

Social Justice Bookends

This past Monday, the country celebrated the **birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King**, an American leader who fought for civil rights, particularly for an end to discrimination and prejudice based on race.



One of the greatest gifts of living at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception was the opportunity to come to know and share friendship with seminarians from throughout the world. Deacon Jacob Onyumbe, a transitional deacon from the Diocese of Tshumbe in the Democratic Republic of Congo preached at the Parish of the Holy Redeemer in Freeport a special celebration remembering Dr. Martin Luther King. (There was an article about him in *Newsday* this past Monday). Here is part of what he said:

"We cannot just say, 'He was a hero, he did great things.' Sure, he stood up for a minority. He stood up for a people that couldn't speak for themselves. But we need to see in all this the hand of God working through human beings, and that hand still invites us today to continue our peaceful stand-up for justice and love for all, especially for those who cannot speak for themselves."

Isn't that the great hope whenever we remember and celebrate the life of one who shows us the way, regardless of the issue? There's a danger in making leaders into idols and heroes while failing to recognize the source of those gifts. Let's pray that we can take a lesson in working for equality and justice from Martin Luther King, but also give praise and honor to God for working through him and many others (perhaps you and me, too!).

This Monday, thousands of people will travel to Washington, DC for the annual **March for Life**. While the political and legal issues surrounding abortion could fill about twelve bulletins, perhaps we need to take a further lesson from my friend Jacob's homily last week. Where is the "hand of God" working through us when it comes to issues of life and death, especially abortion?

Some of us are called to political action and protest and there is a need for that work. Others of us do not feel called to that type of work. Yet our faith calls us to do something, every day and in all ways. Here are **two** ideas...

What about seeking to support ministries that help and support teenage and single pregnant women? Many people often decide to have an abortion because they see no way they can possibly raise a child or afford a child or handle the responsibility. Many ministries – like Momma's House, Bethany House, the Life Center of Long Island and many others seek to support and help. For more information about these and other ministries that you can support, contact the Diocese of Rockville Centre at 516.678.5800 or visit their website at <http://www.drvc.org/respectlife>.

Second, are you or someone you love struggling after an abortion? This time of the year, particularly with the March for Life, there is a focus on the morality and legality and damage of abortion. **Our faith also calls us to compassion and reconciliation, not condemnation.** There are many prayer opportunities, retreats, and opportunities for support being offered in our area for those who have had abortions and are seeking ways to work through this. For more information, see the Rachel's Vineyard website – www.rachelsvineyard.org, the Respect Life Office of the Diocese or a member of the staff here. We want to help.



This week of Ordinary Time is **bookended** by two significant events that highlight the Church's Catholic Social Teaching and our responsibility to support and carry out the work of the Gospel. On certain days and occasions, the new *Roman Missal* provides prayers "For the Preservation of Peace and Justice." Today, let us pray:

O God, who has revealed that peacemakers are called to be your children, grant, we pray, that we may work without ceasing to establish justice which alone ensures true and lasting peace. AMEN!

Peace -

Fr. John

Fr. John

**Please check the bulletin this week—
WE NEED A LOT OF HELP AND VOLUNTEERS for a
number of projects. Get involved and invite a friend to
do the same! Thanks!**

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

Vincenza Castronovo Anna Kralik
Antonio Rodrigues Brandon Rodrigues

Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses
January 28th/29th

5:00 PM	Fr. Bob/Dcn. Jerry
8:00 AM	Fr. Bob/Dcn. Jerry
9:30 AM	Fr. John/Dcn. Owen
11:30 AM	Fr. John/Dcn. Owen
5:00 PM	Fr. Jim



"Teach me your ways, O Lord."

Responsorial Psalm

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Psalm 25

Scripture Readings for January 28th/29th

- + *Deuteronomy 18:15-20*
- + *1 Corinthians 7:32-35*
- + *Mark 1:21-28*



Vacation Bible School

**It's back! Keep watching the bulletin for
more details on the summer VBS program!**

**Rite of Christian
Initiation of Adults**



Are you seeking Baptism? Do you want to be confirmed or receive Eucharist? Have you been baptized in another Christian faith and now desire to become Catholic?

If your answer is YES to any of these questions, we want to hear from you. The Church gives us a beautiful process called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) for those who seek to become fully initiated in the Catholic Church. We are in the process of putting together plans for this process at the Parish of the Holy Cross and would love for you to be involved. If you're interested and would like additional information, please contact Jude Pickel at 631.265.2200, x. 16 or Fr. John at 631.265.2200, x. 14 or e-mail to jsureau@drvc.org

We are also looking for volunteers to join our RCIA group to assist with hospitality and to share in our weekly faith sharing. If you are a member of the parish and would like to be a part of this process, we would love for you to take the journey with us! Contact Jude or Fr. John for further information.

In the sacraments of Christian initiation we are freed from the power of darkness and joined to Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. We receive the Spirit of filial adoption and are part of the entire people of God in the celebration of the memorial of the Lord's death and resurrection.

Christian Initiation, *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*, 1

Mardi Gras @ Holy Cross
Sunday, February 19, 2012



We're planning a small Mardi Gras celebration after the 11:30 AM Mass in preparation for Lent...and we need your help! **If you would be interested in being part of a small committee of people to prepare for the celebration, contact Fr. John at 631.265.2200, ext. 14 or e-mail to jsureau@drvc.org**

Purificator Help Needed

If anyone is interested in joining the committee that washes and irons the purificators, please call the parish office at 265-2200. A purificator is used by the Eucharistic Minister assigned to the chalice at Communion. Purificators are washed on a weekly basis. Commitment is once a month.

Faith and Light Meeting

Friday, February 3rd, 7:00 p.m.
Parish of the Holy Cross

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

Introducing the Holy Cross... **Saint Bernard League**

(Saint Bernards are known for bringing people to safety in hazardous weather conditions!)

We have had a number of parishioners ask for our help...

Now we **REALLY** need Saint Bernards!

Can you and/or your family shovel, snow blow or clear out another family or two in need within our parish community? We'd love to have all families

matched up before the first snow of the season. **THIS IS A GREAT WAY TO HELP ANOTHER IN NEED WITHOUT MAKING AN OVERWHELMING COMMITMENT!** If you can help with this call the Parish Office at 631.265.2200, x. 14 or e-mail to jsureau@drvc.org. This is a great way to help those in need (do some tremendous community service!) What are you waiting for!

If you need a St. Bernard:

If you are in need of help when it snows, members of our parish community will come to your home and shovel you out! If you think you can use this help, call the Parish Office at 631.265.2200, x. 14 or e-mail to jsureau@drvc.org today so we can begin to match people up now.

PLEASE NOTE: We will do our best to match you up, but cannot guarantee a match at this time.



ASH WEDNESDAY – Help Needed!



The Church celebrates **Ash Wednesday** on February 22, 2012. We are in need of members of our parish community to assist with the distribution of ashes at our Masses and prayer services. (This is not only reserved for clergy or Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion – so all are welcome to help!).

If you're able to help, call the Parish Office at 631.265.2200, x. 14, e-mail to jsureau@drvc.org or fill out the form below. Members of our Liturgy Committee will follow up with you once we have created a schedule. (Please do not presume you are serving because you filled out this form.)

Name _____
Phone # _____ E-Mail _____@_____

YES! I would like to assist at Ash Wednesday services at the Parish of the Holy Cross. I am available to serve at the
___ 7 A.M. ___ 9 A.M. ___ 12 Noon ___ 3 P.M.. ___ 4:30 P.M._ ___ 7 P.M.

Please reply **NO LATER** than Sunday, February 12, 2012.

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

Life Teen News

1/22/12 - 5pm Life Teen Mass followed by a Life Night. Don't forget to bring a friend!

1/29/12 - 5pm Life Teen Mass followed by a "*mystery*" Life Night. Bring appropriate *PJs/slippers*, but don't forget to dress for Mass!



St. Patrick's School



St. Patrick's School in Smithtown will host an **Open House** for new and prospective nursery through 8th grade students and families on **Sunday, January 29, 2012 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm following the 12 noon Mass** in St. Patrick's R.C. Church.

All are invited to visit, tour and meet with administration, faculty and students to learn more about the faith, academics and service that is the foundation of St. Patrick's School. Representatives from various sports and academic clubs will also be on hand to introduce their programs and answer any questions.

For more information, please visit www.spssmith.org or contact St. Patrick's School Principal Ms. Rita Swift or Assistant Principal Mrs. Linda Pymm at (631) 724-0285.

SPIRITUAL CARE COMPANION

Are you looking for an avenue to volunteer your time with others? Come learn more about sharing your gift of time and presence as a **Spiritual Care Companion** with those who are hospitalized or living in a nursing home or homebound or adults with special needs.

Catholic Health Services of Long Island sponsors this **free** six-week training, for volunteers of all faiths, with basic pastoral care skills and information to become a caring, attentive, listening presence. Topics include - communication skills, concerns of the sick and homebound and adults with special needs, spiritual companioning, grief, death & dying, ethical issues and more.

We particularly need Spiritual Care Companions for Good Samaritan Hospital and dialysis units, Our Lady of Consolation in West Islip, Good Samaritan Nursing Home in Sayville and St. Catherine's Nursing Home in Smithtown.

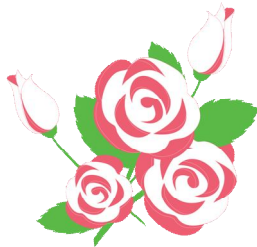
INFORMATION SESSION: Tuesday, February 7th from 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

LOCATION: Our Lady of Consolation
111 Beach Drive
West Islip, NY 11795

TRAININGS:

Tuesdays, February 28, March 6, 13, 20, 27 and April 3, 2012 from 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

For further information, please call Carol Cella at 631-465-6307 or Trish Luvin 631-465-6306.



"Blessed Are You"

**Bereavement Conference
Saturday, March 17, 2012**

**Kellenberg Memorial High School, Uniondale, NY
8:30 AM - 5:30 PM**

For the Bereaved and Those Ministering to Them

Workshops and sharing sessions are offered in the following:
Specific Loss; Spirituality & Support for All Losses; General Loss
For Professional & Volunteer Facilitators & Caregivers

For more info visit: www.drvc-faith.org/bereavement.html or call 516-334-7990 ext. 120 or 119

Online Registration Discount: <http://holyroodcemetery.org/Bereavement.html>

Sponsored by Catholic Cemeteries & the Office of Faith Formation in the Diocese of Rockville Centre

**Parish of the Holy Cross
Nesconset, New York
Year to Date Financial Report - Fiscal Year 2011 / 2012
November 1, 2011 thru November 30, 2011**

Dear Parishioners,

In an attitude of responsible stewardship and fiscal accountability, we publish a simple reporting of our financial position for your information on a monthly basis. Our new Fiscal Year began with the month of **September 2011**.

We are reporting on what you have provided through your **Stewardship of Treasure** and how we are using your gift. The format follows the categories of Diocesan accounts on which our extensive year-end Financial Reports are based. This report is for the **third month**.

We thank you for your support. If you have questions and/or suggestions, we would welcome them. God continue to bless us all. *The Finance Committee*

November 1—30, 2011

Total Assets:	\$ 312,337.	Checking A/C:	\$ 105,409.
Liabilities- Loan:	\$ 133,000.	Unitas Fund:	153,363.
Mortgage:	\$ 428,021.	Money Market:	27,352.
		CD:	15,402.
		R.O.M.R.	10,811.

Revenue:

Sunday Collections:	11/1/11-11/30/11	\$ 49,486.	Average Weekly Collection:	\$ 12,371
Donations & Fees Parish Programs:		11,536.	Includes: Religious Ed.(4,255), Parish Out(3,319) Seniors (962) Youth (3,000)	
Fund Raising:		4,413.	Includes: Cash Calendar(3,130) Raffles (1,283)	
Auxiliary Revenue:		3,396.	Includes: Donations, Baptisms, Funerals, Masses, Books, Candles	
Interest:		2,222.	Includes: Unitas Fund (2,203)	
Collections on Behalf of Others:		4,825.	Includes: Regional Sch (1,927), World Missions (91) CCHD (2,807)	
Total Revenue		\$ 75,878.		

Expenditures:

Clergy & Lay Salaries:	\$ 25,182.	Includes: Priests, Rel.Ed, Parish Out, Clerical, Maintenance Pastoral Assoc., Bus Mgr., Music, Youth, Security
Clergy Fringe Benefits:	2,384.	Includes: Health & Dental, Sick/Dis, Retirement, Allowance
Lay Fringe Benefits:	636.	Includes: Medical
FICA Employer Taxes:	1,717.	
Parish Programs:	6,812.	Includes: Parish Out.(2,287),Seniors (374),Rel.Ed (1,855)Youth(2,080) Hospitality (216)
Fund Raising:	2,542.	Includes: Cash Calendar (1,950), Christmas Wreath Decorations (592)
Printing & Office:	2,134.	Includes: Office Sup, Postage, Printing, Phone, Cable
Regional School Assessment:	11,571.	Includes: 1st of 2 payments—1st quarter
Collection on Behalf of Others:	5,064.	Includes: CCHD (2,807) World Missions (2,257)
Liturgical Expenses:	4,365.	Includes: Altar Hosts/Wine, Votives, Stipends, Missalettes
Mortgage Interest:	2,133.	
Rectory Household:	754.	Includes: Supermarket Purchases, Residence Expenses
Buildings' Utilities	1,738.	Includes: LIPA (1,606), National Grid (132)
Buildings' Maintenance & Supplies:	4,761.	Includes: Cont. Maintenance, Supplies, Repairs

Regular Expenditures:

\$ 71,793.

Extraordinary Expenses:

\$ 71,742. Includes: Payments for Roof Repair

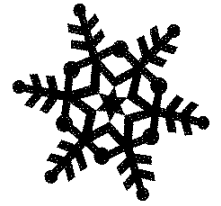
Total Expenditures:

\$ 143,535

Year to Date—Sept. 1—Nov. 30, 2011:

Revenue:	\$ 300,908
Regular Expend:	\$ 233,254.
Extraordinary Exp.:	\$ 102,742.
Deficit:	\$ (35,088).

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 22nd** 11:30 AM
 • BAPTISM CELEBRATION Worship Area
 • LIFE TEEN MASS 5:00 PM Worship Area
- Monday, January 23rd** 4:30 PM
 • ONE-TO-ONE Fr. Joe Rm./Atr.
 • CONFESSION 6:30-7:30PM Deacons' Office
 • ADORATION BLESSED SACRAMENT Chapel
- Tuesday, January 24th** 10:30 AM
 • MAKING MUSIC PRAYING TWICE Fr. Joe Room
 • CHOIR 7:15 PM Worship Area
- Thursday, January 26th** 10:30 AM
 • MOMS' GROUP Fr. Joe Room
- Saturday, January 28th** 11:00 AM
 • LEVEL 1 WINTER CARNIVAL Atrium
- Sunday, January 29th** 1:00 PM
 • BAPTISMS Worship Area
 • LIFE TEEN MASS 5:00 PM Worship Area

Mass Intentions Schedule



Week of Jan. 22nd, 9 AM Mass

- Mon.** Liliana Donlon (living) & Astrid Lopez (living)
Tues. Rose Arzillo
Wed. Vincenzo Scotto (living)
Thurs. William Keenan
Fri. Altagracia Quiterio

Saturday, January 28th, 5 PM Mass

Ralph Anzano, Darold Simpson

Sunday, January 29th, 4th Sun. Ord. Time

- 8:00 AM** Camille Desepoli
9:30 AM Thomas Francis Doyle
11:30 AM Daniel Christi, Raven Elizabeth Colon, People of the Parish
5:00 PM Jimmy Amsler

Once again the **Sisters of St. Dominic** thank you for donating your used phones to benefit their ministries to the elderly in Puerto Rico.

ONLY THE PHONES & CHARGERS can be used. Please do not bring the accessories. God bless you.



Looking for More From Your Child's Educational Experience?
 Looking for Grades Nursery, Pre-K or K thru 8th for Next Year?

Chances are if you've had a nagging feeling that you wanted something more for your child in terms of their educational experience – Catholic Education holds the answer!



Saint Joseph Catholic School
 25 Church Street,
 Ronkonkoma NY 11779
 (631) 588 – 4760
www.StJoeRonkElem.org

OPEN HOUSE
January 29, 2012; 11:30am – 1:00pm

Nursery:
 2, 3 or 5 Day

Pre - K:
 Full-Day

Kindergarten:
 Full-Day

Elementary:
 Grades 1 – 5

Middle School:
 Grades 6 - 8



Accredited by the Middle States
 Association of Colleges and Schools