra
 Paul Tuozzolo
 Albert Gallagher

Thursday, Feb 2,
 Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40
 7:00 AM Frank Scala
 9:00 AM John Ferguson
 Rosemarie Rey
 Rev. Peter McCrann

Friday, Feb 3,
 Heb 13:1-8/Mk 6:14-29
 7:00 AM Josephine Fornino
 9:00 AM Thomas Catapano
 Margaret & Joseph Cervone
 Josephine Griffio

Saturday, Feb 4,
 Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Mk 6:30-34
 8:00 AM Frances DiMaggio
 Eileen Mullan Lawlor
 Concepcion Villapol
 Cezar & Rosalina Austria
 Julian LaForce

4:30 PM Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy

Sunday, Feb 5,
Is 58:7-10/1Cor 2:1-5/Mt 5:13-16
 7:30 AM Rose & Al Sepe
 9:00 AM Victor Ialeggio
 10:30 AM Josephine Sayers
 12:00 PM Ciro & Carmela Ambrosio
 5:30 PM Anthony Cosenza
4:00 PM URDU MASS (L.C.)



Loving Memory— You Rest In Peace—
 Georgette Coffey, Hitie Zielinski, Marie Liguori
 the unborn and the victims of natural disasters throughout our country and the world.

Remember Our Sick Mary Lou Haggerty, John Lombardi, Elizabeth Lyons, Robert Motto, Howard VonGerichten, Vivian Callegari, Christopher Cucci, Lori Costillo, Mary Giardina, Gayle Callegari, Dolores Pietzak, Paul Manetta, Myra Mandolese

Long Term Illness: Please pray for our war casualties, all our sick, their caretakers, especially Sr. Joanne Deegan, Doris Repoli, Frances Linoli Sr. Patricia O'Connell, Vincent Perrone, Olivia Mannion, Lisa Pirrung, Lori Randazzo, Connie Naumann, Louis & Jean Venditto, Ellen Connors, Frances Weber, Gerry McNamee, Allison Miller and all homebound and in nursing homes.

WEEK OF Jan 29, TO Feb 4, 2017



**L.C. Sanctuary Lamp
 In Memory of
 DAD
 Donated By
 Mickey**



BANNS OF MARRIAGE

FIRST TIME

Marc Acierno - OLM & Vanessa (Torgeson) Martinez—St. Gregory the Great Bellrose

Michael Thomas Shaw—OLM & Rebecca Papritz - St. Martin of Tours - Amityville

Eric Dikeman - OLM and JoAnne Li - Brooklyn

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

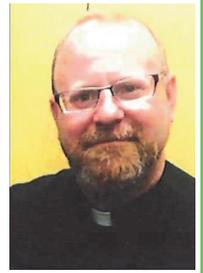
I have two uncles who never talked to each other. Long ago they had a squabble over something relatively stupid. For years this had gone on, in fact it has become sort of a family joke. Every time there is a family event, like a wedding or reunion, those who are throwing the party always had to scramble to figure out how to seat them so they wouldn't have to be near each other. I'm not sure why there had never been a reconciliation between them. Most likely it was all about ego and one brother having to admit that he might have been wrong to the other. So the feud continued and the ones who paid for it were the family who loved them both, but often had to do a juggling act just to keep the peace. That's sad isn't it, and a bit selfish? I wonder what Jesus would say about this kind of behavior? Well in fact this weekend's gospel gives us an insight into what Jesus has to say about this kind of behavior and more. The beatitudes themselves on the surface speak about the attitudes that Jesus feels his followers should live according to in order to be his follower. But if we delve deeper into this gospel we can see that undergirding each of these attitudes is a sense of humility before God and our brothers and sisters. With that in mind, we can read the beatitudes a little differently. For instance, it's only when we are truly humble and poor in spirit before the God who made us, that we can inherit the Kingdom of Heaven. It's only when we are humble enough in our mourning to let people in and show them that we need them that we truly can be comforted. It's only when we make ourselves meek like a child that we can truly inherit God's bountiful blessings. And so on. It is only when we recognize that we are powerless before God and acknowledge that we need God's help in all things that we can truly build the Kingdom in our midst. The same is true of our need for our brothers and sisters. It's only when I stop striving for power or cease trying to have power over others, that we truly can be blessed. It's only when I let go of my ego that I really can find true happiness and the Kingdom God promises.

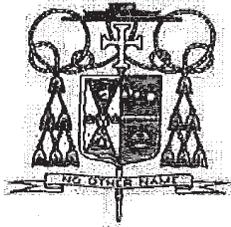
So how do we come to that humility that Jesus is calling us to? I think the answer to that question is easy and hard at the same time. First, it's easy because we already know the answer. We have to tame our pride and restrain our egos. The hard part is that as easy as it is to identify what prevents us from being humble before God, it's also one of the most difficult thing to do. Our first inclination is self preservation and that drive to protect ourselves which often leads us into temptation. Let's go back to my uncles. What is it that kept them from reconciling – simple, **pride**. Neither of them could admit their fault let alone seek reconciliation because it would have meant that one of them, (if not, both), would need to humble himself before the other. So who suffered? We their family and ultimately themselves. How happy the peacemakers would be if only they were humble enough to admit their wrong at times!

Where does your ego hold you back from having the attitude that would bring you closer to heaven? Where does your pride and ego keep you from loving God and your neighbor? Just some questions for us to ponder this week. As easy as it may be to identify these traits, how hard it is to conquer them. Good thing God is on our side and always waiting to help if we ask!

Peace,
Fr. Steve

P.S. Next week we will welcome the 5th Bishop of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, Bishop John Barres (pronounced Barris). We thank Bishop William Murphy for his devoted care to the people of the Diocese of Rockville Centre as he retires. Some of you have been enquiring about tickets for the installation of Bishop Barres at our Cathedral on Tuesday. Unfortunately for tickets are available, but the events; both the Prayer Service the evening before and the Mass of Installation on Tuesday will be aired live . Telecare will provide complete coverage of the entire installation. For the Evening Vespers service on Monday, January 30, 2017, coverage will begin at 6:45 pm. For the Mass of Installation on January 31, 2017, coverage will begin at 1:15 pm. Telecare can be seen on Optimum 29/137, Verizon FiOS 296, and Charter Spectrum 471.





DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

January 29, 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The Diocese of Rockville Centre will join all the dioceses in our nation in celebrating National Catholic Schools Week from January 29 – February 4, 2017. The theme for this year is *Catholic Schools – Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service*. This theme encompasses concepts that are at the heart of Catholic education. Our schools strive to build community, share faith, increase our students' knowledge and encourage dedication to service. Each time I am in one of our schools I encounter teachers, administrators, and parents committed to making sure that each student lives up to his or her potential to learn and to be formed in the Catholic faith.

Catholic schools have a rich history in supporting the work of on-going evangelization of the Catholic community in the United States. Our schools are built on the bedrock of the teachers and administrators who dedicate their time and talents to educating all children. We must also recognize our priests, religious and support staff for the work they do each and every day to spread the Gospel to our young people. Together we make great things happen on a daily basis in our Catholic schools. Our schools focus daily on the value of Catholic education and the contribution it makes to our Church, communities and to the world.

The Diocese has much to be proud of. Our Catholic elementary and high schools are wonderful examples of academic and spiritual excellence. Our schools are committed to always growing in faith and living the Gospel. We invite you to come and see this for yourselves during Catholic Schools Week where you will experience our Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service in action.

With my prayers and my gratitude, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Apostolic Administrator

Post Office Box 9023, Rockville Centre, New York 11571-9023 • phone 516.678.5800 • fax 516.678.3138 • www.drvc.org

Our Lady of Mercy, Pray for us

On Stewardship Spirituality

Accountability

Sacrificial Giving Offertory

Weekly Offering for:

- ♦January 15, 2017: \$ 18,543
- ♦January 17, 2016: \$ 15,898

Make the commitment!
Belong More Deeply
To Christ and His Church, our church Our Lady of Mercy

“I urge you, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree in what you say, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and in the same purpose... so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its meaning.” —1 Corinthians 1:10, 17

Living Stewardship Spirituality means living as a disciple of Christ. We can answer the call to discipleship, to stewardship in many ways, but ultimately, we need to remember that the way is always to be in service to Christ. Paul reminds us of this in his letters to the Corinthians: sometimes we may disagree, sometimes we may take different paths, but at all times Christ is our center and we belong to Him.

Who Do You Belong To?

Many of us find our way to Stewardship Spirituality, and our way to follow Jesus through participation in a ministry (perhaps, more than one). We attend a prayer group, become a lector, join a music ministry or communal organization (like the Knights or St. Vincent de Paul). We can become very involved in our ministry, and perhaps begin to feel that it is, indeed the best choice, does the best work for the Church, even contributes more than others.

We begin to associate ourselves with the ministry itself: I belong to this or that group. In doing this, we can lose sight, just like the people of Corinth, of the purpose of the group: to spread the light of faith. While our ministries are important—even essential to the growth of the Kingdom, no one ministry is the center. Christ is our center. We don't just belong to individual ministries, groups, and service organizations: we belong to Christ.

Each of us is called as a disciple, as a steward of Jesus Christ. Our challenge is to hear that call, respond to it, seek out our vocation, and live as Stewards of the Good News. So, go ahead, join a ministry if you haven't already. Participate in the one you are part of now. But remember that we are all called to Christ, to be His disciples, His Stewards—there are many ways to belong more deeply to the same Center.

~Visit us at www.SerenaOnStewardship.blogspot.com for more on Stewardship!



Stewardship



Prayer for Our President

God of freedom and justice, today one man is given great power over our country.
 We are divided. We face challenges that threaten to pull us apart.
 In these times of turmoil, give our president direction.
 As darkness looms, show him your light. Inspire him with respect for all people. Hope for those in despair, safety for those in danger.
 May he seek the peace only You can give.
 Draw our new leader to you. Endow him with humility and love.
 Grant him resolve to break down the walls that divide and bring us together as one nation under you. ~Amen

Our Lady of Mercy, Pray for us

WE GO 2-GETHER®
ADULT/CHILD PLAYGROUPS
 AGES 6 mos.—3 years old

SPRING INTO FUN!!!
 February — June 2017

Registration in Convent
 Basement Meeting Room

Jan. 24 from 12 Noon—2 p.m.
Jan. 25, Jan. 31 and **Feb. 1**
 10 a.m.—12 Noon

Classes begin week of Feb. 6

Call **MS. LISA, COORDINATOR**
 at (516) 455-1819

Visit www.ourladyofmercy.org

“Serving the next generation of families!!”
PLAY together, PRAY together!!!!!!!

EXCELLENT FOR PARENTS, GRAND-PARENTS, EDUCATORS, MENTORS, YOUTH MINISTERS, TEENS AND YOUTH

BALANCING LIFE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Angela Widmer M.ED

Parenting Coach, Speaker, Youth Mentor, Educational Advisor

Monday, February 6th, 2017 7:30-9pm

LOWER CHURCH MEETING ROOM
 (Rescheduled from original date that had been listed)

LOOK UP WORKSHOPS explore Social Media's impact on Attention, Human Development, Friendship, Family Life and

OLM Adult Ed Coordinator:
Peggy Clores imcon630@aol.com
516-317-1740

CATHOLICISM




During the month of February Our Lady of Mercy will be showing 6 multi series that illumines a handful of saints, artists, mystics, and scholars. St. Catherine of Siena, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Francis of Assisi, BL. John Henry Newman, Michelangelo, and G.K. Chesterton, who not only helped changed the shape of the Church but changed the course of Western Civilization.

The series start February 1st, through the 22nd, every Wednesdays at 7:30pm in the basement of the Rectory






Career Opportunity:



The Knights of Columbus is seeking a Field Agent for a career opportunity representing our insurance program. We offer a complete benefits package with this full-time position. In order to qualify, one must be eligible for membership in the Knights of Columbus. For more information, please contact, Patrick McGuire, General Agent, at 516-223-2339 or Patrick.mcguire@kofc.org



Our Lady of Mercy School
 Faith ~ Academics ~ Service



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK at OLM

- Jan. 29:** Open House 11:45 AM-2:00 PM
 Displays, Tours, Refreshments, Registration N-8
- Jan. 30:** STEM Lesson Observation (9:00-11:00AM)
 Open House Tours: 1:00-2:00 PM
- Jan. 31:** Nursery, Pre-Kindergarten, and Kindergarten
 - Off on Field Trip Adventures
 - Grades 3 - 8: Yoga Experience
- Feb. 1:** Open House Tours: 9:30-10:30 AM
- Feb. 2:** Open House Tours: 9:30-11:15 AM
 Faculty vs Students Volleyball Game (1:45-2:15 PM)
 - Our camaraderie and spirit are contagious... Join Us!
- Feb. 3:** Catholic School Week Assembly-8:30 AM
 - Grade 8 Pinning Ceremony
 - Service Project—Wrap-Up

For additional information please call (516) 433-7040
 or email us at jharrigan@olmshicks.org

Thank You to Telecare: Telecare is the state-of-the-art diocesan based television network that broadcasts local and national religious programming and live events for the Catholic Church in America. To show their support of Catholic education, Telecare is providing iPad Pros to Catholic elementary schools in the Rockville Centre Diocese. Our Lady of Mercy School is grateful to be part of the first round of distribution. We will be receiving 42 of these devices which will be used by our 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students and their teachers as part of their daily classes.

TGIF Winners	January 27: \$100 - Baek Family (Nursery) \$75 - Baldwin Family (Grade 7) \$50 - Leibman Family (Grade 8)
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Committed to educating students to become Christ Centered, Academically Strong,
 Christian and Servant Leaders, Responsible Citizens

Our Lady of Mercy School thanks you for your continued financial and prayerful support.



OUR LADY OF MERCY SCHOOL

520 South Oyster Bay Road, Hicksville, NY 11801
 (516) 433-7040 fax: (516) 433-8286 www.olmshicks.org
 Mrs. Jane Harrigan/Principal (jharrigan@olmshicks.org)



You Can Make A Difference

A kindergarten student of Our Lady of Mercy School, Sebastian DeLuca, has recently been diagnosed with leukemia. Sebastian has begun treatment, but, if possible, we would like to assist this school family with the medical expenses they now have.

If you are able to assist with a monetary donation, please send your cash or check donation made out to Our Lady of Mercy School, in an envelope marked **Office**. All contributions will be presented to the DeLuca Family at a ceremony on **Friday, February 3rd** during Catholic Schools Week. Please feel free to reach out to your extended family, friends, etc. to help us **MAKE A DIFFERENCE**.

We realize that many families may have their own personal financial difficulties, and for this reason may be unable at this time to make a contribution. If this is true in your case, we understand and ask that you pray for both Sebastian and his parents at this time.

Thank you in advance for your concern and assistance in this matter. Whatever you are able to do makes a difference and is appreciated.



The value of learning.
The learning of values.



Accredited by the Middle States
Association of Colleges and Schools

WIDOWED - DIVORCED - SEPARATED

Beginning Experience Weekend

The loss of a spouse through death, divorce or separation is one of life's most traumatic experiences; often resulting in feelings of loneliness and grief. When those feelings remain it can be overwhelming and hard to move forward. The Beginning Experience weekend is a grace filled time to focus on you... to feel understood by peers and experience a sense of peace and a renewed hope for the future.

The next weekend is on Long Island at the Montfort Spiritual Center in Bay Shore on February 24th - 26th, 2017. For information and reservations, call Mary at 516-413-6209, Jim at 718-474-3779 or John at 516-822-0635.

WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS, DIVORCED AND SINGLE CATHOLICS OF LONG ISLAND

OUR 41st YEAR

NASSUU COUNTY CHAPTER NO1

P.O. BOX2031

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER

CHAIRPERSON-DONNA CONROY

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

NON-DENOMINATION-ALL ARE WELCOME

*****WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 22nd @7:30PM*****

THE MEETING IS HELD EVERY 4th WEDNESDAY AT ST. FRANCES DE CHANTAL SCHOOL

1309 WANTAUGH AVE. IN WANTAUGH, NEW YORK

BRING PROOF OF SINGLE STATUS TO JOIN

REFRESHMENTS SERVED AFTER MEETING

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CALL CAROL@ 516-794-4933

OR BARBARA @516-798-2858

You Can Help Heal Your Marriage

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 only make it worse?

Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. For confidential information about the Retrouvaille program, or to register for the upcoming weekend that begins on Friday, February 17th, Please call 1-800-470-2230 and you will be connected directly and confidentially to a couple from Long Island/Metro Retrouvaille who can help.

**YOUTH MINISTRIES
WYLDLIFE NEWS**



for Schedule go to:

youthministryolm.weebly.com



We meet twice a month on
Fridays at 7:30 p.m. in OLM Gym!

**YOUTH MINISTRY
LIFE Teen NEWS**

Life Teen has started for all
High School Students!

We meet twice a month *right after*
5:30 Mass in the Lower Church.

For details & full schedule go to:
youthministryolm.weebly.com

Parish Services

Serving with Mercy

Mary Anne Scott

Prayer on the Occasion of the Inauguration

*Assist with your spirit of counsel and fortitude
 The President of these United States,
 That his administration may be conducted in righteousness,
 And be eminently useful to your people over whom he presides.
 May he encourage due respect for virtue and religion.
 May he execute the laws with justice and mercy.
 May he seek to restrain crime, vice, and immorality.
 And may he show special concern for the weakest and most vulnerable among us.*
 USCCB– CatholicCharitiesUSA.org

January is Poverty Awareness Month.

“In the apostolic exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis calls for a ‘church which is poor and for the poor.’ Pope Francis knows that we have much to learn about how to be in solidarity with those who live in poverty. ‘We are called to find Christ in them, to lend our voices to their causes, but also to be their friends, to listen to them, to speak for them and to embrace the mysterious wisdom which God wishes to share with us through them.’”

“There are many myths about poverty in the U.S. that can deceive us about the identity of those living in poverty. Here are some facts:

2.5 million people in the U.S. work full-time, year-round, and are still living in poverty (U.S. Census Bureau, 2015). In every state, for every 100 ‘extremely low-income’ households, there are less than 31 units of available and affordable rental housing (National Low-Income Housing Coalition, 2016).

Women are more likely to be poor and more likely to be in ‘deep poverty’ (with an income less than half of the federal poverty line). 28% of households headed by a single woman are below the poverty line (U.S. Census Bureau, 2015).

In Matthew’s Gospel (Mt5:1-12A), “. . . Jesus calls ‘blessed’ those who are poor, hungry, merciful, and peace-making. The Beatitudes challenge all of us to consider how we, too, can be ‘blessed.’ Catholic social teaching emphasizes God’s special love and concern for our brothers and sisters whose lives or dignity are threatened. Jesus himself modeled this special attention for people who were hungry, rejected, living in poverty, or experiencing other marginalization.”

USCCB Poverty Messages

How can we in our families and faith community live out this special concern for those who are poor and vulnerable?



Food Pantry needs: Cereal, canned fruit, toothpaste & shampoo. Thank you!

<p>Parish Services 931-1306 Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:30AM-12:00PM, 1:00-4:30PM Pantry Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 1:30-3:30PM Wednesday & Friday 9:30-11:30AM Last Saturday of month 9:30-11:30AM—call to confirm date</p>
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Our Lady of Mercy, Pray for us

Presider's Schedule for Weekend of Feb 4th - 5th 2017

President	Fr. Steve P.	Fr. Nasir G.	Fr. P. Grace	Fr. Steve P.	Fr. P. Grace	Fr. Nasir	Fr. Steve P.
Mass Time:	4:30 PM	7:30 AM	9:00 AM	10:30 AM	12 Noon	5:00 Urdu	5:30



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS



Americans share many blessings and strengths, including a tradition of religious freedom and political participation. However, as a people, we face serious challenges that are clearly political and also profoundly moral in nature.

We are a nation founded on "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," but the right to life itself is not fully protected, especially for unborn children, the most vulnerable members of the American family. We are called to be peacemakers in a nation at war. We are a country pledged to pursue "liberty and justice for all," but we are too often divided across lines of race, ethnicity, and economic inequality.

We are a nation of immigrants, struggling to address the challenges of many new immigrants in our midst. We are a society built on the strength of our families, called to defend marriage and offer moral and economic supports for family life. We are a powerful nation in a violent world, confronting terror and trying to build a safer, more just, more peaceful world. We are an affluent society where too many live in poverty and lack health care and other necessities of life. We are part of a global community facing urgent threats to the environment that must sustain us. These challenges are at the heart of public life and at the center of the pursuit of the common good.

As Catholics, we are part of a community with a rich heritage that helps us consider the challenges in public life and contribute to greater justice and peace for all people. Part of that rich heritage on faithful citizenship is the teaching of Vatican Council II's *Declaration on Religious Liberty (Dignitatis Humanae)*. It says that "society itself may enjoy the benefits of justice and peace, which result from [people's] faithfulness to God and his holy will". The work for justice requires that the mind and the heart of Catholics be educated and formed to know and practice the whole faith.

In this section of our Web site, you will find information and resources that highlight the role of the Church in the formation of conscience, and the corresponding moral responsibility of each Catholic to hear, receive, and act upon the Church's teaching in the lifelong task of forming his or her own conscience. With this foundation, Catholics are better able to evaluate policy positions, party platforms, and candidates' promises and actions in light of the Gospel and the moral and social teaching of the Church in order to help build a better world.

As Catholics, we are part of a community with a rich heritage that helps us consider the challenges in public life and contribute to greater justice and peace for all people.



**SUPER BONANZA WINNERS 2016
OUR LADY OF MERCY**

We are pleased to announce the following winners:



Jan. 29, 2017 - 25.00	Emily Moehringer	Bellmore
Jan. 30, 2017 - 25.00	Josephine Stallone	Hicksville
Jan. 31, 2017—100.00	Donald E. Florence	Plaineview
Feb. 1, 2017 - 25.00	Maria Baran	Hicksville
Feb. 2, 2017 - 25.00	Margaret Dunleavy	Plainview
Feb. 3, 2017 - 25.00	Thomas Page	Middle Village
Feb. 4, 2017 - 25.00	Lorraine Lunt	Plainview

Congratulations to the winners, your ticket has been returned to the drum, and you have many more opportunities to win. Checks are being mailed to our winners this week

SUPER BONANZA CONTINUES FOR 2017

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH
500 SOUTH OYSTER BAY ROAD
HICKSVILLE, NEW YORK 11801-3501
TEL. NO.: (516) 831-4351
FAX: (516) 433-8702

NEW SUPER BONANZA RAFFLE REGISTRATION

Name _____
Street _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Telephone _____

TO REGISTER, PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN
WITH A \$25.00 DONATION

FIRST DRAWING JANUARY 1ST, 2017

If you need more cards you can find them in the plastic racks in the Church or you can pick them up in the Rectory. Thank you and Good Luck.

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH
500 SOUTH OYSTER BAY ROAD
HICKSVILLE, NEW YORK 11801-3501
TEL. NO.: (516) 831-4351
FAX: (516) 433-8702

NEW SUPER BONANZA!!

A Gift for you... Congratulations!!

has been enrolled in our

Super Bonanza by

PRIZES AWARDED DAILY FROM JANUARY 1ST THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST 2017

Daily.....	\$25.00	July 4 th	\$500.00
Monthly.....	\$100.00	Thanksgiving Day.....	\$500.00
January 1 st	\$500.00	Christmas Day.....	\$750.00
Feast of Our Lady of Mercy.....	\$800.00		

You can win 382 times! Winners will be posted weekly in our Parish Bulletin.

WE WANT YOUR BOXTOPS!!

Our Lady of Mercy School collects Box Tops year round to help support our education needs. We Thank you for your support. Collection bins are in the church for you to conveniently drop off your box tops when you come to mass. Please continue to bring in your box tops from the products you use at home or office. We appreciate your continued support for our school! Please keep them coming. For more information visit: www.btfe.com **THANK YOU!**

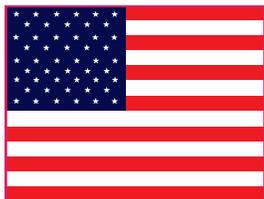


PRAYER GROUP NEWS

His Chalice is overflowing with the Blood of Innocent Pre-Born Babies.”

On Tuesday February 7th, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in Our Lady’s Chapel - lower church, we will have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. During that time we will be praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy in reparation for the sin of abortion.

PLEASE JOIN US. ALL ARE WELCOME!



PRAYER FOR THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

*As we live daily enjoying the freedom of this country, many loved ones are giving themselves with unselfish love in places of perilous action. Lord, hold in your loving hands our troops and all those who try to respond to the needs of the less fortunate throughout the world. Bless them and their families for the unselfish acts they perform as they attempt to alleviate many global concerns. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. AMEN.
(follow with Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be)*

**SUPERMARKET GIFT CERTIFICATES
Thank You!**

To All Parishioners: GIFT CERTIFICATES may be purchased in the rectory during the week at regular office hours. Sales this past week were \$1220.00, of this the Parish earned \$61.00, **If you do not use supermarket dollars, please give it a try! Ask those who use it, how convenient it is!**

**Unclaimed Supermarket Gift Ticket
as of: 1-23-2017**

8015996	1/23/17*
Won by:	No Sales*



**Helping the Poor
Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

Our Lady of Mercy Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's sole purpose is to help the poor of our community. Every dollar received goes toward help for those in need, there are no administrative expenses, all members of the conference are volunteers. Currently, poor box and candle contributions are used to support our efforts. Please consider a gift to our conference so that we may continue to provide support to those in need.

Make checks payable to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and mail them to the Rectory or deposit them in separate envelopes in the collection baskets at Mass.

If you, or someone you know, needs assistance please contact us at (516) 931-4351, X 326. All contact with St. Vincent de Paul is held in strict confidence. Thank you.

**The Gospel of Matthew:
Proclaiming the Ministry of Jesus (Part 2)**

This Bible Study course continues with the Gospel According to Matthew. It combines instruction with prayer enabling the student to grow in both knowledge and spirit. The goal is to help provide personal connections with Scripture at a time when the Bible may seem to be an ancient document lacking contemporary relevance.

Instructor: Louis Mocci (n32456@verizon.net).

Admission is free. Classes will meet on **Tuesday** evenings from 7:30 pm to 9:15 pm in the Convent Basement beginning **February 7** and continuing to Holy Week. If you are interested, simply attend the first class meeting. Thank you.

Organizations

Music Ministries

OLM Adult Chamber Choir: Meets Tuesday afternoons at 5:00 to 6:30 PM in the Upper Church.

OLM Children's Choir: Meets Wednesday afternoons at 2:45-3:30 PM in the School Music Room.

OLM Folk Group: Meets Sundays after the 9:00 AM Mass in the Lower Church.

OLM Rock Group: Meets Monday evenings at 8-10 PM in the Upper Church.

Parish Organizations

Angels of Mercy: Meet on every third Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM in Our Lady's Chapel with refreshments served. Corporate Mass on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 9:00 AM for more information please call Angela Manzi-938-8106 or JUSTKKAUZE@AOL.COM

Hicksville/OLM Senior Club: Meets on Mondays 11:00AM-3 PM at the Bethpage Senior Center. For information contact Joan at 938-4261.

Holy Name Society: Corporate Mass and Communion on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 9:00 AM Mass. Membership meetings on the following Monday at 7:30 PM in the Lower Church Meeting Room. Phone: (516)405-OHNS(0467). Email: olmholyname@aol.com Web: www.olmholyname.org

Knights of Columbus: The Our Lady of Mercy Joseph F. Lamb Council # 5723 Knights of Columbus meets on the 1st & 3rd Thursday at 7:30 PM in the School Cafeteria. For information contact Jim Raber, Grand Knight, at 516/695-1022, or Kevin McAvoy, Deputy Grand Knight at 516/996-3489

Legion of Mary: Meets on Tuesdays at 10:00 AM in the Lower Church. First Saturday **Fatima Devotions:** 7:40 AM.

Nocturnal Adoration: First Friday of the Month - 8 to 9 PM (Exposition & Group Prayer and /or 9 PM to 10 PM (Silent Prayer and Benediction) in Our Lady's Chapel.

OLM Ushers: If interested in becoming an Usher, please contact Jim Decker at 516/933-8143 or email at jimdecker@verizon.net

OLM Prayer Group: Meets every Tuesday night 7:30 PM in Lower Church Contact Maureen Decker 516/933-8143

OLM Youth Council for Parish Sport. Contact Chris Fox at cfox411@icloud.com

Prayer Group: Prayer meetings are held on Tuesdays at 7:30 PM in the Lower Church.

St. Vincent de Paul Society: Contact the Rectory for information (931-4351 X 326).

The Men of St. Joseph: Meets every Wednesday at 7:00 PM in Lower Church Meeting Room.

Thrift Boutique: Mon-Sat 9:30 AM — 1:00 PM located in The Trailer Building

Support Groups

Alcoholics Anonymous Groups

First Things First:

Open Meeting every Friday: 8:00-9:00 PM in the Convent Basement.

Closed Meeting every Sunday: 7:00-8:00 PM in the Convent Basement.

Our Own Group:

Closed Meeting every Monday: 4:30-5:30 PM in the Convent Basement.

Step Meeting every Thursday: 4:30-5:30 PM in the Convent Basement.

Al-Anon:

Adult Children meet on Friday evenings: 7:30-10:00 PM in the School Cafeteria.

Emotions Anonymous:

Meets on Thursdays at 8-10 PM in the Convent Basement.

Families Anonymous:

Meets on Wednesdays at 7:30-9:30 PM. Convent Basement.

