

Spiritual Exercise in the New Year

As part of my formation for priesthood, I had the opportunity to be part of a 30 day silent retreat based on *The Spiritual Exercises* of St. Ignatius. The retreat allowed me the time and space to, hopefully, grow closer to Jesus using a specific regiment and style of prayer developed by St. Ignatius. To go through the entire experience would likely take many bulletins. I would, however, like to share one experience in relation to today's feast and the Gospel proclaimed to us at Mass.

St. Ignatius calls on each retreatant to deep meditation using imagination and reflection. As part of reading a particular passage of Scripture, Ignatius invites us to enter fully into the passage imagining ourselves in the scene, the setting of the story (What does it look and feel like? Was it hot, cold, etc.?), the characters (What did they say, feel, look like?) and our own role in the story (Where would I be in the story? What would I say or do?).

This Sunday's Gospel reading was one I "prayed with" for a time during my retreat. Ignatius gives three points for us to consider in light of Luke's Gospel. The first – who is in the scene, what are they wearing, what are they doing? As you heard the Gospel proclaimed and perhaps re-read it, is it a crowded scene with many people or quiet and sort of abandoned? What do the people in the scene look like to you? How are they dressed? What is their attitude or spirit like?

Second, what are the people in the Scripture saying to each other? What are they saying to you? Do you feel they really understand what has happened here or does someone need to help them "get it?" Then, what do you imagine the Divine Persons saying? Perhaps you hear them saying, "They're ready for a Savior now." Or, "We better send them someone before it's too late." What do you hear the Persons of the Trinity saying as they saw that scene in Bethlehem so many years ago?



Third, what do you hear the persons of the Trinity – Father, Son and Spirit – saying as they look at our lives and our world today? What does Mary – particularly as we celebrate today's feast - say as she looks at your life and mine? Does she offer you words of encouragement, of question and wonder? **What are those words?**

As we prepare for a new year this weekend, let's take some time and imagine ourselves in the midst of shepherds, in the midst of praising and glorifying God at the birth of a Savior. Where are we in the story? As we gaze on Mary, having struggled through a dangerous journey and childbirth, let's give thanks to God for her courage and strength. Let's turn to her and listen to what she speaks to me and you and allow those words to, not only touch, but change our hearts.

Happy New Year.

Peace –



Fr. John

*Please pray for the sick of the parish,
their families and caregivers:*

Vincenzia Castronova
Antonio Rodrigues Brandon Rodrigues
Louie Zaino

"May God bless us in his mercy."
Responsorial Psalm
Solemnity of Mary, Psalm 67

Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses
January 7th/8th

5:00 PM Fr. John
8:00 AM Fr. John
9:30 AM Fr. Bob
11:30 AM Fr. Bob
5:00 PM Fr. John



Religious Education

The following is a list of our upcoming
Catechist meetings:

**Level 2 - Wed., Jan. 4th -
1:30 & 7:30 PM**

**Levels 3&4 - Tues., Jan. 17th -
1:30 & 7:30 PM**

**Levels 5&6 - Wed., Jan. 11th - 7:30 PM
Thurs., Jan. 12th - 1:30 PM**

**Level 7 - Mon., Feb. 13th -
1:30 & 7:30 PM**

We are still in need of people to teach
ONE-TO-ONE, our Special Needs group,
on Mondays. If you feel called to this
ministry, please call Ellen Fox at 265-2200
x12. Training is provided.



Holy Cross
Welcomes
these children
Baptized
in December

Gabrielle Alexis DiGianni
Samantha Nicole DiGianni
Anna Victoria Koblan
Brayden Richard Wecera

Scripture Readings for January 7th/8th

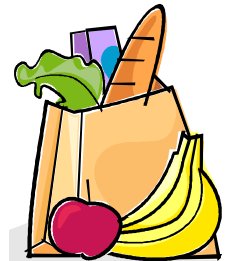
+ *Isaiah 60:1-6*
+ *Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6*
+ *Matthew 2:1-12*



**PARISH OUTREACH
FOOD PANTRY**

Next Saturday and Sunday,
January 7th/8th will be our
monthly Food Drive for our
Parish Outreach Pantry.

The following items would be
most helpful:



- Brown Paper Bags with Handles
- Boxed Rice, Boxed Potatoes
- Coffee (1 lb. can or smaller)
- Tea (small box)
- Canned Fruit
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Tomato Sauce
- Paper Towel
- Hash, Beans, Canned Ravioli, Chili

Please check expiration dates! It will greatly
assist the volunteers who stack the pantry with
your donated goods. Thank you.

Parish Outreach

Regarding Donations of Food to the Outreach Pantry

Often when people move (or when a family member dies) they need to empty their cupboards and will donate the food to our pantry. While we are very appreciative of their contribution, we have many times received outdated and/or opened food items. **We do not give such food to the people we serve.** Therefore, our volunteers must spend extra time and effort going through donated food to double check dates and packaging. In addition, disposing of heavy amounts of canned food is strenuous.



We would like to suggest that you please check the food you would like to donate. It would be a tremendous help to our pantry workers.

In regard to donation of pet food: While we are aware that pet food is costly, we receive very few requests for it and, unfortunately, the space in our pantry is very limited due to its small size. Presently, every inch is used to store food and paper goods. Perhaps checking with local animal shelters or rescue organizations would be a better resource for pet food donations.

We thank you once again for your conscious effort to help those in need, and we thank you for understanding our commitment to assist them in a dignified and respectful manner.

Parish Outreach

A Message from Catholic Charities

Are you or someone you know having family or interpersonal problems due to drinking ALCOHOL and/or using DRUGS?

CATHOLIC CHARITIES/Talbot House, a voluntary Chemical Dependence Crisis Center, located in Bohemia, provides withdrawal and stabilization services for males and females over the age of 18 who are seeking to stop and/or withdraw from alcohol and/or drug use. The medical and clinical staff at Talbot House will assess the kind of care the person needs to begin his/her journey to recovery. For more information, please call 589-4144. Talbot House staff is available 24/7. Each call is confidential. Talbot House is a NO fee service program.

HELP WANTED: Catholic Charities' Talbot House is looking for LPNs (per diem). Please contact Stella 631-589-4144 or fax resume to 631-589-8396 or email howard.stella@catholiccharities.cc

Faith and Light Meeting

Friday, January 6th, 7:00 p.m.
Parish of the Holy Cross
95 Old Nichols Road, Nesconset



Faith and Light is an international faith-sharing organization for people with developmental challenges and their families and care-givers.



Remember "Kevin Bacon"

Don't forget to feed "Kevin Bacon" your quarters when you come to Mass on Sundays!





*Christmas Flowers
in Memory of...*

MR. J. W. HARRAN, SR.
 MRS. M. GRIMALDI
 MICHAEL TERRANOVA
 THOMAS BROPHY
 JOHN GOUDIE
 DENNIS KELLY
 MARGARET & JOHN DORNEY
 MAUREEN & JOHN KELLY
 SOKOL FAMILY
 FRAZIER FAMILY
 MILDRED & BOB BROWN
 TOM & ALICE MCGUIRE
 JOHN MCGUIRE
 DIROSA FAMILY
 MULA FAMILY
 MR. O. DESANTO
 JOAN EDWARDS
 MARY SOKEL
 DEPARTED FAMILY &
 FRIENDS
 ROBERT MICELI
 JOSEPH R. MITAROTONDO
 AUGUST GINOCCHIO
 ANNE & EDMUND MERLO
 JOSEPHINE, FLORENCE &
 ALBERT SASSANO
 GIAMBERTONE FAMILY
 ROSS & CATHERINE
 MAGUIRE
 NICHOLAS & ANN VELLA
 OLGA & HERMANN
 KUETHMANN
 ROBERT DIROSSE
 JANE DALY
 JOHN J. DALY
 MARGARET MAHER
 JAMES A. PERRY JR.
 JAMES EVANS
 MARION & PETER MARTIN
 ROBERT YARNELL
 SHIRLEY KAUFMAN
 SHAWN CORRIGAN
 EDWARD & PEGGY ERHARDT
 RICHARD P. CANALINI
 ADA & NICHOLAS CANALINI
 THERESA & ANTHONY
 CARACCIOLIO

S.C. KACPERSKI
 BEATRICE HOLST
 GEORGE HOLST
 DAVID MCKINLEY
 CAPT. JAMES V.
 AMATURE
 RONALD DANDREA
 ITALIANO FAMILY
 PERRINO FAMILY
 JULIA & TOM MORSELLI
 GRACE & ANTHONY
 MARRAZZO
 ANTHONY DEVITO JR.
 MICHAEL CORCORAN
 WILLIAM FORD
 HELEN DRISCOLL
 MARY ALFIERI
 GASPAR & MARY
 LOMBARDO
 HAROLD YAGER
 JOSEPH MARRO
 CORNELL FAMILY
 JOHN GIBBONS
 DOMINICK & MARY
 VERDI
 HELEN NASTASI
 THOMAS NASTASI
 CHARLES MISTRETTA
 JOSEPH MISTRETTA
 BRIDGET MAZZUCO
 ELLEN TRAPANI
 ALYSSA DEWEEVER
 ROGAN
 HELEN & JOSEPH
 CHRISTIAN
 AGNES FITZPATRICK
 IRENE "HONEY" &
 WALTER KUCZWAJ
 LORRAINE BRODERICK
 HARRINGTON
 EDWARD PHILLIPS
 ALFRED PASSOS
 JULIA PRIMERANO
 PATRICK PRIMERANO
 ANNA & ANTHONY
 SFORZA
 KENNETH B. HALL

PARZIALE FAMILY
 LOVED ONES
 ANTHONY JOHNSON JR.
 MATTHEW C. RIZZO JR.
 JOSEPH RIZZO
 INGHILTERRA FAMILY
 O'GRADY FAMILY
 TAE-KOO MIN
 PHIL DENOBREGA
 IDA & VICTOR ROSA
 JEAN & JOSEPH CHEBEN
 RAYMOND SULLIVAN
 CAROLINE PENNACCHIA
 AMATO BOTTONI
 STEFANO LOPICCOLO
 PETITO FAMILY
 FANUELE FAMILY
 RICHARD M. MARTIN
 SCOTT FAMILY
 KILKENNY FAMILY
 THE BECHTS
 MR. & MRS. J. BECHT
 ROBERT TALAY
 FRANCIS R. MCCUTCHEN
 MSGR. KIERAN MARTIN
 ROBERT BENNETT
 PETRA UGALDE
 LISA CASTORO
 GRACE & JOSEPH BURNS
 THEODORE & MARIE
 KOERICK
 TRAVERS FAMILY
 THESTRUP FAMILY
 DACOSTA FAMILY
 GOMES FAMILY
 RODRIGUES FAMILY
 AUBREY ROSE KEENA
 MARRETTA SABATINO
 EUGENE & IOLE MANZO
 ANTHONY & ANNA
 BRUNO
 MICHAEL MAKINE
 LILLIAN SMITH
 JAME SMITH
 MARY DONNELLON
 AUBREY ROSE KEENA
 THE BECHTS

JAMES EVANS
 TATTI FAMILY LOVED
 ONES
 ANN TRIFILETTI
 FORTE FAMILY
 LEVANDI FAMILY
 THOMA FAMILY
 QUALLIOTINE FAMILY
 GRAMY, PAPA & GREAT
 GRANDMA
 BARRY ARMANDI
 RAGNO FAMILY
 BURGER FAMILY
 MARY & JIM SCHULTZ
 GLADYS & HENRY
 COLBAN
 JETTA
 MICHAEL JOSEPH
 CLIFFORD
 PATRICIA ANNE
 LIPPERTSHAUSER
 GINO PERCIBALLI
 CHRISTINA & NICK
 MIELE
 DAN CRISTIE
 MILDRED HOUGH
 NANCY MEYER
 MARY GORMAN
 CRADDOCK FAMILY
 GORMAN FAMILY
 MICHAEL BUONORA
 GREENHILL FAMILY
 JOHN MANNION
 MARY VALLETTE
 M/M ERNEST PAGLIARI
 AMILDE GLYNN
 LUCY V. MAROTTA
 MARY & FRANK GIGLIA
 MARY & GENE CALHOUN
 ED & ANN HAU



Parish of the Holy Cross ~ Cash Calendar
January 2012



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 \$500	2 \$50	3 \$50	4 \$50	5 \$50	6 \$50	7 \$50
8 \$50	9 \$50	10 \$50	11 \$50	12 \$50	13 \$50	14 \$50
15 \$50	16 \$50	17 \$50	18 \$50	19 \$50	20 \$50	21 \$ 500
22 \$50	23 \$50	24 \$50	25 \$50	26 \$50	27 \$50	28 \$50
29 \$50	30 \$50	31 \$50				

\$10 Per Chance ~31 Chances to WIN ~ TWO \$500 Days this Month !

January 2012 Cash Calendar
 NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____

PHONE _____

January 2012 Cash Calendar
 NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____

PHONE _____

January 2012 Cash Calendar
 NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____

PHONE _____

January 2012 Cash Calendar
 NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____

PHONE _____

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 1st

- **NO LIFE TEEN MASS**

Wednesday, January 4th

- **SENIORS** Noon - 3:30 PM Atrium
- **LEVEL 2 CATECHIST MTG.** 1:30 PM Fr. Joe Room
- 7:30 PM Atrium
- **BAPTISM PREP CLASS** 8:00 PM Fr. Joe Room

Friday, January 6th

- **FAITH & LIGHT MTG.** 7:00 PM Ch., Fr. Joe Rm.

Sunday, January 8th

- **BAPTISMS** 1:00 PM Worship Area
- **LIFE TEEN MASS** 5:00 PM Worship Area

Mass Intentions Schedule



Week of Jan. 1st, 9 AM Mass

- Mon.** John McGuire
- Tues.** Ferrigno children (living)
- Wed.** Miriam Ballesteros (living) & Angelica Palacios (living)
- Thurs.** Stella Monks
- Fri.** Rinaldi Family

Saturday, January 7th, 5 PM Mass

Maria Moreno, Maryrose Scali

Sunday, January 8th, Epiphany of the Lord

- 8:00 AM** Helen & Joseph Christian
- 9:30 AM** John McGuire
- 11:30 AM** Joseph Cavanagh, Charles Groves, Marian Arbusto, Catherine Killeen, Conrad Carrubba
- 5:00 PM** People of the Parish



moms in touch
INTERNATIONAL
Praying for Children & Schools

You are invited to attend an informative meeting on the importance of praying for your child in today's world

NO REGISTRATION NECESSARY
BRING A FRIEND

Join us for a powerful time as we use our faith to

Build a Wall of Prayer

When: **Saturday, January 28, 2012**

Time: **9:30am till 12 noon**

Place: **Gospel Community Church
138 Greeley Avenue in Sayville**

Learn how to effectively and purposely pray for your children, their teachers, staff and schools

Moms In Touch International

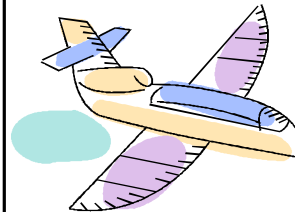
gathers women together to pray specifically and scripturally for children and schools, whether private, public or homeschool, from pre-school through college, as an interdenominational, Christ-centered prayer ministry, providing hope and strength to moms who carry heavy burdens for their children

Visit www.MomsInTouch.org for more info about this ministry.

For more info on this event, contact:

Ginny Lackey at (631) 567-1936
or by email: lackeygin@tianca.com

Your Greatest Gift to Your Children... Your Prayers



Pilgrimage to Fatima & Lourdes

Join Pat Chapin,
Religious Education
Director at Saint

Thomas More, for a trip of a lifetime, as she takes a Pilgrimage to Fatima & Lourdes and concludes the trip in Barcelona, Spain.

This 10 day trip will begin on **October 7, 2012** and conclude on **October 16, 2012**. Early booking price is **\$2,799** for a double and **\$3,199** for a single. Price includes air fare, hotel accommodations, 16 meals and transportation to and from JFK airport.

Come for an informational slide show at Saint Thomas More on Wednesday, January 18th at 6:30 pm in the parish center at 115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge (**631-234-0397**).

If you are unable to attend on January 18th but would like further information you can e-mail Pat Chapin at pchapin@optonline.net with your address and she will be happy to send you a complete brochure.